Alliance for Health Promotion

Meeting:
Seventy-first World Health Assembly (A71/1)

Agenda Item:
11.7 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018

Statement:

Honourable chair, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Alliance for Health Promotion, a global organization representing the views and expertise of civil society on health promotion.

Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) cause premature deaths and people of all age groups, regions and countries are or could be affected. NCDs are long-term conditions that require a long-term approach in response.

The Alliance for Health Promotion strongly advocates for on-going health promotion activities to reduce common risk factors contributing to NCDs. Clearly, empowering individuals and communities with ownership of knowledge and means to be in better control of their health would contribute to an effective response to NCDs and underlying risk factors.

Awareness is key. We applaud UN and WHO on organising the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs. It will present the opportunity for countries to demonstrate their commitment to invest in NCDs programmes and planning. As well, it will strengthen the engagement of multiple stakeholders involved in NCDs-related health action, advocacy, literacy and health promotion. We would like to stress again that a health promotion approach can achieve a great impact in the fight against NCDs.

Equally, we welcome the initiatives of WHO and other partners in promoting health and physical activity, such as the recent ‘Walk for Talk: The Health for All Challenge’ event. This event, together with the events organised through the Alliance contribute to the promotion of healthy behaviours, thus contributing to reducing the burden of NCDs.

Finally, we would like to reaffirm our commitment to contribute to WHO work. Thank you for your attention.

Copyright © 2018, non-State actors statements