



**Statement at the 72nd Session of the WHO World Health Assembly  
20 – 28 May 2019**

**Agenda Item: 11.4  
Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development A72/11**

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of UICC, supported by the NCD Alliance.

We welcome the report and the growing movement that recognises UHC as both an outcome and indicator of progress on health under the SDG agenda. In order to drive progress towards achieving the health-related SDGs, we urge Member States to:

- **Increase investment to strengthen health systems to better respond to the increasing burden of NCDs and multi-morbidities.** The report recognizes that weak health systems remain an obstacle to progress. Further strategic investment is needed to strengthen core health system capacities to deliver interventions for cancer and NCDs, including prevention, diagnosis, treatment and palliative care. These investments should not, however be seen in a silo as they can build health system capacities for all patients.
- **Accelerate action on the risk factors for NCDs:** Reducing exposure to the main risk factors for NCDs has stalled in some areas, such as alcohol use, obesogenic environments and air pollution. In order to meet the global targets for NCDs and health-related SDGs, governments should implement the full set of WHO recommended interventions.
- **Facilitate multi-sectoral cooperation with non-health actors:** Achieving the health-related SDGs requires a Health in All Policies approach and cooperation and coordination with all sectors. In order to achieve the 2030 Agenda, it is essential that all relevant non-health actors whose outputs have a health impact are engaged to deliver a coordinated approach, and that stakeholders no longer work in silos.
- **Strengthen health information systems to improve evidence-based policy-making,** and particularly prioritisation for UHC, and to increase transparency and accountability and more effective stakeholder engagement to implement plans to deliver against the SDGs.

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