Agenda Item 7. Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

Joint Statement to the 150th Executive Board

ANNEX 8, Appendix 1 EB150/7 Add.1

DRAFT ACTION PLAN (2022–2030) TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL ALCOHOL STRATEGY AS A PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY

WCRI International and UIICC welcome the WHO Global Alcohol Strategy Action Plan, and support Movendi International’s call on Member States to accelerate action on alcohol as a public health priority.

We commend the Action Plan’s more ambitious targets. However, we remain very concerned about the role of the alcohol industry in every action area, which perpetuates the harms industry causes, and the misuse of “harmful use of alcohol” terminology. Evidence clearly shows there is no safe level of alcohol consumption for cancer risk.

We call on Member States and the Secretariat to:

- Resource implementation of the action plan commensurate with the health, social and economic harm of alcohol,
- Ensure biannual review of the implementation of the action plan at WHO governing body meetings,
- Launch an inter-agency initiative for public health-oriented alcohol taxation, and
- Develop approaches to cross-border alcohol marketing issues.