

NCD Alliance Statement at the WHO Executive Board: 3.8 [Preparations for the 3rd UN HLM on NCDs](#)

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to make this statement on behalf of Alzheimer's Disease International supported by NCD Alliance.

Last month, 350 civil society representatives, NCD experts, youth and people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) from 68 countries convened for the 2nd Global NCD Alliance Forum. Civil society and PLWNCDs experience firsthand the consequences of the challenges that EB Report 142/15 describes: weak high-level political action, chronically inadequate NCD investment, policy incoherence due to lack of awareness, commercial determinants and systematic industry interference, and consequently, lagging implementation of WHO's Best Buys.

The Global Forum's message to Member States is clear – NCD deaths and disability are not just big numbers. NCD prevention and control is about ending unacceptable, avoidable suffering of people everywhere, and political inertia that violates the human right to health.

In order to establish NCDs as a priority investment for health and development at the 3rd UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs, we call on Member States to:

1. **Schedule the UN HLM for at least one day in September ahead of the UN General Assembly.** This will allow sufficient time for preparations of the meeting.
2. **Ensure participation of Heads of State and Government** reflecting appropriate attention on NCDs as a global issue requiring urgent high-level action.
3. **Facilitate meaningful participation from civil society and people living with NCDs**, including through a UN Civil Society Task Force and an Interactive Hearing held no later than June.
4. **Work toward robust commitments for the UN HLM Outcome Document**, including boosting NCD investment and accelerating implementation of WHO's Best Buys, free from commercial interests.

The UN HLM is our collective opportunity to mobilize the high-level focus, coordination and resources required to reverse the NCD epidemic. Let's not squander this opportunity – civil society and PLWNCDs around the world are counting on you.