

Statement at the 70th World Health Assembly
Agenda Item 15.1: Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the
Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to make this statement on behalf of the International Diabetes Federation supported by NCD Alliance.

We commend WHO for the updated and expanded Appendix 3 of the Global NCD Action Plan. The document is significantly improved compared to its original version, in particular in the area of unhealthy diets and physical activity, treatment of early cancers, primary prevention for rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, and palliative care.

We welcome that the updated document emphasises the potential of population-based interventions, including regulatory and fiscal policies, to reduce inequalities in the prevention and control of NCDs and acknowledges the limitations of cost-effectiveness analysis.

NCDs are the world's biggest killers, yet national action on reducing NCD risk and improving NCD care has been slow and inadequate. We strongly urge Member States to endorse the updated Appendix III. This is critical to demonstrate strong commitment to implementation of evidence-based cost-effective NCD prevention and control measures, as well as to protection of policy-making from industry interference, in particular in the lead-up to the 2018 UNHLM. The NCD Alliance wishes to recognize and commend the strong leadership shown by many Member States in the past days to secure endorsement of Appendix III.

We now urge that this same leadership will be extended to endorsement of the Implementation Plan on Ending Childhood Obesity under agenda item 15.5.

Thank you for your attention. The NCD Alliance remains committed to support WHO and Member States in accelerating evidence-based NCD action at global and national levels.