

WHO 152nd Session of Executive Board

Agenda item 6. Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and mental health

Statement of Finland

Thank you Chair

Finland aligns herself with the statements read on behalf of the EU and its Member States as well as the Nordic-Baltic countries

Finland's strong position is that there must be a clear and solid barrier between the provision of normative guidance by the secretariat and the governance by member states. Over the years, it has become obvious that what was in the past called "best buys" and what now is called the "policy options" is nothing else than normative guidance.

Therefore, we support the idea of considering whether the updates of the appendix three on the policy option to reduce NCDs and their risk factors could become a sole responsibility of the secretariat. We would like to ask that the secretariat see when and how such a decision could be taken by the World Health Assembly, and make proposals in that regard

Thank you