

Chairman of Committee A

Statement to be made under Technical and Health Matters

Agenda Item 13.1: Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

Statement by Kathryn Taubert, Chief Science Officer, World Heart Federation

Statement by the World Heart Federation, speaking on behalf of the International Diabetes Federation, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, the Union for International Cancer Control and 50 leading civil society organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of the World Heart Federation, the NCD Alliance, and 50 leading civil society organizations.

We commend Member States on their action toward fulfilling commitments in the Political Declaration on the Prevention and Control of NCDs. Halting the NCD epidemic requires timely implementation of these commitments, including taking clear decisions this week.

For too long, NCDs have been a hidden epidemic. NCDs cause preventable suffering, disability and death in people of all ages in all countries. Bold action will enable us to significantly lessen this impact, help control the risk factors that accelerate the disease burden, and improve the overall social conditions toward good health for all.

Ladies and gentlemen, our organizations commit to supporting Member States and WHO in catalyzing global action for NCDs. We call on Member States to:

One: Support a comprehensive Global Monitoring Framework and Targets

We fully agree with the current global targets being considered by Member States, but they are incomplete – five targets is not enough for the most complex health challenge the world has ever faced. We ask Member States to agree to ten targets and to report progress every two years. We need a target on essential medicines for persons living and coping with NCDs, to ensure 80% availability of affordable, quality-assured essential NCD medicines and technologies. This target should be added to those already proposed on tobacco, salt, alcohol, physical inactivity, trans-fats, blood pressure, obesity and multi-drug therapy.

Two: Support the establishment of a Global Coordinating Platform on NCDs

Led by Member States and UN agencies, with representation from civil society and the private sector, this platform would facilitate a renewed multisectoral movement for NCDs. With appropriate safeguards against vested interests, it should have the responsibility to fully develop a global plan for NCDs and bring together key sectors and partners. We will not turn the tide on NCDs by continuing the same fragmented and piecemeal responses from the past – it's time to work together in a renewed global effort.

Three: Put NCDs at the heart of the post-2015 development agenda

As the world begins to review the impact of the Millennium Development Goals and plan for a new framework after their expiry in 2015, We call on governments to ensure health and NCDs are included in the outcomes of Rio+20 and other current and future processes underway to determine the post-2015 Development framework.

The UN Summit last September put NCDs on the global agenda. Let us build on that opportunity. With strong leadership from the WHO and its Member States, with the support of the UN system, civil society, and other stakeholders, we can make significant progress in curtailing this epidemic.

Alzheimer's Disease International
American Cancer Society
American College of Cardiology
American Heart Association
American Sleep Apnea Association
Arogya World
Association Togolaise du Diabète
Australians for Global Action on NCDs
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids
Cancer Alliance of South Africa
Children's HeartLink
CLAN (Caring & Living As Neighbours)
Ethiopian NCD Consortium
European Society for Medical
Oncology
Family Care International
FHI360
Global Health Council
Grounds for Health
Handicap International
Interdisciplinary Working Group for
Reduction of Salt Intake in Italy
International Confederation of
Childhood Parent Organisations
International Diabetes Federation
International Federation of Psoriasis
Associations
International Society of Nephrology
International Society of Paediatric
Oncology
King Hussein Cancer Foundation
Lab Aid Specialized Hospital,
Bangladesh
LIVESTRONG (Lance Armstrong
Foundation)
Management Sciences for Health
Mathiwo Wondru-Ye Ethiopia Cancer
Society
NCD Child
Nepal International Consumers Union
OLORD, India
Pakistan Nutrition and Dietetic Society
Pallium, India
Santé Diabète
Sister to Sister Foundation
Southeast Asia Tobacco Control
Alliance
Sri Lanka National Federation on
Smoking or Health
Srinivasa Heart Foundation
Thomas Jefferson University, School of
Population Health
Ulkerreuil A Klengar
Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung
Disease
Union for International Cancer Control
Wespak Welfare Trust, Pakistan
Work for a Better Bangladesh Trust
World Action on Salt and Health
World Dental Federation
World Heart Federation