Thank you chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement with that made by Botswana on behalf of the Africa Region Member States.

2. Kenya takes note of the NCD related reports and particularly welcomes the mid-point evaluation of the WHO global action plan for NCDs 2013–2030 as well as the final evaluation of the WHO global coordination mechanism for NCDs, including the options paper on the global coordination mechanism.

3. Non-Communicable Diseases continue to be a major public health concern in Kenya. As such, the Government is placing greater emphasis on Scaling up the prevention and control of NCDs, Increasing financing for NCDS through integration under UHC, Promotion of multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of NCDs and finally, Greater Political leadership and accountability at all levels.
4. Concerning oral health, we welcome the resolution proposed by Sri Lanka in recognition of the significant health, social and economic burden caused by poor oral health. Kenya is now in the process of developing its National Oral Health Policy which seeks to integrate oral health into the primary healthcare and non-communicable disease agenda. Further, Kenya is committed to phase-down use of dental amalgam and the extensive use of plastics and other non-recyclable materials in dental care in line with the Minamata Convention for environmental sustainability.

5. Turning now to integrated people centred eye care, a recent study estimated that 15.5% of Kenyans are in need of quality Eye Care services. We therefore appreciate WHO’s work in this area and take note of the proposed global targets for 2030 on focusing on effective coverage of refractive error and effective coverage of cataract surgery.

6. Currently, the Kenya National Eye Health Strategic Plan 2020-2025 contains Cataract Surgical Coverage and Refractive Error Coverage as two key indicators to monitor access to integrated people centred quality eye. However, limited funding support for eye care services remains a
threat to the achievement of targets, and we call for increased financing in this area.

7. In conclusion Chair, Kenya joins calls for greater coordination and increased funding in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including diabetes and cancer at global, regional and national levels. We therefore support adoption of the decision extending the mandate of the NCD Global Coordination mechanism until 2030, as well as the resolution on Diabetes and thank the Russian Federation for their continued leadership in this regard.

8. I thank you