

Agenda Item 1

Provisional agenda item 11.2

Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

1. Chair, the Commonwealth Secretariat wishes to speak on Agenda Item 11.2
2. We thank the WHO Secretariat for this comprehensive report, on Strengthening synergies between the World Health Assembly and the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which comes at the right time, as we continue discussions within Commonwealth countries on a common voice towards 2025 UN High level meeting.
3. The Commonwealth Health Ministers have continued to elevate the NCD agenda, noting its rising burden among the youths in the Commonwealth. In their 2024 meeting, they endorsed the Commonwealth Youth-led NCD Guiding Framework which addresses the rising burden of physical inactivity and unhealthy diets, to support the development of youth-focused policy actions, capacity building interventions and community centered initiatives to further accelerate the efforts in addressing NCDs.
4. We look forward to the outcome of the international dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health conditions, taking place from 20 - 21 June 2024 in Washington DC, USA which will further strengthen financing for NCDs and mental health.
5. The Commonwealth, with its long-standing relationship with WHO, and through the shared Memorandum of Understanding, will work with WHO to support countries especially the small and vulnerable states, as they address the rising burden of NCDs and Mental Health Conditions.
6. I thank you.