



142nd Session WHO Executive Board

Agenda Item 3.8

Preparation for the 3rd High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of NCDs, to be held in 2018

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of UICC and World Cancer Research Fund International.

We support the statement made by ADI and the NCD Alliance and recognise the challenges to implementing the Global Action Plan on NCDs resulting from weak high-level political action, chronically inadequate NCD investment, policy incoherence, industry interference, and slow implementation of cost-effective NCD interventions. The report clearly shows the urgent need for action if we are to meet Sustainable Development Goal 3.4, but we urge WHO and Member States not to forget their commitments to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by 25% by 2025, as achieving this target will be an important milestone on the road to 2030.

Ahead of the 2018 High-Level Meeting, the cancer community is ready to support Member States to improve national action on cancer and NCDs. We have seen some advances; currently 223 national or regional cancer control plans are publically available, but delivering on the global NCD commitments requires significant political action to mobilise resources for building the cancer services we know can make a difference and save lives. With this in mind we urge Member States to reinforce their commitment to cancer and NCDs as a priority national health and development investment through:

- Participation of Heads of State/Government at the UN HLM by scheduling the meeting ahead of the UN General Assembly.
- Establishment of a UN civil society taskforce and interactive hearing to facilitate the input of civil society organisations into the process.
- Development of robust commitments to support the implementation and scale-up of prevention, early detection, treatment and care services including those contained in the WHO “Best Buys” and WHA cancer resolution.

Recognising the challenges and opportunities ahead of us, we look forward to supporting WHO and Members States in their preparations for the UN HLM.