

NCD Alliance statement to the UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) 23 September 2019

Multi-stakeholder panel session 1 - Universal Health Coverage as a driver of equity, inclusive development, and prosperity for all

Excellencies,

NCD Alliance, a global civil society network of over 2000 organisations, urges leaders to translate promises into progress. In our lifetimes, we have witnessed how countries and lives can be transformed when political will exists. But, while people are living longer, more years are spent in poor health, with multiple chronic conditions, including mental ill health. Most countries are failing on your commitment to reduce the toll of non-communicable diseases.

It is your responsibility to bridge the unjust and unjustifiable gaps between promises and progress:
We ask you to, please

- **Put people affected by NCDs at the heart of decision-making**
- **Include NCD prevention and care in UHC benefit packages**
- **Ensure integrated health systems that prioritise health rather than disease, recognising multimorbidity**
- **Deploy proven measures to reduce NCD mortality to meet commitments for 2025 and 2030**
- **Make sure noone is pushed into poverty by their health needs, prioritise equity and leave no one behind.**

Today must be transformative, for every country and person. Health for All includes rights of women to govern their own sexual and reproductive health - rights which have been unacceptably attacked throughout negotiations. The rights and needs of migrants, refugees, indigenous peoples, the oldest and youngest in every society must be respected.

UHC is the most powerful tool you have to improve lives, ensure fairness and stability, create opportunities for economic growth and sustainable development. Please go beyond promises to action.

Thank you