The NCD Alliance

Putting non-communicable diseases on the global agenda

NCD Alliance Statement WHO EURO Regional Meeting, 15–18 September 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark

Statement under Agenda item 3: Matters arising out of the resolutions and decisions of the Sixty-Seventh World Health Assembly

Statement on behalf of the NCD Alliance, a global civil society network of over 2,000 organizations working together to elevate non-communicable diseases on the global development agenda. IFMSA aligns itself with this statement.

The NCD Alliance commends Member States and WHO for concluding the work on the global architecture for NCDs at the 67th World Health Assembly. With the adoption of the Global Monitoring Framework, the Global NCD Action Plan, and the Global Coordination Mechanism, the three pillars of the global NCD architecture - accountability, action, and coordination – are now in place.

Furthermore, we commend Member States for adopting a concise, action-oriented Outcome Document at the UN NCD Review and Assessment in New York in July. The UN Review signals an important shift from a global dialogue to national action and implementation. The Outcome Document includes specific, time-bound commitments that will effectively guide the next phase of the global, regional and national NCD response.

We therefore call on WHO EURO Member States to:

1) Fully Implement all commitments in the UN NCD Review Outcome Document, including developing national NCD targets and costed, national multisectoral plans by 2015. We strongly encourage WHO EURO Member States to asipre to this more ambitous target of 2015, rather than the Health 2020 target of 2016;

2) Establish national NCD multisectoral mechanisms, such as commissions, agencies, or task forces, to ensure policy integration, coherence, and implementation, as well as accountability. These mechanisms should be created with whole-of-government, whole-of-society, people-centered approaches, and the full and active participation of civil society;

3) Increase the provision of adequate and sustained domestic, regional and international resources allocated to NCDs and for strengthening health systems. Larger budgetary allocations from domestic, bilateral, regional and multilateral channels for NCDs is urgently needed, and will further strengthen the NCD response;

4) Continue to enhance the capacity of NCD civil society in the region. National and regional NCD alliances in EURO are already proving to be invaluable entities in both accelerating domestic and regional action, but also serving as mechanisms for north-south collaboration with civil society in other regions.

Finally, with less than 500 days until the expiry of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), we call on Member States to prioritize and actively champion the inclusion of NCDs in the post-2015 development agenda. Building on the final Outcome Document of the Open Working Group, we call on Member States to support an overarching outcome-focused health goal of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, a standalone target to reduce NCD mortality by 40% by 2030, and health sensitive indicators across all dimensions of the post-2015 agenda.

We thank you for your consideration of these actions, and offer our full support in the next phase of our collective actions to improve the health and wellbeing of all people, everywhere.

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The NCD Alliance is led by:













