Today’s Webinar

1. What is a WHO Resolution?
2. What is in the Current Draft?
3. Q&A with representative from Geneva Mission of New Zealand
4. #TimeToTackleRHD – Advocacy Campaign
5. Looking Ahead to the World Health Assembly
6. Q&A
Next Steps Timeline

**Jan 2017** – 140th WHO Executive Board meeting.
Decision-makers decided to hold formal discussions on RHD at next Executive Board meeting in June 2017

**Feb-May 2017** – Strong civil society advocacy pushed governments to support concept of RHD Resolution before formal discussions in June

**Feb 2017** – RHD Action called on civil society to demand that governments & decision-makers propose and support an RHD Resolution (global policy process)

**Aug-Oct 2017** – WHO Regional Meetings – opportunity to advocate to key decision-makers to support the Draft Resolution

**Jan 2018** – 142nd WHO Executive Board meeting – opportunity to advocate to key decision-makers to support the Draft Resolution

**May 2018** – 71st World Health Assembly. Decision-makers have first opportunity to pass Resolution. (If Resolution is not passed here, discussions continue into 2019)

**Looking ahead** – Once the Resolution is passed, we will ensure governments stick to their commitments and begin to fund and implement work on RHD in countries around the world

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**Key Dates**

**Feb-May 2017** – Civil society advocated to decision-makers, encouraging them to support the RHD Resolution.

**22-31 May 2017** – Decision-makers met at the 70th World Health Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland)

**01-02 June 2017** – Decision-makers recommended a Draft Resolution on ‘Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease’ at the 141st WHO Executive Board meeting. (Geneva, Switzerland)

**Aug 2017 - May 2018** – Ongoing civil society advocacy to decision-makers, encouraging them to support the RHD Resolution (Global)

**22-27 Jan 2018** – 142nd WHO Executive Board meeting – opportunity to advocate to key decision-makers to support the Draft Resolution (Geneva, Switzerland)

**21-26 May 2018** – Decision-makers meet at the 71st World Health Assembly to discuss the Draft Resolution. This is the earliest opportunity for the Resolution to be finalized and passed (Geneva, Switzerland)
What is a WHO Resolution?

- A Resolution is a piece of written policy agreed by all of the countries (or ‘Member States’) that make up the World Health Organization.
- A Resolution contains clear commitments and action, and needs to be passed by consensus at a World Health Assembly.
What is a WHO Resolution?

- Once passed, this Resolution will effectively put RHD on the official workplan of the World Health Organization.

- This means that decision-makers (including governments and the WHO) will need to recognize that RHD is a global priority and address and fund it appropriately.
What is in the Current Draft?

• **Calls on Member States (countries), to:**
  o Improve access to primary healthcare
  o Strengthen data collection and knowledge of RHD prevalence
  o Ensure timely, affordable and reliable access to technologies and medicine
  o Strengthen national and international cooperation
  o Tackle the root determinants

• **Invites all stakeholders to:**
  o Put people living with RHD at the centre of the prevention and control agenda

• **Asks the DG of WHO to:**
  o Lead and coordinate global efforts to prevent and control RHD
Q&A with Lucy Richardson
Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the UN, Geneva
Resolution Co-Sponsors

Australia, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Colombia, Cook Islands, Ecuador, Fiji, Japan, Kenya, Namibia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Samoa, South Africa, Sudan, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda and Zambia
#TimeToTackleRHD Campaign

What can you do, and how can we support you?

- Advocate to your Ministry of Health to let them know that RHD is a priority & to support the Resolution

- We have produced a Campaign Pack to support your advocacy. These resources include background information, a template advocacy letter, and much more: [http://ow.ly/cIcG430iRh7f](http://ow.ly/cIcG430iRh7f)

- Want to advocate to your national decision-makers? Email us at [Advocacy@worldheart.org](mailto:Advocacy@worldheart.org) for support.

- We can share and disseminate your advocacy activities and successes through our communications channels: Tweet about the #TimeToTackleRHD campaign on social media
Looking Ahead to the World Health Assembly

• Governments will discuss the Draft Resolution at the 71st WHA, held from 21-26 May 2018.

• Preliminary agenda and timetable for the WHA are now available online – suggest RHD Discussions on 24/25 May

• WHA Discussions can be followed online via live webstream – we will share these details in May.

• RHD Action Side Event – Wednesday 23 May
Thank you!

Advocacy Webinar
Resolution on Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease

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15.03.2018
Jeremiah Mwangi & Alastair White