

[Item 6. NCD Prevention and control] by Republic of Korea

Thank you, Madam Chair.

The Republic of Korea endorses the draft updated policy options and cost-effective interventions for NCD prevention and control.

We would like to emphasize three(3) areas to incorporate the revised intervention of WHO action plan on NCD 2013-2030.

First, to increase cost-effectiveness, we believe there is a need to extend the application of the policy options for 'addressing risk factors'. To that end, it is necessary for countries to build a health statistics system, such as the National Health and Examination Survey and the Community Health Survey.

Second, we stress that the use of digital technologies should be expanded, which reduces costs in health care delivery. To ensure the broad use of such technologies, systems for monitoring and analyzing NCDs need to be established and considered one of the national priority tasks.

Also, We acknowledge the need to develop further guidance on new service delivery models, including self-care, NCD-ready health workforces, and monitoring the coverage and response toward relevant health outcomes for NCD management at the global level.

Lastly, The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the management and control of NCDs, raising concerns over additional damage in other areas. To cope with such challenges, we reiterate the need to strengthen systems for the national survey and increase countries' capacity for a stable primary healthcare system.

Also, WHO needs to come up with support measures to explore various policies to strengthen national preparedness and awareness of additional situations that may arise due to COVID-19

Thank you.

[Full Statement]

The Republic of Korea supports the draft updated Appendix 3 containing the updated menu of policy options and cost-effective interventions for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. Specifically, we support the cost-effective and feasible interventions proposed in the draft updated appendix 3.

We recognize that the development of further guidance on new service delivery models including self-care, NCD-ready health workforces and monitoring the coverage and response towards relevant health outcomes is essential to prevent and control non-communicable diseases at the global level.

The proposed policy options for managing risk factors, including tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, an unhealthy diet and physical inactivity should be monitored by directly or indirectly comparing them with countries' specific projects or programs.

We look forward to the policy options contributing to the achievement of the global targets by helping countries detect risk factors early and expanding the application of the policy options.

Moreover, the Republic of Korea fully agrees with the menu of policy options that says 'expand the use of digital technologies to increase health service access and efficiency, and reduce the costs in health care delivery'. To make it reality, sufficient staff training and infrastructure must be prepared.

We look forward to this report being actively used for a review of and discussion about availability of the proposed menu of policy options and considerations.

The Republic of Korea recognizes that analysis of the status of non-communicable diseases and health behavior is critical for prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

On our part, we have operated a statistic system that produces health statistic data on National Health

and Examination Survey and Local Community Health Survey.

In addition, with the keen recognition of the need to use such data for NCD outbreak analysis and relevant policies, we are working to establish national surveillance and an analysis system of non-communicable diseases as one of the national priority tasks.

We look forward to the analysis results being used as a reference for NCD surveillance in countries. The Republic of Korea will actively explore an opportunity to share this ongoing work with countries who need such a health statistic system.

Moreover, together with its NCD survey system, the Republic of Korea has a stable primary healthcare system for national health check-ups and early diagnosis and treatment of NCDs.

Even in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to consistently prevent and control NCDs, thanks to the stable primary healthcare system.

However, there are still countries that are lacking systems for the national survey, early detection, and treatment of NCDs. In addition, the capacity of countries' primary healthcare systems should be scaled up to make them stable. The Republic of Korea will build on abundant experiences and best practices to establish an NCD prevention and control model and actively explore ways of contributing to the NCD implementation roadmap.

Making use of various bilateral and multilateral partnerships, the Republic of Korea has implemented cooperative projects for NCD prevention and control. We will continue our efforts to come up with more diverse and active international cooperation strategies and support the Secretariat in implementing the roadmap.

Thank you.