



STATEMENT BY THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Follow-up to the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of Non-Communicable

Agenda Item No.6_EB158/6

Chairperson, The United Republic of Tanzania would like to commend the excellent preparatory work done by the secretariat and that it fully supports the political declaration on the prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases with strong emphasize on equity and integration.

Chairperson, Tanzania like many other low & middle-income countries is facing a growing burden of Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). NCDs account for roughly one-third of all deaths, 17% of premature mortality, and nearly 40% of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).

Chairperson, in alignment with political declaration of the fourth high level meeting, the United Republic of Tanzania intensified its political commitment on implementation of the National Strategic Plan for prevention and control of NCDs (2021–2026) through multisectoral coordination under Prime Minister's Office supported by parliamentary oversight. Furthermore, Tanzania has increased Public funding for NCDs from 7% of total health expenditure in 2019/20 to about 24% in 2021/22. Additionally, in 2022 Tanzania enacted mandatory universal health insurance law aiming to reduce out-of-pocket costs for NCD, mental health and other chronic conditions.

Chairperson, in addition to the government efforts, Tanzania enjoyed support from WHO through RECAP project, FCTC, PEN Plus, HEARTS and Olympism 365 to mention but the few. Through these efforts Tanzania observed notable decline on tobacco use from 14.1% in 2012 to 9.9% in 2023 as well as decline on alcohol consumption from 29.3% in 2012 to 19.4% in 2023. Furthermore, Tanzania improved access to NCD and Mental Health services at PHC with latest coverage reaching over 90% of all health centres (level IV facilities) and access to essential medicines at all levels from less than 50% in 2022 to over 75% in 2025. To track progress and inform action, Tanzania strengthened Digital health systems at PHC, secondary level of care

and the Unified Community System to improved data management, medicine supply, and continuity of care.

Chairperson, despite progress, Tanzania faces persistent challenges, including high NCD burden due to ageing population, competing economic priorities, insufficient and unsustainable financing, reliance on imported medicines, low health literacy, delayed care-seeking, human resource shortages at the primary care level, and slow progress toward national NCD targets. Addressing these gaps is critical to sustaining gains, reducing morbidity and mortality, and ensuring equitable access to quality NCD care across the country.

Chairperson in conclusion, Tanzania fully support adoption of the Political Declaration on the Prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases together with its targets. We call upon the secretariat to continually assist the Member States in addressing the growing burden of Non- Communicable Disease. **Thank you.**