

# The NCD Alliance

Putting non-communicable diseases  
on the global agenda

**Contact:**

Janice Blondeau +41 22 809 1870

[jblondeau@ncdalliance.org](mailto:jblondeau@ncdalliance.org)

## **NCD Alliance calls for sustained action from civil society beyond the UN Summit on NCDs**

*Geneva, 25 May 2011* – The NCD Alliance today called on civil society to look beyond the outcomes of the UN Summit on non-communicable disease (NCDs) to be held in New York in September, to ensure that action against NCDs maintains its momentum, and save millions from premature death and debilitating health complications.

Speaking at the close of the 64<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization, an NCD Alliance spokesperson said, “While the UN Summit is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to put NCDs on the global agenda, we urge the global NCD movement to continue its efforts both in the run up to the New York Summit and once it has closed.”

“The UN Summit on NCDs is a major step in our journey to prevent, manage and control non-communicable diseases, however we recognize that an implementation and follow up plan based on the outcomes will not be written or adopted overnight. Therefore we call upon NGOs and other representatives of civil society to continue to urge action against NCDs.”

During the World Health Assembly, the NCD Alliance called on Member States to expand their national responses to NCDs by investing in coordinated actions with multi-sector involvement, and commit to cost-effective interventions with timed targets and indicators for assessing outcomes.

The NCD Alliance urged governments to support several priority interventions to prevent NCDs globally, including the full implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, reduced salt intake, improvements of diet and physical activity, and the reduction of harmful alcohol intake.

In addition, Member States were requested to ensure the prevention, early detection, treatment, and control of NCDs by strengthening primary health-care systems, and increasing access to quality-assured essential medicines and technologies. The provision of affordable vaccines, as appropriate, to people at risk of infection-related NCDs was also sought by the NCD Alliance.

To take action against this worldwide threat to human health, the NCD Alliance recommended establishing global goals and targets to reduce major risk factors and NCD death rates. It also called for the integration of NCDs into national and global development agendas, particularly for low- and middle-income countries.

The NCD Alliance is the leading civil society voice behind the organization of the UN Summit on NCDs, which will be held in New York, on 19-20 September, 2011.

- Ends -

### **Editor's Notes**

# The NCD Alliance

Putting non-communicable diseases  
on the global agenda

## About the NCD Alliance

The NCD Alliance leads the global civil society movement against premature death and preventable illness and disability from NCDs, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease and diabetes. The NCD Alliance builds coalitions, develops consensus, produces evidence and advocates for solutions to the NCD crisis. Founding partners of the NCD Alliance include the International Diabetes Federation, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, the Union for International Cancer Control and the World Heart Federation. Together, these federations represent some 900 member associations in over 170 countries and territories worldwide.

The NCD Alliance Web site is at [www.ncdalliance.org](http://www.ncdalliance.org).

The Alliance's Proposed Outcomes Document for the UN Summit can be found at ([www.ncdalliance.org/od](http://www.ncdalliance.org/od)).

The paper of the NCD Alliance and *The Lancet* NCD Action Group can be found at ([www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2811%2960393-0/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2811%2960393-0/fulltext)).