

Statement at the 140th WHO Executive Board

Agenda Item 10.1: Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to make this statement on behalf of the Union for International Cancer Control supported by NCD Alliance.

Firstly, we commend the WHO Secretariat for the **updated Appendix 3 of the Global NCD Action Plan**. The document is significantly improved compared to its original version, in particular in the areas of unhealthy diets and physical activity, treatment of early cancers, primary prevention for rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, and palliative care. We welcome that the updated document acknowledges the limitations of cost-effectiveness analysis and emphasises the importance of population-based interventions, including fiscal policies and environmental changes, in order to reduce inequalities in NCD prevention and control.

Secondly, we urge the EB to conduct an in-depth discussion on the **approach to register contributions from non-State Actors**, in order to provide clear guidance to the Secretariat on how to proceed with the development of the approach. Despite some improvements made to the draft, we remain unclear as to the purpose and feasibility of the proposed approach. We are concerned that the current mandate and resources of the GCM/NCD would not allow for critically assessing and tracking commitments registered by NSAs. To ensure credibility of the approach, commitments would have to be SMART and directly relate to the core-business activities of an NSA. A sophisticated set of output indicators and robust monitoring and evaluation component are critical. The platform must under no circumstances distract the focus away from the urgent need for policy actions, including legislation and regulation, to be taken by Member States to address exposure to NCD risk factors and improve NCD management.

Thank you for your attention. The NCD Alliance remains committed to support WHO and Member States in accelerating evidence-based NCD action at global and national levels.