

NCD Alliance Statement at 138th Executive Board, January 2016

Agenda Item 5.3 WHO's Framework for Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA)

Honourable chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of the World Heart Federation and the NCD Alliance, a network of 2,000 civil society organisations united against non-communicable diseases.

As we enter the fourth year of deliberations on FENSA, the lack of clarity on WHO's engagement with Non-State Actors (NSAs) continues to constrain the Organisation's work on NCDs. This is especially true of the Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs (GCM/NCD): the success of the GCM is entirely predicated upon sustained coordination and collaboration with selected Non-State Actors. We therefore commend the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Meeting for achieving agreement on most parts of the Framework so that the GCM's work might continue productively.

We do not underestimate the complexity of the Framework. The new FENSA must be able to allow WHO to effectively engage in the partnerships so urgently needed to advance global health, while protecting WHO's policies, norms and standards from harmful influence. Effective NCD prevention and control faces particular challenges. We believe that paragraph 44bis, which recognizes the negative impact of the core activities and products of certain industries on NCDs and their risk factors, adds clarity in this regard, and strongly urge Member States to retain this important paragraph.

We are encouraged that consideration is being given to retain secondments with NGOs and academic institutions, whose wealth of expertise could be effectively leveraged by WHO. We therefore look forward to the further development of WHO's secondment policy.

In conclusion, we strongly urge the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Meeting to resume its work swiftly to ensure the adoption of FENSA at the 69th WHA in May 2016, accompanied by an immediate establishment of the register of Non-State Actors and a provision for a comprehensive evaluation of FENSA implementation in 2018.

Thank you for your attention.

The NCD Alliance is led by:



**International
Diabetes
Federation**



**International Union Against
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease**
Health solutions for the planet

