Health in Post-2015 Cluster of NGO Major Group Response to the WHA Resolution: Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Dear Dr Chan,

We, the undersigned organisations, as members of the Health in Post-2015 NGO Coalition, wish to commend the Member States at the World Health Assembly for adopting such a far-reaching resolution on Agenda 13.2 Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This resolution will contribute greatly to the implementation and follow-up and review of the health goal and related targets in the 2030 Agenda, as it encourages regular reporting on progress towards achieving the health-related targets to the WHA.

We support Member States in recognizing that achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) will be central to achieving many of the health targets; will contribute to health systems strengthening; and will help foster alignment and coordination of global health interventions and services. UHC, fully realized, reaches the most marginalized and vulnerable populations, and ensures access to and availability of safe, effective, equitable, affordable, quality medicines, services, and technologies without enduring financial hardship. At the same time, we are pleased that the resolution includes all the targets of Goal 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages" as well as all other health-related targets.

We note that substantial progress has been made in development of an indicator framework to track progress and that more work will be needed, particularly for Target 3.8, to ensure that all components of the UHC continuum are included in measurement. We urge WHO to engage with Member States to ensure the refinement of Target 3.8.2 so that it appropriately measures financial protection.

We commend Member States for recognizing the need to address growing antimicrobial resistance (AMR), for which there is no SDG target, but is only included in the Declaration of the 2030 Agenda. Addressing AMR will be essential for ensuring global health security and progress towards realizing global health targets.

While recognizing the central role of the high-level political forum, held under the auspices of ECOSOC, as the main reporting body for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, we commend Member States for requesting WHO to report on progress towards achieving health-related targets at the World Health Assembly at least every two years. Continuous monitoring of health-targets is essential to assess effectiveness of policies and interventions, and allows for discussion of successes and challenges in implementation.

We note the reference to request WHO to develop a long-term plan for maximizing the impact of the contributions of WHO at all levels toward the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and request WHO ensures consultation with and meaningful involvement of civil society organizations at all stages of this process, as part of a transparent and participatory process.

Members of Health in Post-2015 NGO Coalition stand ready to contribute to the process and to support WHO and Member States as they work towards implementing Goal 3 and the health-related targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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