



## 78th Session of the World Health Assembly Constituency Statement

### Constituency Statement on item 13.3 - Universal Health Coverage

**Statement coordinated by:**

1. The NCD Alliance and the World Heart Federation

**Statement supported by:**

2. Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance
3. PATH
4. International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH)
5. The Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Sightsavers)
7. Women Deliver
8. Vital Strategies
9. International Federation on Ageing
10. Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF)
11. International Diabetes Federation
12. Association Africaine des Centrales d'Achats de Médicaments Essentiels:
13. Global Health Council
14. World Cancer Research Fund International
15. World Blind Union
16. Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi)
17. Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI)
18. The International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua)
19. The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH)
20. The World Hypertension league (WHL)
21. International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO)

Distinguished delegates,

There can be no Universal Health Coverage without addressing noncommunicable diseases and mental health - these are central to efforts to realise UHC. Yet, progress remains off track for 2030.

We welcome the DG's report but are deeply concerned by the slow pace of progress and integration, especially given the increasing NCD burden, representing 74% of global deaths.

We urge Member States to accelerate UHC implementation by:

- 1) refocusing on people-centred, rights-based primary health care;
- 2) integrating prevention, early diagnosis, screening, treatment, rehabilitation, palliative and long term care services into national health benefit packages;
- 3) investing in NCD including circulatory health services through sustained resources for UHC, expanding social protection, and implementing cost-effective interventions, the NCD 'best buys'; WHO HEARTS, and WHO PEN-Plus;
- 4) engaging civil society and people living with NCDs to keep UHC people-centered;
- 5) establishing accountability mechanisms and disaggregated data to leave no one behind.

We welcome the resolution on strengthening global health financing and the adaptation and uptake of WHO norms and standards. In the context of budget constraints, we call for an ambitious global financing target and the implementation of health taxes, generating domestic resources, preventing NCDs, and contributing to UHC.

We also support the resolutions on enhancing medical imaging capacity, and on addressing rare diseases, to achieve SDG 2030 targets.

Finally, the 2025 UN HLM on NCDs is a key opportunity to take stock on UHC as well, providing leadership needed to accelerate progress.

Thank you 245 words