

144th Session of the WHO Executive Board, 24 January – February 1st, 2019 Geneva

Agenda 5.1: Proposed programme budget 2020-2021

Response to WHO Report EB144/7: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB144/B144_7-en.pdf

Distinguished chair, Members of the Executive Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this statement on behalf of the World Heart Federation and the NCD Alliance.

We commend the efforts of the Director-General to align the proposed budget to deliver on the 13th GPW with an increased impact orientation and increased support for national level activities, monitoring and reporting with a better integrated health systems oriented approach. We appreciate the need to demonstrate accountability by monitoring progress across the triple billion goals and all targets under SDG3.

With regard to SDG3.4, NCDs accounted for 73% of all global deaths in 2017, with over half of all deaths (28.8 million) attributable to just four risk factors: high blood pressure, smoking, high blood glucose, and high body-mass index. The NCD Countdown 2030 initiative shows a higher probability of dying before 70 years of age in 164 countries from an NCD than from communicable, maternal, perinatal, and nutritional conditions combined.

Clearly, people rarely live with just one health condition. It is far more common to live with multiple chronic conditions, both noncommunicable and communicable.

- It is therefore pressing to rapidly transition from a disease-siloed approach to programmes and funding, to a person-centred approach which recognises that people are exposed to the major NCD risk factors in all resource settings and accelerates reduction of exposure.
- We call on Member States and the WHO to ensure adequate resources to meet increasing demand for technical assistance for the NCD response, to support roll-out of the technical packages and evidence-based recommended interventions.
- We also ask you to engage with donors to increase support for improved data collection and analysis, to feed into monitoring and measurement as a strong basis for targeted interventions with maximum benefit.