

The NCD Alliance's Membership Principles

June 2018

Membership with NCDA

The NCD Alliance (NCDA) is a non-governmental not-for-profit organisation based in Switzerland with a President, Board and consolidated membership base. The Board of Directors, the executive body of NCDA, consists of 13 directors elected by the NCDA General Assembly, the organisation's supreme governing body that meets every two years.

NCDA's mission is to unite and strengthen our civil society network to stimulate collaborative action for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) through advocacy, accountability, capacity development, and knowledge exchange. Our network currently brings together more than 2,000 civil society organisations supporting NCDA objectives and addressing the broader NCD agenda by putting health at the centre of all policies and by advocating for NCDs as a development priority.

NCDA has three types of membership for civil society organisations: Founding, Full and Associate. Founding membership is limited to the four founding federations of NCDA: the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the World Heart Federation (WHF) and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF).

NCDA offers **two membership categories** to organisations interested in NCDA activities:¹

Full members are entitled to attend and vote at the General Assembly meetings, where decisions are made on the organisation's strategy and governance, and can nominate and vote on NCDA's leadership including the President and Board Members. They can also submit activity proposals to the Board, and enjoy special benefits.

Associate members can attend the General Assembly meetings as observers (with no vote) and nominate individuals for the Board (not for President). They enjoy some special benefits.

¹Please note that organisations only interested in receiving our weekly newsletter can opt instead to become network members of NCDA, for which no fee applies.

Membership Criteria

The following criteria are used by NCDA to assess whether an applicant organisation should be accepted as a member and are part of NCDA's due diligence process with members.

- 1 The organisation is a civil society organisation: NGO, association, society or alliance of national or professional nature, patient organisation, community group, academia, etc.²

- 2 The organisation is NOT a private sector entity, business association, philanthropy or foundation, government or UN agency.³

- 3 The organisation has a defined governing body and organisational structure, and it is governed transparently. There should be no record of litigation or regulatory sanction against the organisation. Any arising issue should be brought to the attention of NCDA.

- 4 The organisation can demonstrate at any time good financial management and its active engagement in ensuring its financial sustainability. The organisation is able and willing to meet its financial obligations, including the NCDA membership fees.

- 5 The organisation has NO direct or indirect link with the tobacco, alcohol or arms industries.

- 6 The organisation has a demonstrable track record in NCDs, and is committed to evidence-based advocacy and practice.

- 7 The organisation has current projects or activities that are NCD-focused, in addition to disease-specific or risk factor-specific activities.

- 8 The organisation supports the mission, vision and objectives of NCDA, and its own mission, vision and objectives must be consistent with those of NCDA.

- 9 The organisation is willing to adhere to [NCDA's Constitution](#), Membership Principles and Conflict of Interest Members Policy, as well as to commit time to support NCDA activities.

² Civil society organisations (CSOs) are non-governmental and not-for-profit organisations that have a presence in public life.

³ Private sector entities, business associations, philanthropies, foundations, governments and UN agencies can ONLY become partners of NCDA.

Membership Principles

All NCDA members are expected to uphold the following principles, and it is their responsibility to ensure that the principles are being honoured at all times.⁴ NCDA members commit to:

- 1 Support NCDA's mission to achieve a future free from the preventable suffering, disability and death caused by NCDs.

- 2 Work together as a network of organisations on evidence-based policy and advocacy initiatives in furtherance of the objectives in the NCDA Strategic Plan.

- 3 Communicate successes and challenges, lessons learnt, and case studies to the NCDA team.

- 4 Ensure that NCDA news, resources and opportunities are disseminated within their organisations.

- 5 Strive to be transparent and to make every attempt to ensure the integrity of policy, advocacy, and communications produced and promoted, avoiding and disclosing any real or apparent conflict of interest that may arise or any compliance risk, such as a direct or indirect link with the tobacco, alcohol or arms industries.

- 6 Recognise that they are responsible for maintaining the reputation of NCDA and preserving its good name, and not jeopardise any existing relationships with other NCDA members and/or partners.

- 7 Advise NCDA if any issue emerges in their work or community that may have an impact on the reputation of NCDA.

- 8 Respect the branding guidelines of the NCDA membership framework, including permission to use the phrase "NCDA member" and the terms of usage of the NCDA logo. Only full members are entitled to use the NCDA logo and auspices for their own events, and then only upon approval from NCDA.

⁴Please note that NCDA reserves the right to perform due diligence checks at any time throughout the membership, and that the membership may be terminated at any point due to non-compliance with the membership criteria, violation of the membership principles or any other reasons deemed appropriate by the NCDA Board at its discretion. Where any such non-compliance is identified, NCDA will issue a formal report to the member organisation. In cases of extreme violation of the terms outlined above, termination of membership will be immediately effective. In less extreme cases, NCDA will respond with clear guidelines on how the issue(s) should be rectified. Where rectification is not undertaken within the timeline set, NCDA will terminate membership status.



MAKING NCD PREVENTION AND CONTROL A PRIORITY, EVERYWHERE

Complete the online membership application at
ncdalliance.org/membership

SHARE. DISCUSS. ENGAGE. CHANGE.



#NCDs @ncdalliance