

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



150th Session of the WHO Executive Board

National Statement

Agenda 7: Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (b), (c) (e) & (i)

Thank you chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement with that made by Botswana on behalf of the Member States of the Africa Region.
2. We acknowledge the significant advances in understanding the modalities of prevention and treatment of diabetes, as well as the risk factors associated with the diabetes, including obesity. Additionally, we recognize the regional efforts to improve access to diabetes care at the primary healthcare level and many countries in the region, including Kenya, have integrated diabetes into their Universal Health Coverage packages.
3. However, we regret to note that despite these global strides in this area, diabetes services remain inequitable, and Insulin and associated health technologies for diagnosis and management of diabetes remain unaffordable in many low-and middle-income countries, and out-of-reach for many patients.
4. We note that the draft recommendations proposed by the Director General to strengthen and monitor diabetes responses within national noncommunicable disease programmes and congratulate the Secretariat for proposing five voluntary global diabetes coverage targets.
5. In this regard, we recommend that WHO, international partners and member states continue to mobilize funding and other resources to support national capacities to implement priority actions to realize these targets, as well as strengthen systems for monitoring and evaluating national diabetes programmes.

6. Additionally, cognizant of the risk profile of obesity in many non-communicable conditions, Kenya supports the adoption of the Recommendations for the prevention and management of obesity over the life course as a commendable first step in addressing this risk.
7. To gain momentum on this critical issue, Kenya recommends development of a global action plan to support implementation, accountability, country monitoring and surveillance of obesity.
8. Chair, Regarding agenda 7 (c), Kenya acknowledges the potential role that the development of a draft global strategy and a global action plan on oral health will have in expanding oral health services across the globe.
9. Such an initiative should entail efforts to improve oral health promotion and oral disease prevention, integrating oral health services in UHC and alignment with strategies for prevention and control non-communicable diseases.
10. In this regard, Kenya recommends the adoption of the draft global strategy on oral health by the 75th World Health Assembly and looks forward to being involved in the subsequent development of the global action plan on oral health.
11. Additionally, Kenya requests the Executive Board to prioritize the development of a framework to phasedown the use Dental Amalgam and other dental related waste in oral health services, in line with Minamata Convention on Mercury and for environmental sustainability.

I thank you.