



**Statement to the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Health Assembly on  
Cancer Prevention and Control in the context of an integrated  
approach,**

**Agenda item 15.6 (A70/32)**

World Cancer Research Fund International welcomes the cancer resolution and the WHO Secretariat report on Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach, which aligns with WHA commitments on non-communicable diseases and the SDGs.

We applaud the specific recognition to promote cancer research to improve the evidence base for cancer prevention and control. Our analysis of worldwide research shows that being overweight or obese is linked to an increased risk of 11 cancers, and that being an unhealthy weight is the second biggest preventable cause of cancer after smoking. We estimate that around one third of the most common cancers could be prevented through a healthier lifestyle and diet.

The WHO Secretariat report recognised the importance of healthy lifestyles in the prevention of cancer. We strongly believe that increasing taxes on 'unhealthy commodities', and not just on tobacco and alcohol, is a key policy intervention as part of a comprehensive approach. We urge Member States to take decisive action to address unhealthy diets by implementing the interventions recommended in Appendix 3 of the Global Action Plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013-2020.

Finally, we welcome the call for the Director-General to develop a public health and policy-orientated world report on cancer, and urge that such a report be regularly updated based on latest evidence with key stakeholders including World Cancer Research Fund International.