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Statement from the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE)
UN Interactive Civil Society Hearing on Non-Communicable Diseases, July 5, 2018

- ⇒ **IUHPE has identified and published ten system requirements for strengthening health promotion as a primary mechanism for meeting the WHO NCD targets and the related Sustainable Development Goals.** These requirements address the necessity of **high-level political commitment** to health promotion, health equity, and the prevention and control of NCDs including mental disorders and injury prevention. We therefore unite our voice with that of other civil society actors and call for governments to make this commitment, **and to back it up with adequate financing.**
- ⇒ As has also been raised by several other participants in these discussions, **clear accountabilities regarding specific objectives** are also required, through independent monitoring and evaluation.
- ⇒ We agree that best-buy interventions, and the implementation and scaling up of these interventions to achieve SGD target 3.4, are desirable. However, we argue that a systemic response is necessary for a lasting impact on the equitable prevention and control of NCDs. Best-buy interventions alone are not sufficient. Furthermore, the quality of such interventions relies on the system requirements put forward by IUHPE (e.g. strong health promotion institutions and a skilled health promotion workforce).
- ⇒ We are aware of the financial challenges raised and we agree that there are limited resources to address all NCDs separately. For efficiency, we call on governments to invest in a system that has the capacity and flexibility to address the common social, environmental and commercial determinants and risk factors of preventable NCDs.
- ⇒ Cross sector collaboration and civil society engagement are complex endeavors, in response to a complex problem. We agree that they are necessary and argue that they are key to promoting synergy among actions, and to yielding co-benefits of such interventions for meeting NCD targets and other Sustainable Development Goals, including reducing inequalities and economic growth. This relies on whole of society and whole of government approaches that are explicitly called for in IUHPE's system requirements.

Link to full Position Paper from IUHPE: https://www.iuhpe.org/images/IUHPE/Advocacy/IUHPE_NCDs_positionstatement.pdf

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Twitter: [@IUHPE](https://twitter.com/IUHPE)

Email: iuhpe@iuhpe.org