

## Statement by The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease on behalf of the NCD Alliance 68th World Health Assembly Statement on Agenda Item 14.6

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of The Union and the NCD Alliance, a global civil society network working to elevate the profile of NCDs on the global development agenda.

Health and climate are intrinsically interlinked, and it is of utmost importance to address these two central components of sustainable development in tandem. The Paris climate agreement later this year is our last chance to prevent catastrophic **and irrevocable** consequences for people and our planet. It is equally a unique opportunity to promote and capitalize on dual wins. While we strongly welcome the resolution on air pollution, we also call on Member States and WHO to:

- 1. Act on the evidence, which clearly links health to climate beyond air pollution alone.** Environmental determinants of health and NCDs extend far beyond air pollution. To limit focus and action is a grave missed opportunity.
- 2. Strengthen collaboration across sectors.** The root causes, and therefore solutions, of climate change, health and NCDs are found in the energy, agriculture, transport, urban planning, industry, and trade sectors. Active modes of transport, healthy diets and sustainable food systems, industry regulation, and climate-sensitive allocation of subsidies offer clear co-benefits. We call on WHO to collaborate with UNEP, recalling article 5c of Resolution 1/7 of the Environmental Assembly. We also call on the WHO NMH cluster to strengthen collaboration with the WHO Dept of Protection of the Human Environment.
- 3. Ensure stringent monitoring and accountability.** Reflecting these sector-specific interventions, indicators and monitoring frameworks must be developed which incentivise multisectoral action and hold individual sectors to account.

NCDs and climate are defining challenges of our generation, and simultaneously present an opportunity for monumental long-term gain. The NCD Alliance stands ready to support Member States and the WHO in pioneering a dual movement for climate and health.