**RI District 2452 Polio Conference Program**

*Beirut, Lebanon 6th September 2015*

*-Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand Hotel-*

***Theme:”The last 0.1% of Polio cases”***

**The objectives are:**

To understand

1. What is the polio virus and the vaccines
2. Why the role of Rotary past, present and future is so crucial?
3. What is the role of the GPEI and how it works?
4. The funding of the GPEI and NIDs, how it works by explaining the funding mechanism.
5. What is the Endgame Strategic Plan 2013-2018, and above?
6. What is the current status of polio eradication in the remaining infected countries and worldwide?
7. How to take action? Role of Rotarians, Clubs and Districts

Formed in 1988, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative-GPEI is a joint effort by Rotary International, the **World Health Organization**, **UNICEF**and the **U.S. Centers for Disease Control** **and Prevention.** More recently, the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** — like Rotary, a private institution — has joined the cause. Other key players are most of the world’s national governments and the pharmaceutical industry [e.g. Sanofi Pasteur].

Within the GPEI, Rotary’s primary function is **to raise money** — Rotary members worldwide have directly contributed more than $1.4 billion — and **to advocate** within both donor and polio-affected countries **to generate the public and private resources needed to carry out the program.**

The District 2452 Polio Conference will explain the RI commitment and its role within the GPEI.

Rotarians are eager for consolidation partnership on international, regional and ground scales.

Due to the outbreak of Polio virus in Syria in October 2013, mobilization of the countries on borders and those that belonged to District 2452, mainly Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine were so crucial.