

**69<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly Statement on Agenda Item 13.3: Operational plan to take forward the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health**

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of the Union for International Cancer Control and NCD Alliance - a global network of civil society organisations united against NCDs.

NCDs claim the lives of 18 million women and 1.2 million people under age 20 annually, cause disability for many more, and push households into cycles of poverty due to the high out-of-pocket expenses of living with an NCD. The Global Strategy will achieve its vision only with concerted efforts to reach its NCD-related targets.

We hope to capitalize on the strong synergies between RMNCAH and the global NCD agenda by fully supporting the rigorous, integrated accountability measures for tracking progress towards achieving the goals and targets in the Strategy. We call on Member States to:

- 1. Ensure 'integrated accountability'** to reduce the reporting burden by measuring progress using existing frameworks, including the NCD targets of the SDGs and the WHO Global NCD Monitoring Framework.
- 2. Develop sustainable strategies to finance health accountability**, maximising and increasing the use of domestic resources, guided by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and support the Global Financing Facility.
- 3. Strengthen the capacity of the Global Health Data Collaborative to include disaggregated NCD data.** To measure success of the Strategy, data on NCD prevention and control for women, children, and adolescents is required.
- 4. Promote and ensure meaningful engagement of civil society** in supporting country-led implementation and accountability, making use of existing networks and new strategic alliances.

Finally, we support the resolution put forward by the Governments of Kenya and Uruguay urging WHO Member States to commit to implementing the Global Strategy and to report every other year on progress. We pledge to work with the RMNCAH community to safeguard the health and wellbeing of every woman, child, and adolescent.