

# NCD Alliance Candidate Profile Booklet

April 2021

## Candidates for 2021-2023 NCD Alliance President, President-Elect and Board of Directors

The next General Assembly meeting of the NCD Alliance will be held virtually on 19th May. At the General Assembly, Founding and Full members will elect the President, the President-Elect and 8 members of the Board for the term 2021-2023. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document can be found [here](#), which outlines the nominations and shortlisting process, as well as background information on the size of the Board, and the roles and responsibilities of the Board, President and President-Elect.

A few important points to note:

- The President-Elect is being introduced for the first time for this term, following an amendment to the Constitution in August 2020. Therefore exceptionally in 2021, members will vote for both the President and President-Elect positions. From 2023 onwards, members will only elect the President-Elect and the Board of Directors.
- The NCD Alliance Board is composed of 14 seats, including the President and President-Elect. At the 2021 General Assembly meeting, there are 8 Board seats up for election. This does not include the four permanent seats of the Founding members (WHF, UICC, IDF and The Union), which are not up for election and are appointed by the Founding members themselves.
- The Nominations Committee reviewed all nominations from members for President, President-Elect and Board of Directors, and have shortlisted a slate of candidates taking into consideration the criteria set in the Nominations Policy, while also ensuring a balance of geographies, gender, and skills and expertise. In addition, the Committee also considered the need to balance continuity and renewal of Board of Directors. We received exceptional nominations and it was a difficult task for the Committee as the quality and profile of nominees was outstanding.

This document presents the profile of all candidates for President, President-Elect and Board to inform NCD Alliance members for the election process. The information contained in each of the candidates' profile has been provided by the candidates themselves, and it is intended exclusively for NCD Alliance members.



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## Candidate for NCD President



**Johanna Ralston**  
CEO, World Obesity Federation  
USA

### Why would you like to be NCD President?

At a time when an external pandemic has amplified attention to global health and NCDs, NCDa can catalyse enormous change in how NCDs are prioritised. The role of the President and Board would be to support the implementation of the new NCDa strategy, which reflects a comprehensive response to external opportunities and is well aligned with the plans of many NCD groups including the one I lead, so it would be an honor to provide volunteer leadership to an organisation with which I have played several key roles since its inception. At the same time, the Board must ensure that the CEO and Alliance can quickly respond to unexpected opportunities and challenges as they have ably done over the past year. These could include:

1. Pandemic preparedness. NCDs have emerged as a major factor in COVID-19 morbidity and mortality, which presents an opportunity to call for greater coherence across policies and surveillance systems and integration into “building back better” plans and budgets.
2. Development assistance. Resource mobilisation can build on the leadership of Norway and the declared interest of other governments in supporting NCDs as a development issue.
3. The value of “real world” experience, including risks faced by youth, lived experience and multiple conditions. Greater integration of youth and people with lived experience at the center of the NCD agenda will catalyse resources and effect change, including how systems outside of health can be influenced to address NCD prevention and treatment and the importance of youth engagement.

### What makes you a good candidate for NCDa President?

My commitment to NCDa was first inspired by the recognition that the shared approach across NCDs and risk factors was a game-changer and still is. This dates back to NCDa's founding when I was VP Global Strategies at American Cancer Society and we provided some initial support for NCDa and UICC global advocacy, followed by six years as World Heart Federation CEO on the steering group, including supporting the strengthening national NCD alliances and the patient

engagement strategy. I currently serve on the Our Views Our Voices advisory committee and WHO Civil Society Working Group. I'm privileged to have worked with the other current candidates and NCDa members for many years and have a comprehensive understanding of NCDs and their risk factors. Through leadership roles in cancer, CVD and obesity I've also learned much about differences in how these are addressed across geographies and disciplines. Recent work teaching health security as a fellow of Geneva Centre for Security Policy and engaging with food systems, climate change and youth advocacy through World Obesity Federation can benefit the NCD agenda and the NCDa strategy to increase focus on health outside of health systems and to expand the NCD narrative. My experiences as a professional and a patient/caregiver have reinforced the real-world implementation of multisectoral strategies and barriers to effective prevention and treatment.

### Biography

Johanna Ralston has worked in global NCDs since 1999. Since 2017 she has been CEO of the World Obesity Federation. During that time WOF has tripled in size and increased the profile of obesity on the global stage. Prior to that Johanna was CEO of World Heart Federation, mobilising the CVD community for the NCD agenda, partnering with WHO and serving as NCDa steering group member. From 1999 until 2011 Johanna was VP of Global Strategies at American Cancer Society, hired to create a global team and LMIC cancer and tobacco control program. She is a fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and a citizen of Sweden and the US. Johanna attended Harvard Business School, has published in many journals and serves on committees include WEF, WHO and Centre for Food Policy. Johanna is a proud cancer survivor and in remission from MS for 20 years.

## Candidate for NCD President



**Anne Lise Ryel**

Lawyer / Board member

Norway

*NCD Alliance Board Member 2019-2021*

### Why would you like to be NCD President?

When I was elected onto the NCD Board in 2019, I committed to work with the Board, CEO and team to grow the organisation and drive positive change for people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs). Over the last 2 years, I have worked in two Board Committees (Governance and Policy), supported NCD's fundraising to bring in new donors, and contributed to the development of the new 2021-2026 strategy. I am therefore very familiar with all aspects of the organisation, across governance, strategy, finances, membership and operations. Given there will be a large turnover on the Board in 2021, I believe as President I can offer the continuity which is so important in any organisation, particularly during these turbulent times of COVID-19.

In addition, I am excited by the challenges ahead for global NCDs and the impact our global civil society alliance can have. Having been involved with NCD since its beginning, I believe strongly in the power of working across diseases and risk factors for a common agenda. The new strategy lays out four goals which would form the basis of my Presidency – foster healthy environments to prevent NCDs; ensure universal access to care; mobilise sustainable financing; and strengthen capacity of members, alliances and PLWNCDs. Along with NCD's global advocacy, I am particularly committed to scaling up NCD's work at national / regional levels, as I believe this is the key to translating commitments into action. Our members are the foundations of NCD, and I would be honoured to work with you as President.

### What makes you a good candidate for NCD President?

Along with my time on the NCD Board, I have a 20-year track record in global health and NCDs, managed large NGOs and Board experience of international organisations, worked in government and with WHO, have solid relationships with many NCD members and partners, and have first-hand experience of NCDs as a cancer survivor.

I bring 18 years' experience as CEO of the largest cancer organisation in Europe - the Norwegian Cancer Society, which is a member of NCD. I have led international and regional campaigns on tobacco control, access to medicines and palliative care, and sat on the

Board of international health organisations (including UICC). I established and chaired the Norwegian NCD Alliance with other disease groups, which successfully advocated for the first national NCD strategy. As a woman who has survived cancer, I have consistently argued for PLWNCDs to be meaningfully involved in the response, and helped shape NCD's initiative Our Views, Our Voices. My career in government and politics complements my civil society experience and gives me a strong understanding of how to influence policy, which is so important for NCD's advocacy work.

For me, a President requires a number of core skills - they must have a strong network to draw upon; they must be a good consensus-builder; and they must keep in mind that they represent the membership of NCD and have the time to meet the demands of such an important role. I believe my skills and experience are well matched for the role of NCD President.

### Biography

Anne Lise Ryel has been a NCD Board member for 2019-2021. She was Secretary General of the Norwegian Cancer Society (NCS) for 18 years until 2020, championing the fight against cancer and NCDs nationally and internationally. She established the Norwegian NCD Alliance in 2010. She has a multisectoral background: A lawyer by training working in the private sector; as the Norwegian Gender Equality Ombudsman; a Deputy Director General at the Norwegian Directorate of Health; and in politics as Deputy Minister at the Norwegian Ministry of Justice. Anne Lise has been chair/ member of numerous boards and expert groups over the last 30 years, including Board member at Union for International Cancer Control (UICC); board member of European Cancer League; member of WHO GCM/NCD Working group on private sector involvement; Steering Group member of WHO Community of Practice on Meaningful Involvement of PLWNCDs; and CEDAW Committee monitoring UN Human Rights Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women.

## Candidate for NCD President-Elect



**Monika Arora**

Executive Director, HRIDAY (Secretariat of Healthy India Alliance - HIA)

India

*NCD Alliance Board Member 2019-2021*

### Why would you like to be on the NCD President-Elect?

I have served as an NCD board member during 2019-2021 and have now been nominated for President-Elect. Since President-Elect serves as an ex-officio Board member for two years preceding his or her two-year term as President, I aim to gain more experience of the Board and utilise this time to strengthen NCD and its global presence. I have been a founding member of the HIA-India NCD Alliance and HRIDAY serves as its Secretariat, since 2015. In 2020, I was also appointed as the Chairperson of the SEAR NCD Alliance and worked on regional issues and priorities. As an Ex-officio Board member, I would like to promote impact assessment of NCD activities to further strengthen its global position as a convener of the civil society movement and promote meaningful engagement of People Living with NCDs (PLWNCDs). I feel it is extremely critical that civil society representatives from member Alliances and PLWNCDs are supported and given leadership opportunities. I propose to utilise my skills and experience of ensuring research is translated into policy and programme action to further promote evidence-based advocacy and support NCD to continue as a global thought leader on NCD policy and practice. The next two years are critical towards the achievement of Global and National NCD targets within the overall ambit of Universal Health Coverage and Sustainable Development. As an NCD board member, I would aim to foster stronger Government-civil society engagement to promote greater accountability and accelerate global and country-level action to achieve NCD targets by 2025.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD President-Elect?

My work, over the past two decades, has focused on designing, implementing and evaluating interventions, as well as policy research and advocacy in NCD prevention and control. I have worked extensively in the area of fostering evidence-based advocacy to prioritise the NCD agenda, through multi-stakeholder engagement at the highest level. My approach of translating research to policy and programme action has informed National Health Programmes and led to scaling up interventions. My contributions to the global NCD movement, include- leadership as a member

of the WHO Civil Society Working Group on NCDs, where I was involved in widening the NCD Partners network to strengthen the NCD movement during the UN High-Level Meeting (UNHLM) in 2018 and recently led webinars and a scientific paper on "Meaningful Engagement of PLWNCDs and youth in NCD prevention and control during the COVID-19 pandemic". I was able to successfully communicate NCD priorities at the WHO-DG webinar on "Civil society engagement in COVID-19 response at national and local levels" and have actively represented CSO demands at the 71st and 72nd WHO-South East-Asia Regional Committee meetings. As an NCD Board Member (2019-2021), I have been actively contributing to sub-committees and strategy planning tasks. I am the Chairperson of the SEAR NCD Alliance since its formation in 2020 and have also been providing leadership to strengthen the efforts of Healthy India Alliance. Through my past experiences, I will facilitate the process of communicating national and local policy priorities to feed into the global CSO-led discussions and deliberations.

### Biography

Dr. Monika Arora is a public health scientist working on health promotion & health advocacy with a focus on NCD prevention & control. She has strived to employ her research to inform policy & programme action. She is Executive Director of a Delhi-based NGO, HRIDAY. She is also Director & Professor of Health Promotion, Public Health Foundation of India. She is a founding Governing Board Member of HIA and chairperson of SEAR-NCD. She has served as a member of the WHO-Ad Hoc Working Group on Implementation, Monitoring and Accountability on Ending Childhood Obesity, WHO CSWG that supported UNHLM on NCDs (2018-2019) and Second WHO CSWG (2019-2021). Currently a member of World Heart Federation's Advocacy Committee. Dr. Arora has been honoured with the Best Practices Award by Global Health Council, 2011, WHO DG's World No Tobacco Day Award, 2012; Dr. Prem Menon outstanding service award, 2018 by World-India Diabetes Foundation.



## Candidate for NCD Board of Directors



### Nooshin Bazargani

Consultant Cardiologist, Deputy Head  
of Dubai Heart Centre  
Dubai, UAE

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Board of Directors?

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have been greatly neglected during the COVID-19 pandemic. This happening is primarily due to budget deviations and patient's inability to access adequate healthcare services. While the attention shift to COVID-19 is well-intentioned, it must not be done at the expense of NCDs. NCDs remain the number one cause of mortality in the world and mortality rates are increasing with this lack of attention.

A position on the NCD Board of directors will give me the opportunity to have an impact on overall NCD policy direction. Acting as the voice of my fellow Middle Eastern doctors, I will use my experiences in this region to propose new policy positions that will remove the obstacles for NCD management. My focus will be on promoting early recognition, early treatment, public education, and increasing the resources for NCD management.

This is a crucial time for NCDs board of directors because NCDs affecting and affected by COVID-19. Diversity in the gender and geographic distribution of the board members is necessary for successful NCDs leadership.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Board of Directors?

I have been treating patients with cardiac illnesses, metabolic disease, cardiac oncology, and diabetes for the past 25 years. My experience in treating my patients gives me a good understanding of the barriers to good NCD management. I have served as the Vice president of the World Heart Federation (WHF). In that position, I was a leader in setting up a policy for heart disease management. The WHF managed to convince governments to increase funding for heart disease by highlighting the high mortality and morbidity impact of the disease. The increase in budget went towards early recognition, proper treatment, and public education. Where budgets were restricted we had to think outside the box. As an example, In low-middle income countries with limited resources, we suggested that non-health professional workers could be trained to help in providing basic health service in remote areas.

As the Chair Of Preventive Cardiology of Emirates Cardiac Society, I have set up the strategic plan and implementation for early recognition and treatment of cardiovascular disease In the United Arab Emirates. I have extensive experience in organising international and regional conferences and public campaigns. Both of which are important in increasing the recognition of NCDs in the region.

As a member of the NCD task force for the high-level meeting in The United Nations, it gave me the opportunity to study and recognise the ways that can make NCDs more prioritised at the global level.

### Biography

Dr. Bazargani is a consultant Cardiologist stationed at Dubai Health Authority. She has focused on the recognition, management and prevention of heart disease at the primary and secondary levels. She has been the principal organiser for public campaigns and health education in UAE. She has established the first Heart Failure clinic and anticoagulation clinic in Dubai Hospital. She has received numerous awards for her extensive activities in UAE. She has been involved in several local and international research activities and has published in several regional and international journals.

### Main positions:

- Deputy head of Dubai cardiac center
- Vice president of the World Heart Federation (2018-2020)
- Chair, CVD prevention working group of Emirates Cardiac Society
- Member of UAE national CVD committee
- Member of UAE national NCD committee
- Appointed by the President of the General Assembly of the United Nation as a member of NCDs Task Force with WHO in UN (2012)
- Member of AHA international committee

## Candidate for NCD Board of Directors



### **Oscar A. Cabrera**

Director and Visiting Professor of Law, O'Neill  
Institute for National and Global Health Law at  
Georgetown University  
Venezuela

### **Why would you like to be on the NCD Board of Directors?**

I have closely followed and admired the work of the NCD for many years, during which I have had the opportunity to engage in many of its activities – such as events and meetings – as part of my own work on NCD prevention. In particular, my experience with law/policy reform stressed the need to develop strategic and coordinated approaches, as corporate practices often undermine local efforts to move forward on policies aimed at protecting and improving people's health. In this context, NCD serves a critical role in strengthening work at the local level by both developing guidance for the organisations in this space and enabling the sharing of experiences among them. In fact, most of the local NGOs that I have collaborated with over the years are members of the NCD and have always benefited from the networks and articulation it leads. On the one hand, I am confident that I am able to contribute to the NCD by offering my experience in global and regional coalition-building around NCDs, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. On the other hand, I am eager to continue to learn from such an inspiring cohort of advocates, especially in better understanding different strategies used in other regions to tackle the challenge posed by NCDs.

### **What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Board of Directors?**

I have been working on legal/policy issues on NCD prevention for the past 12 years. During most of this period, I was the Executive Director of the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University. Currently, I lead the Global Center for Legal Innovation on Food Environments – funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies – within this institute. I started my work on NCDs mainly focusing on tobacco control, but gradually expanded to unhealthy diets and alcohol control, in addition to targeted contributions around physical inactivity. My experience over the years has largely focused on applied research in the form of legal/policy technical assistance to an array of actors, including civil society, governments, and international organisations. For instance, I have extensively engaged with local organisations in Latin America and the Caribbean (in addition to other regions, to a lesser extent, as demonstrated by my recent

work in South Africa). I also have a proven track record of supporting global and regional inter-governmental organisations, such as the UN, WHO, PAHO, OAS, and UNICEF. Moreover, I have served in different boards of NGOs in the region, such as the Inter-American Heart Foundation. I am currently the president of the board of the Inter-American Heart Foundation Argentina and a board member of the Coalition for Americas Health. Overall, my experience has taught me the importance of bridging academia and on-the-ground challenges; integrating an interdisciplinary approach into strategy; and strengthening civil society through coalition-building, all necessary elements to achieve policy change.

### **Biography**

Oscar A. Cabrera, is the Program Director of the Healthy Families Initiative at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, and from 2010 until 2018 was the Executive Director of the O'Neill Institute. He is also a Visiting Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center and the Director of the Global Center for Legal Innovation on Food Environments. He earned his law degree in Venezuela, and his LL.M., with a concentration in Health Law and Policy, at the University of Toronto. Oscar's applied work and research have focused on areas connected with law and health, including, public health law, NCDs and the law (focusing on modifiable risk factors, such as tobacco control, unhealthy diets), strategic litigation in health and reproductive health.



## Candidate for NCD Alliance Board of Directors



**Todd Harper**

CEO, Cancer Council Victoria

Australia

*NCD Alliance President 2019-2021*

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

This is a critical time for civil society to place action on NCDs at the top of the global health agenda. The pandemic has exposed deep health inequalities, vulnerabilities in NCD prevention efforts and inadequate access to affordable care. This is the time to rebuild our healthcare systems to enshrine commitments to Universal Health Coverage and put people with NCDs at the heart of our response. These are all issues on which the NCD Alliance and its dedicated team have led for many years.

As Immediate Past President, an important aspect of my role on the Board will be to support the incoming President, CEO and new Board to implement our new strategy, amplify the voices of people living with NCDs, enhance our digital capabilities and manage our COVID-19 recovery. Leading global advocacy will be key, as will our commitment to share knowledge and demonstrate the value of timely prevention.

My vision is for the NCD Alliance to develop a strong case for public health with equity at its core and supported by an economic case for disease prevention, that empowers a shared civil society response to NCDs.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

For thirty years I have worked as a leader in public health, including tobacco control, patient advocacy, obesity, alcohol and health economics to build effective global public health strategies. Since 2011, as Cancer Council Victoria's CEO, I have steered the organisation's work in cancer research, prevention, support and advocacy. Our team has led research initiatives in behavioural science to find the best ways to prevent or reduce behaviours that increase cancer risk, epidemiological studies to identify the causes of disease, and biomedical research to improve treatments. I established the McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer to support countries around the world to implement effective legal interventions to reduce the burden of NCDs in over 100 low-middle income countries. I have also been active in defending the health of communities against the marketing practices of the tobacco, alcohol and junk food industries, through advocacy and legal strategies that hold these industries to account.

As NCD Alliance President, I dedicate my efforts to ensuring continuity on our Board as we navigate the challenges we see in global public health, and the vital tasks of delivering on the needs of our Alliances and People Living with NCDs. As a former journalist with decades of experience in a variety of Health CEO roles, I have the breadth of experience in governance, communications, advocacy, public health, economics and leadership to support the vital work of the NCD Alliance.

### Biography

Todd Harper is President of the NCD Alliance and served on the Board for four years. During this time the Alliance has mapped its response to COVID-19, staked its priorities in Universal Health Coverage, and nurtured global advocacy in NCDs. For the past three decades, 14 years as CEO, Todd has been a dedicated public health leader with Cancer Council Victoria, Quit Victoria, and VicHealth, in Australia. At Cancer Council Victoria, the organisation has led initiatives in tobacco plain packaging, cancer screening, obesity prevention, and developing economic evidence on prevention. With VicHealth, the organisation pioneered health promotion programs in areas such as violence against women and reducing alcohol harms.

Todd has academic qualifications in Economics, Health Promotion, Health Economics and in 2018 received an Honorary Doctorate from Deakin University for 'outstanding contributions and commitment to public health and for willingness to be innovative and brave in advocating for public health'.

## Candidate for NCD Alliance Board of Directors



**Trevor Austin Hassell**

President, Healthy Caribbean Coalition

Barbados

*NCD Alliance Board Member 2019-2021*

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

My reasons for seeking to be a member of the NCD Alliance Board of Directors is firstly that I have had a significant relationship with the NCD Alliance since its formation now more than a decade ago. Since those early beginnings, the NCD Alliance has grown and developed into a major and leading global organisation providing a significant civil society voice. In view of my voluntary contributions to the NCD Alliance at various levels over the years and my extensive work in the civil society response to NCDs both regionally and internationally, I am keen to continue to assist in the governance and further growth and development of the Alliance, recognising that a truly effective NCD Alliance provides the greatest likelihood of a significant response to the NCD epidemic globally, regionally and nationally. Finally, over the past 2 years while being a member of the NCD Alliance Board of Directors I contributed to the development of the Strategic Plan which is being finalised. I will be happy to contribute at the Board level to the execution of the plan over the next 2 years.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

I have served one term, 2019-2021, on the NCD Alliance board. I consider myself to be a good candidate for the NCD Alliance Board of Directors since should I be selected to serve a second term I will continue to play a role in bringing my decades of experience and unique perspectives in NCD prevention and control to the Board of the NCD Alliance. My wealth of experience and leadership in NCD prevention and control for over four decades in the Caribbean and internationally, together with my strong networks and membership of a number of regional and global advisory committees, positions me well to provide the Board of the NCD Alliance with not only perspectives of Low and Middle-Income Countries but also those of Small Nation States. My experience in the conceptualising and formation of several leading civil society organisations in the Caribbean including the Heart Foundation of Barbados, the Caribbean Cardiac Society, and the Healthy Caribbean Coalition, and my previously held positions of President of the Inter American Heart Foundation and Vice-President of World Heart Federation will be of much value as the Board of Directors leads and guides the NCD Alliance over the next two years.

### Biography

Sir Trevor Hassell is a medical doctor. He has been engaged in all aspects of the response to NCDs in the Caribbean. Over the past decade, Sir Trevor has provided regional CARICOM civil society leadership at all major UN and WHO NCD meetings. Sir Trevor is a member of the WHO Civil Society Working Group on NCDs. He is presently Co-Chair of the Governing Board for the Consortium Core of the Yale – Transdisciplinary Collaborative Center for Health Disparities Research; member of the Technical Advisory Committee - Coalition for Access to NCD Medicines & Products; member of the World Cancer Research Foundation International Policy Advisory Group; and member, of the Advisory Group on Advancing the NCD Agenda in the Caribbean and Technical Advisory Group on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention through Dietary Salt Reduction of WHO/PAHO. Sir Trevor is a member of the International Advisory Board of Spectrum and Chairman of the Review Committee for the IDRC's new Research Ideas Competition.

## Candidate for NCDA Board of Directors



**Marie Hauerslev**  
Chair, NCD Child  
Denmark

### Why would you like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors?

I would like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors because of my passion for advocating for youth representation in the NCD space. This passion is underpinned by a deep understanding of what is needed to improve the status quo, and support and amplify youth voices within the NCDA and broader global health landscape. I am recognised as a leader in global health; serving as the Chair of the WHO NCD Lab “Next Generation”, a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People, and advising the WHO on the future WHO Youth Council. I also have experience in governance, through leading large organisations, including the largest student health organisation in the world - the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA). As the global leader of IFMSA’s external work, I collaborated with the UN, WHO, and World Medical Association, among other organisations, and have driven change in leadership in the youth and NCDs movement since 2017. Despite my age, I have contributed to the NCD landscape over the years through my work to change the unjust and unequal nature of NCDs. I am a strong believer in NCDA’s vision: A world where everyone has the opportunity for a healthy life, free from preventable suffering, stigma and death caused by NCDs. I share the mission of NCDA to unite and strengthen the capacity of civil society networks. For these reasons, I would like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors and serve as a champion for collaborative advocacy, action and accountability.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCDA Board of Directors?

As a Danish physician and a youth advocate in the NCD space for the past 8 years, I understand the strategies needed to advance progress for NCD prevention and control. I will come to the NCDA Board of Directors with a well-established network in the nexus of global health and youth participation. This network can be deployed to broker knowledge on NCD evidence, policy and practice. Through my pediatric clinical work, and as Chair of NCD Child - the first ever young person elected for this position - I have championed child health and rights through global advocacy, evidence-based work and partnerships. As Chair, I have launched the Young

Leaders Program and secured public meetings with the WHO Director General about NCDs, youth and COVID. I have also initiated a youth-led COVID-19 campaign, and led the strategic planning process behind NCD Child’s recent progress. I seek out every opportunity to deliver results and impact within the NCD space, and I will leverage my experience and networks as a member of the Board of Directors of NCDA.

### Biography

Marie Hauerslev is a Danish physician and the Chair of NCD Child - the first ever young person elected for this position. As Chair, Marie has initiated the Young Leaders Program, secured public meeting with the WHO Director General about NCDs, youth and COVID, initiated a youth COVID-campaign and led the strategic planning process behind NCD Child’s recent progress. Dr. Hauerslev is the Chair of the WHO GCM/ NCD Lab on Youth, and a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Gender-Based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People. As Vice-President for External Affairs and Liaison Officer to WHO of the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA), Dr. Hauerslev was the global leader of IFMSA’s external work, collaborating with the UN, WHO, World Medical Association and more. Marie was the driving force behind IFMSA’s leadership in the youth and NCDs movement in 2017. Dr. Hauerslev has worked at WHO Global Coordination Mechanism for NCDs focusing on children and youth.

## Candidate for NCD Board of Directors



**Ch'uyasongo Hornberger Lane**  
Independent Consultant in Public Health  
USA

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Board of Directors?

I am excited to be considered for service on the NCD Alliance Advisory Board. My professional career has been dedicated to achieving healthy outcomes in the United States and globally, and my interest is in doing so in an equitable and just manner. I believe this can be done through identifying and leveraging resources strategically and across a range of sectors, and through working collaboratively across these sectors. It is also critically important to seek out and raise the voices and experiences of those that may not as easily be seen or heard. The world's best resources are our people, and therefore the most urgent task is to first ensure our collective health; by doing so we can ensure that each individual has the opportunity to reach their full potential and that the richness of our global community can thrive. The NCD Alliance is working towards this end. My experience and goals align well with the NCD vision to achieve a world where everyone has the opportunity for a healthy life. I would be thrilled to have the chance to contribute to the important work of the NCD Alliance in this respect.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Board of Directors?

I am an excellent candidate for the position because I bring over 20 years of experience working in global public health issues at the national and international levels. During this time I have worked in multiple sectors, including government, civil society, philanthropy, academia, as well as in the private sector, which has afforded me the opportunity to build a strong understanding of, and sensitivity to, the issues at play among multiple stakeholders in health. I have a record of strong leadership, including nomination as a Presidential Management Fellow in the U.S. Government, and have a proven track record of building consensus and encouraging collaboration across organisations and countries. I also have experience serving on advisory boards for health and education. I am a global citizen, born in Peru with a mixed-race background. I had the opportunity to live in multiple countries during my childhood, which offered me one of the greatest educations imaginable and which taught me to see, appreciate and learn from the richness around me. My professional career has focused on

health issues in Africa, the Americas, and Asia. I have extensive experience in the Latin America region where I have most recently focused on supporting advocacy efforts and raising the visibility of civil society as a critical voice in the promotion of policy that ensures and protects public health. I believe I will bring a rich and varied perspective to the Board.

### Biography

Ch'uya Lane is a transformational leader with a proven track record of building successful teams and programs throughout her career. She brings over 20 years of experience in public health at the national and international levels, including serving in or advising non-governmental organisations, in U.S. government, philanthropies, private sector, academia and advisory boards. Ch'uya is an expert in policy advocacy including strategic planning, policy formulation, promotion, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. She consistently leverages her unique coalition-building skills to mobilise and motivate all stakeholders. Ch'uya has particular experience in healthy food policy promotion, tobacco control, multilateral global health affairs, child survival, maternal and child health and nutrition. She spent the last nine years supporting the Bloomberg Philanthropies Food Policy Program, first managing a pilot program in Mexico, and then as Director of Advocacy at the Global Health Advocacy Incubator. Ch'uya lives in the U.S. with her husband and three children.

## Candidate for NCD Alliance Board of Directors



**Eva Njenga**

Chair, NCD Alliance Kenya  
Kenya

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

Through NCD Alliance's advocacy platform and influence, I hope to improve population health outcomes, make healthcare accessible and affordable to ensure that no one is left behind, and ensure accountability. We need to see the strength of CSOs harnessed and governments take up their responsibility to ensure that health as a basic right for all citizens is actualised for the highest attainable level of health for all. I am currently involved in advocacy for health system strengthening for people-centred care and have been instrumental in regulating health practice and ensuring the provision of quality health services to all in Kenya.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the gaps in healthcare systems and highlighted the importance of mitigating NCDs and other chronic conditions through strengthening health systems in Kenya and globally. The pandemic exacerbates the disparities and inequities in access to healthcare with vulnerable populations being the most affected. My participation in the COVID-19 response and assessment of health system readiness and strengthening for UHC in Kenya has given me the requisite additional experience to advocate and lobby for African governments to prioritise health care as a basic need for its citizens, thus ensuring the highest attainable level of health for all. With sub-Saharan Africa and other low- and middle-income countries on the verge of an NCD tsunami, I would like to bring my experience to halt and reverse this impending disaster by working with like-minded individuals and organisations through the NCD Alliance Board.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

I bring a wealth of experience to the NCD Alliance Board of Directors having worked across the healthcare spectrum from clinical practice; academia, research, pre-service and in-service training of healthcare professionals; regulation of professional practice and drug regulatory affairs; to policy development and implementation.

I am currently involved in advocacy for health system strengthening for people-centred care as Chair of the Non-communicable Diseases Alliance Kenya and co-chair of the NCD Inter-agency Coordinating Committee

of the Ministry of Health (Kenya). As the current Chair of the Kenya Medical Practitioners' and Dentists' Council, I have been instrumental in regulating health practice and ensuring the provision of quality health services to all in Kenya.

I am a strong advocate for a people-centred approach and throughout my career I have worked to ensure that no one, especially the vulnerable, marginalised, and under-represented populations, is left behind.

I believe I will make a significant contribution to the Board making NCD prevention and control a priority everywhere especially in sub-Saharan Africa and other low- and middle-income countries.

### Biography

Dr Eva Njenga, MMed (UoN), MBS, is a well-respected and world-renowned endocrinologist with vast experience and knowledge in Tropical Medicine, Social Medicine and Medical Anthropology, and a Fellow at Harvard University. She is the Founder Director of the DMI Centre; Chair of the NCD Alliance Kenya and is the 1st female Chair of Kenya Medical Practitioners' and Dentists' Council. She sits on the Advisory Board of Diabetes Africa, African Research Universities Alliance. Dr Njenga is the Chair of the National Coordination Centre for Isolation & Quarantine Facilities in Kenya and team leader of the MOH Technical Team for Mitigation of COVID-19 Pandemic and Strengthening of Health Systems for UHC. Dr Njenga's exemplary work through service, and commitment, to healthcare matters in Kenya, saw her being awarded State Honours by President Uhuru Kenyatta as Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear (MBS). Dr Njenga is a passionate NCDs champion and cares very much about people's health.



## Candidate for NCD Board of Directors



### **Bo Norrving**

Senior professor and Past President, World Stroke Organization (WSO)  
Sweden

### **Why would you like to be on the NCD Board of Directors?**

I have a long standing interest in NCDs going back to more than two decades ago when epidemiologists and the WHO started to recognise the growing importance of NCDs on public health. Coming from the stroke field, I soon understood that collaboration and joining forces with other NCD NGOs were key to make any substantial impact.

My position as President of the World Stroke Organization (WSO) from 2008 to 2012 coincided with the global recognition of the emerging threat of the NCDs, the birth of the NCD Alliance, and the lead-up phase to the historic UN General Assembly in 2011. During my term, I formed many liaisons with other NCD NGOs, worked closely with the WHO, and established a broad network of contacts. I have continued in such functions also after my term as President. During recent years I have become increasingly involved with the NCD

Alliance and I would like to deepen this involvement through a board position. I am passionate to work for the NCD case, and a position in the NCD Board of Directors would be a privileged opportunity for me to serve in an organisation that plays a major role in influencing global health now and in the future.

### **What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Board of Directors?**

As the President of WSO from 2008 to 2012, I led the organisation through a very progressive phase. I have been a WSO representative at the WHO and the UN from 2011 to 2019, and I chaired the cerebrovascular group for the WHO ICD 11 revision. I was profiled in Lancet Neurology with the title "Bo Norrving - Putting Stroke on the World Map". I am a highly accomplished scientist in the stroke field. I have been involved with the NCD since 2011, and have been a member of the NCD Science and Policy Sub-Committee. I have participated in numerous NCD events and has acted as chair and presenter. I attended the 2017 Sharjah Global NCD Forum. I have been involved in producing the NCD/ASHA - ASA/WSO Stroke and NCDs Policy Brief, and have helped to organise and speak at NCD Cafés and Dialogues. I have a very long experience and strong skills in governance, public relations, and membership engagement, and extensive experience with all major

aspects of the NCDs. I am hard-working, prestige free, and have good diplomatic skills. My network includes personal knowledge to many of the leaders in the field

### **Biography**

I am a Senior Professor in Neurology at Lund University, Sweden. I have made a number of pioneering contributions to clinical stroke research, with more than 500 publications. I led the world's largest study on stroke in the young. I chair Riksstroke, the world's 1st national quality register for stroke. I was President of the World Stroke Organization (WSO) 2008-2012 – a very progressive phase when WSO developed the World Stroke Campaign, advocacy by Stroke Support Organizations, educational programmes, and became active at WHO and UN stroke and NCDs activities. I have represented WSO at WHO and the UN in 2011-2019 and chaired the cerebrovascular group for the WHO ICD 11 revision. I have been active in the NCD Alliance and am a member of the NCD Science and Policy Committee. I have received the AHA/ASA Sherman Award and several other recognitions.



## Candidate for NCD Alliance Board of Directors



**Jan Pelozo**

Co-founder, Slovenian NCD Alliance  
Slovenia

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

Joining the NCD Alliance Board of Directors would be a dream coming true as getting on board with such an influential organisation as the NCD Alliance is not an everyday practice and an opportunity that many get. For that, I feel blessed. Joining this body would mean fulfilling the expectations of my constituency to connect the youth health work to global public health and therefore showcase the importance of this area to a broader public health community. Furthermore, as a Slovenian and a South-Eastern European (SEE), my position would mean a representation for a region that is rather underrepresented both in the membership and leadership of NCD Alliance. Being a part of a decision body of NCD Alliance would allow me to have a closer look at the mechanisms of a successful global network and therefore help me to be a multiplier in the long run for other members that are currently undergoing organisational development.

Since I see myself as a good public health communicator and advocate, I am sure that I can help the NCD Alliance in shaping messages for future campaigns and actions, while my experience in leading national and international alliances, could help the governance of the organisation. Although SEE NGOs usually operate on different fundamentals than the majority of Western European and American NGOs do, I am sure that a different view in fundraising and partnership-building can benefit the NCD Alliance a lot. I am fully committed to serve as a Board member for the full mandate and if feasible, continue my work also after the mandate is over in any other capacity.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Alliance Board of Directors?

I have been active for over 15 years in the public health sector and I have over 20 years of experience in civic engagement, both in Slovenia and globally. I believe that joining such an important global player as the NCD Alliance would help both the communities I serve in with a broader overview to the case and also the NCD Alliance with a grass-root approach that is nowadays very valuable.

I am a very positive and hard-working person. From the first hand, I know what it means to live with an NCD, while at the same time continuing with the grass-root work and building alliances to advance the case of my team. Although my condition is currently in remission, I am committed to giving my 100 %, when it will not be, indeed in line with what my body will allow. Additionally, I believe that I can bring to the table a lot of connections in other sectors, where I have tied a number of strong connections and relations - youth engagement, social entrepreneurship and sustainable development sectors.

### Biography

I am a computer engineer, have a master's degree in social marketing and I am currently finishing my MBA. I was the first president of the Alcohol Policy Youth Network and the funder of one of the most successful Slovenian NGOs, the Youth Network No Excuse. As a youth leader/worker, I contributed to the development of the European health promotion and health-advocacy sector, while at the same time as a trainer helped youth to become socially engaged as organisers of many successful international events. I am a member of the World Economic Forum Global Shapers Community and I received (individually or collectively) a number of awards for my work, including the European Commission's Health Award, EC's Youth Award, and the WHO's WNTD Award. I am the Director of the Slovenian Youth Agency, the President of the European Youth Card Association and the Acting Secretary General of the International Youth Health Organization.

## Candidate for NCDA Board of Directors



**Leslie Rae Ferat**

Executive Director, Framework Convention Alliance  
Canada

### Why would you like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors?

As an accomplished international development specialist with over a decade of experience working in sustainable development and global health, I would welcome the opportunity to serve on the NCDA Board of Directors to further widen my experience and make a contribution in the field of NCDs. I am passionate about sustainable development, health and inequality issues and am very keen on advancing the NCD agenda and working to increase funding and attention for NCDs within the development community.

As Executive Director of the Framework Convention Alliance for Tobacco Control (FCA), a global network of civil society organisations working towards a world free from the health, social and economic consequences of tobacco and tobacco use, I have extensive experience with multi-stakeholder alliances and partnerships and I am a strong advocate for effective policies that contribute to decreasing the burden of NCDs on people, communities and health systems.

My passions and experience are very much aligned with the mission and focus of NCDA and I would like to use my skills gained over the years to support the work of the alliance by continuing to engage and connect the NCDs and tobacco control communities and contribute to pursuing sustainable development globally.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCDA Board of Directors?

I bring over a decade of management experience in cross-cultural, global teams managing budgets, human resources, governance and communications. I have extensive experience mobilising resources, monitoring programs and fostering stakeholder relations and have proven capable of managing and strengthening multi-stakeholder networks of 200+ partners worldwide. I have ample experience managing governing bodies and participating in Board activities and am very familiar with the work involved as a Board member given my past and current experience.

I am well-known within the international development and tobacco control community and am currently a member of the WHO Civil Society Working Group on NCDs, Co-chair of one of the sub-groups, and a member

of the Advisory Board and Scientific Committee for the WCToH. I also serve as Vice-President of the Board of St. Mary's Home, a refuge for marginalised young pregnant women and their children.

As Executive Director of FCA, I lead the work on key policy issues such as financing for development, the SDGs and NCDs and also manage all of the day-to-day work of the organisation. The work of FCA is very much aligned with the mission and focus of NCDA and I believe that I would bring a number of essential skills to both the Board and alliance.

### Biography

Leslie Rae Ferat is the Executive Director of FCA. Leslie has over a decade of international experience in sustainable development and global health and also working with low and middle-income countries to collect and use data to drive sustainable development and meet the SDGs. Before joining FCA, Leslie worked for several international organisations including the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network and the United Nations Foundation.

She is currently a member of the WHO Civil Society Working Group on NCDs and Co-chair of their advocacy and communications group, and the Advisory Board and Scientific Committee for the WCToH. Leslie also serves as the Vice-President of the Board of Directors of a Canadian charity, St. Mary's Home, holds an MSc in International Development (Poverty and Inequality) from the University of Birmingham and is fluent in English and French.

## Candidate for NCDA Board of Directors



**Kaushik Ramaiya**

Honorary General Secretary, Tanzania NCD  
Alliance  
Tanzania

### Why would you like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors?

I have adequate experience, knowledge & vigor to bring to the global level. If I am elected to be on the NCDA Board of Directors, I expect to learn from the challenges at the global level but also assist in finding solutions to the challenges. I will also be able to bring the voice of the African Region to the Board where the challenges of the increasing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) needs greater advocacy both politically and within the community, greater resource allocation in the setting of limited resources and COVID-19 pandemic & appropriate prioritisation by all at different levels of health systems. Prevention programs need to be emphasised and community awareness uplifted to have innovative approaches in managing NCDs.

I believe that being on the NCDA Board, I will be able to bring about a perspective from developing / third world countries with reference to NCDs. With the recent addition of environment as an NCD risk factor and Mental Health as one of the major group of disease within the NCDs in addition to the big four; both have been studied little at the African Regional level and it will be one of my tasks to learn as to what has been done at global level and bring the learnings to the African Region.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCDA Board of Directors?

I have been working with Tanzania Diabetes Association (TDA) since 1991 and subsequently worked with International Diabetes Federation (IDF) - African Region from 2000-2006 as Chair and subsequently IDF Global Vice-President from 2007-2012. I was one of the key catalyst with the Danish NCD Alliance (DNCA) to formulate the Tanzania NCD Alliance (TANCA) and subsequently the East Africans NCD Alliance (EANCA). Recently, I have also been elected as Chair Elect for the African NCD Network.

Currently, I have been working with people with NCDs and the community support groups as part of TANCA program and another program with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) in sensitising them to participate in peer training programs, research steering committees so as to be part of the solution from their

perspectives and in obtaining their inputs in overall improvement of quality of care.

I have been a clinician since 1981 and continue to work to this day. I have seen the unfolding of AIDS epidemic in 1990s, the increasing burden of NCDs over the last thirty years and the challenges which the health system faces with regard to early diagnosis, management, adherence to care, early diagnosis of complications and socio-economic burden it entails to the masses. More recently the COVID-19 pandemic was another lesson to learn especially for people with NCD co-morbidities.

Linking policies, clinical work, community work and research to understand the entire spectrum of diseases gives me a different perspective to identify potential solutions & challenges

### Biography

Currently, I am a member of the Board of World Diabetes Foundation and Honorary General Secretary of the Tanzania Diabetes Association (TDA), the Tanzania NCD Alliance (TANCA), the East African NCD Alliance (EANCA) and the Association of Private Health Facilities of Tanzania (APHFTA).

I did my schooling in Dar es Salaam and then received basic medical training at the University of Bombay, India (1981) and completed postgraduate training in Internal Medicine at the University of Dar es Salaam (1986-1989). My post-masters training was in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK (1990-1991).

Currently, I am working with children who have Type 1 diabetes, gestational diabetes, metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular complications of antiretroviral drugs in HIV/AIDS and Diabetes/TB interaction. I also working on CD/NCD integration models. I am working with the Ministry of Health on the National NCD program which encompasses prevention and promotion, curative services in primary care, training, policy and legislations, monitoring and evaluation, and operational research.

## Candidate for NCDA Board of Directors



### **Saunthari Somasundaram**

Chairperson, NCD Malaysia; President,  
The National Cancer Society of Malaysia  
Malaysia

### **Why would you like to be on the NCDA Board of Directors?**

Having been in cancer control for 20 years and involved with work ranging from community awareness to high-level advocacy, I realised early on the importance of pursuing mutual goals. Positive change in NCD control – at the individual or policy level – is a lot more achievable when everyone tackles one risk factor or speaks through one voice.

NCD Alliance is one such voice and an immensely powerful one. Since it was founded, the Alliance has grown from strength to strength, and quickly emerged as a world player uniting over 2,000 organisations, a strong representation in policy at the global level, and the hub for capacity building and knowledge exchange in NCD control priorities.

The commitment, dedication, and outcome of the team of the Alliance, including its Board of Directors, are exemplary. During my tenure in the Board of Directors at the Union for International Cancer Control, I have followed the progress and goals of NCDA closely, and have mirrored their work through NCD Malaysia as well as the setting up of the ASEAN NCD Alliance.

With nine years left to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3, we are racing against time to create a bigger and meaningful impact. However, in the spirit of disease control, challenges are opportunities to do better; to serve society better. Representing cancer, tobacco control, the national NCD Alliance, and the ASEAN region, I wish to formalise my contribution to this cause.

### **What makes you a good candidate for the NCDA Board of Directors?**

Decades of experience in cancer and tobacco control in a region often disadvantaged by the lack of resources have inspired me to find ways to tackle problems together, develop cost-efficient solutions, and more importantly, ensure that the true voices – those of people living with NCDs – are heard and acted upon.

In the building of the National Cancer Society of Malaysia (NCSM) as well as NCD Malaysia, my work spans across the following areas: policy, prevention, screening, early detection, and support. The accumulation of governance, clinical, educational, and advocacy skills has provided

me a comprehensive understanding of the benefits, challenges, needs, and gaps of NCD control in ASEAN.

I have also served on committees and boards in various Non-Governmental Organisations in NCD control, ranging from national to international. This has lent me the unique perspective of adapting global solutions to local, sustainable situations. Through my work at these different levels, I have focused on the collaborative potential of NCD control, rather than advocating for change from singular entities.

This is consistent throughout my advisory capacity for the Malaysian Ministry of Health as we advocate for national strategies and secure commitments from the Government.

Together, our local victories ranged from small to large, such as stricter tobacco control laws and securing the Government's commitment on national NCD control strategies. We have also united the voices of CSOs in health and non-health to amplify our advocacy and policy work. I am confident in bringing the same successes to the regional and global level.

### **Biography**

Dato' Dr Saunthari Somasundaram (DPMP MBBCh, BAO, LRCPI, LRCSI, MBA) is the Chairperson of NCD Malaysia, and the President of the National Cancer Society of Malaysia – the oldest cancer NGO in the country. Apart from being a past board member at the Union for International Cancer Control and the ASEAN NCD Alliance, she currently serves the board of the International Cancer Information Service Group and the Malaysian Women's Action Tobacco Control and Health.

Dato' Dr Somasundaram has used her decades of experience in cancer control towards NCD control. This included the set-up of the ASEAN NCD Alliance and the revival of the Malaysian NCD Alliance. She frequently advises the Malaysian Ministry of Health – in particular the NCD and the FCTC unit.

For her service in cancer and NCD control, she was conferred the Darjah Datuk Paduka Mahkota Perak award by HRH The Sultan of Perak in 2020.

## Candidate for NCD Board of Directors



**Pubudu Sumanasekara**

Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug  
Information Centre  
Sri Lanka

### Why would you like to be on the NCD Board of Directors?

I have a passion to design and implement innovative activities for NCD prevention and control at the global level and I believe that NCD Board is the most suitable place for me to share my ideas and experience. I hope I can add value to the NCD through the experience I gained with my previous work at local, regional and global level specially in alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention. I strongly believe that there will be an opportunity to design innovative activities to prevent deaths and disabilities caused by NCD when I become a Board member of NCD. I will be able to strengthen NCD Board with my ability to work in different sectors such as community-based organisations, government institutions and corporate sector which will enrich NCD programmes in the future. As a good team player, I am eager to share my knowledge and experience with other directors to strengthen the NCD control mission in the global level.

### What makes you a good candidate for the NCD Board of Directors?

I am excited to contribute to the NCD vision to control NCDs at the global level by adding my last 30 years experience of working towards NCD prevention and control. As a representative of a developing country in the Asian region, I believe that I can contribute to face the challenges of NCDs in the developing world. I have gained knowledge and experience working with different contexts, cultures, and communities. I will be able to strengthen the existing NCD programmes and design new interventions in the future. The results I achieved specially conceptualisation, designing and implementing targeting young people will be an added advantage to the NCD work in the coming years. I have actively engaged in community activities, research and policy advocacy in past many years at local, regional and global level. Through the achieved results in all three areas I can contribute to improve the future interventions of NCD. My passion to work in the field and the experience I have gained through research, policy advocacy and the community interventions will enrich the future work of NCD.

### Biography

Currently working as the Executive Director of Alcohol and Drug Information Centre (ADIC) Sri Lanka which is an internationally recognised resource centre for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug control. Working as a visiting lecturer at the University of Colombo and Rajarata Sri Lanka. Studied social work in India and health promotion in Canada. Vice President of the largest independent global movement for development through alcohol prevention, Movendi International. Board member of Global Alcohol Policy Alliance (GAPA). Closely engage with NCD alliance in Sri Lanka from the inception. Have been actively engaged in NCD control work since 1995 and specialise in NCD control through tobacco and alcohol control. The innovative activities invented by the organisation received international awards and recognitions, especially the interventions focus on young populations. Have done intensive interventions as an activist in the field for policy advocacy on formulation and implementation of alcohol tobacco and other drug control policies.



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