



22 January 2018

142nd WHO Executive Board Meeting , item 3.8 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases

Honorable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the World Medical Association WMA, which represents more than 9 million physicians in over 110 countries.

WMA would like to thank WHO for the comprehensive and clearly stated analysis of the improvement in the fight against NCDs in the report of Preparation for the third High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases.

The mentioned obstacles in the implementation process show how important a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach through an inclusive partnership is. When involving civil society, WHO and governments need to understand that it is not a homogeneous group and health professionals play an important role. Physician dedicate their life to serving patients and improve their health and well-being and as one of the most respected professions, patients will listen to their advice on prevention and health promotion. Therefore, WMA offers again its commitment to support WHO in the preparatory process of the high-level meeting on NCDs and take an active role.

We are pleased to see the holistic strategy with a focus on universal health coverage and health care system strengthening with a strong emphasis on health professionals and the inclusion of the life-course approach. WMA has been advocating since the beginning for such a holistic approach.

Further we would like to acknowledge our successful collaboration with the Global Coordination Mechanism on NCD (GCM-NCD) as a way to cooperate with WHO on NCDs. Therefore, we propose to include the GCM-NCD in the WHO work programme and continue the GCM-NCD after 2020. We would like to emphasize again that WMA would like to be engaged in the civil society group of the Preparation for the third High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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