

150th Session of the WHO Executive Board

Agenda Item 7: Political declaration of the third high level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (Ref Docs: EB150/7 and EB150/7 Add.1)

Thank you, Moderator, thank you Chair

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Rwanda has the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the 47 Member States of the Africa Region, on **Agenda Item 7 related to Political declaration of the third high level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;**
2. WHO Africa Region commends the secretariat for the report on this item.

Regarding the Draft implementation road map 2023–2030 for the global action plan for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases 2013–2030,

3. WHO Africa Region congratulates the secretariat and all technical teams that worked on the implementation plan which is aiming to guide and support Member States to take urgent measures, in 2023 and beyond, to accelerate progress and re-orient and accelerate their domestic action plans with a view to placing themselves on a sustainable path to meeting the nine voluntary global NCD targets and SDG target 3.4.
4. The Africa Region is in support of recommendations formulated to Member States, International Organizations and Secretariat toward effective implementation of the road map; and recommends the submission of the draft implementation road map for consideration by the 75th Session of the World Health Assembly.

Regarding the Draft recommendations on how to strengthen the design and implementation of policies, including those for resilient health systems and health services and infrastructure, to treat people living with noncommunicable diseases and to prevent and control their risk factors in humanitarian emergencies

5. The Africa Region considers that with emerging public health threats such as the current COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to an estimated number of more than 235 millions of people affected by humanitarian emergencies worldwide, there is need for a new, broader and effective approach that address the needs of people living with NCDs during humanitarian crises.
6. The document prepared by the secretariat provides technical guidance on how to establish a better response for the people living with NCDs as part of emergency preparedness and responses,

7. The WHO Africa Region is in support of recommendations formulated to Member States, International, humanitarian partners, civil society, private sector and WHO.

On the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the promotion of mental health

8. WHO Africa Region commends the progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs especially in countries with policy, legislative and regulatory measures, including fiscal measures, for the prevention and control of NCDs, as well as strong and inclusive health systems that have had the best outcomes against NCDs,
9. The burden of NCDs is still too high but global targets are achievable if we all prioritize, domesticate and implement effective actions and strategies,
10. The global burden of mental health remains a permanent call to our governments, technical and financial partners to ensure that appropriate focus and resources are allocated for the implementation and monitoring of a comprehensive mental health action plan 2013-2030.
11. The African Region notes the progress report on this item and recommends it for consideration by the Executive Board.

Regarding the Draft workplan for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

12. WHO Africa Region recognizes that a global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is crucial towards effective implementation of NCDs prevention and control action plan.
13. In view of the challenges that are specific to the region, the WHO Africa Region recommends that WHO and its partners support the different activities defined in the workplan, the expected results and the performance measures on the level of achievement, making them specific to regional contexts.
14. The Africa Region looks forward to a decision by the EB on this important item.
15. I thank you for your kind attention.