

NCD Alliance Statement at the 136th WHO Executive Board

Agenda Item 6.4: Follow-up to the 2014 high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to undertake a comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs

Statement by the Union for International Cancer Control, speaking on behalf of Alzheimer's Disease International, the Framework Convention Alliance, the International Diabetes Federation, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Management Sciences for Health, the World Heart Federation, and 2,000 leading civil society organisations, who together form the NCD Alliance.

Chairperson, distinguished delegates, colleagues,

On behalf of the NCD Alliance, a network of 2,000 civil society organisations united against non-communicable diseases, we welcome the report on follow-up from the 2014 UN NCD Review.

In recognition that progress on NCDs over the last 3 years has been *"insufficient and highly uneven"*, the UN Review signalled an important shift from global dialogue to national action. We now urge Member States to fully implement global commitments, and take this opportunity to emphasise three points:

- 1. Establish effective national governance for NCDs.** At the UN Review, governments committed to developing national NCD targets, costed national NCD plans, and national NCD commissions by 2015. This is the NCD equivalent of the tested and proven "Three Ones" principles of the HIV/AIDS response. With less than 12 months to meet these commitments, swift and decisive action is needed.
- 2. Foster a strong NCD civil society movement in your country.** A vibrant civil society movement capable of delivering its three primary roles – advocacy, accountability and service delivery – is fundamental to reach the 25 by 25 target. We encourage governments to work with national NCD alliances, engaging them in policy development, service design, and monitoring.
- 3. Ensure a strong accountability framework.** Accountability is a crucial force for political and programmatic change. Governments demonstrated leadership by adopting the 9 NCD targets and 25 indicators. Now, to guide and monitor country progress towards these ambitious outcomes, regular benchmarking of progress is required to inform deliberations at future UN Reviews. With the assurance that this benchmark in no way undermines the agreed global NCD targets or creates additional reporting burden on countries, we encourage Member States to support the WHO EMRO proposal.

With a strong global NCD framework in place, we look forward to working together in a new era of action and accountability.