



IOGT International Official Statement
WHO EB 145, Agenda item: 6.1 WHO Governance Reform Process
Involvement of non-state actors EB145/4

29.05.2019

Thank you for the opportunity to address you on behalf of IOGT International, supported by the NCD Alliance.

We are engaging in this process as friends and supporters of WHO, committed to do our part in improving WHO governing body proceedings. As civil society we are the nervous system of global health – connecting the dots, bridging the divides, and filling the gaps whenever and wherever needed to protect and promote the human right to health and wellbeing for all. Systematic and meaningful engagement with civil society is fundamental to the legitimacy of WHO and its normative leadership role.

We are the people that the triple billion target is all about and our 5 constructive proposals are the following:

1. Differentiate the different groups among non-state actors and institute meaningful engagement mechanisms that differ for public and private interest groups, accounting for the diversity and essential contributions of civil society.
2. Conduct national civil society consultations with Member States ahead of WHO governing body meetings to facilitate exchange, understanding of and contribution to our governments' WHO deliberations.
3. Facilitate meaningful civil society statements; joint or clustered civil society interventions are a serious challenge for our diverse community but we are willing to help find effective channels if it is assured that we will not be sidelined, marginalized or the content of our contributions diluted.



4. Institute proper, timely and transparent consultation hearings with maximum participation of WHO and Member States that feed into participatory decision-making processes. We do not need more forums, we need more meaningful participation. Therefore, any separate consultative hearing must have a recognized mechanism to feed into the WHO governing bodies.
5. Conduct a well promoted and widely accessible web-based consultation to propose concrete and constructive solutions for improving the involvement of civil society.

I thank you for your attention.

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