



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

152nd session of WHO Executive Board Statement by Italy

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

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

Italy takes note of the updated version of Appendix 3 of WHO's Global Action Plan to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and welcomes the fact that it has been prepared **in consultation with Member States and taking into account the views of other stakeholders**, as established by Resolution WHA72/11. Italy expects this inclusive and transparent approach to be guaranteed for any future update.

In this regard, Italy highlights the importance of **robust scientific evidence** in developing WHO's menu of policy options and cost-effective interventions, as well as the possibility for which each Member State to select those deemed most **consistent with its national context**.

As it has been stated over the years, NCDs response requires a comprehensive, holistic and multisectoral approach and must include mental health and air pollution as its core elements.

With particular regard to nutrition-related NCDs, Italy stresses once again that the only way to tackle this issue lies in the promotion of a **balanced, healthy and sustainable diet**, also by enhancing education and information campaigns.

Italy also stresses the importance of **mental health** and recalls the Global Mental Health Summit hosted in Rome in October 2022.

Italy is therefore strongly committed to supporting the global efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and reaffirms its engagement towards the **fourth High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly** on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and mental health to be held in 2025.