



**Follow-up to the high-level meetings of the United Nations General  
Assembly on health-related issues:  
Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases  
EB 144/20**

This statement is delivered by World Cancer Research Fund International, supported by NCD Alliance, the Union for International Cancer Control and World Heart Federation. We welcome the report and actions outlined for WHO to help Member States accelerate implementation of the 2018 Political Declaration on NCDs.

We further call on Member States to:

- **Support implementation of all cost-effective interventions for prevention and control of NCDs:** The full list of cost-effective and other recommended interventions offers a vital toolbox for governments to adapt proven measures to local resource settings. The set of tools available should be regularly updated to reflect scientific progress and implementation experience.
- **Expand the NCD toolbox to include mental health and air pollution:** We call on the Secretariat to identify a comprehensive package of effective, evidence-based interventions, which should be implemented to achieve SDG 3.4 and contribute significantly to the SDGs more broadly - including poverty reduction, (gender) equity and environmental goals. These should include fiscal measures and removing subsidies from unhealthy commodities.
- **Elevate the voices of people living with NCDs and marginalised populations:** We call for meaningful action to include PLWNCDs and marginalised groups, including youth, women and indigenous peoples, throughout all stages of policy and programme development and implementation.
- **Secure sustainable financing for NCDs:** Despite the large economic and social burden of NCDs, the response remains chronically, disproportionately underfunded. Sustained NCD financing is an important component for UHC, and we encourage governments to implement fiscal policies and allocate resources.
- **Exercise caution when engaging the private sector in the NCD response:** The private sector is not a homogenous group and due consideration must be given to potential conflicts of interest. Negotiations on the 2018 HLM on NCDs were illustrative of significant negative influence of a few private sector entities. Member States must put public health first.