

Statement of the Slovak Republic
76th World Health Assembly
Item 13.1 Universal health coverage; and
13.2 Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the
prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and mental health
24 May 2023

Dear Chair,

Slovakia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Sweden on behalf of the European Union.

Non-communicable diseases continue to represent one of the major health and development challenges globally. The recent and still ongoing multiple crises have considerably slowed down the progress in all areas of NCDs programs implementation, and also resulted in the decreasing number of health and social workforce at national levels. These, and many other risk factors, contribute to deterioration of preventive approaches to the NCDs and negatively impact its diagnostics, treatment and supportive care.

We appreciate the leadership of the WHO Regional Office for Europe and its help in co-organising the Sub-regional high-level consultation in the context of the Ukraine crisis in April 2023 in Slovakia, which has brought together intersectoral actors sharing their experiences in various fields, including NCDs, mental health and UHC, with intention to find best buys and strengthen the collaboration for better delivery in countries.

On the margin of WHA76 and in collaboration with WHO, International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP), City Cancer Challenge (C/Can), St Jude Children's Research Hospital, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), Slovakia co-organised a side event on delivering cancer care for all, with focus on implementation of WHO global cancer initiatives and ability to reach the most vulnerable.

However, there is still a room for improvement, especially regarding the disaggregated health data collection.

In this regard, we are looking forward to welcome the WHO expert mission on National Health Information system, which will take place in the upcoming month in Slovakia.

Finally, Slovakia would like to thank for taking into account its request to the WHO Secretariat to provide the mapping of good practices, gaps, models and tools to achieve equality and better outcomes between MSs in field of childhood cancer and delivery cancer for all.

I thank you.