

EMR NCD Alliance Statement for WHO/ EMRO 64 Session

Regional Committee Meeting

Islamabad, Pakistan, 9-12 October 2017

Agenda item (EM/RC64/3) Regional framework for action on cancer prevention and control

Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to make this statement on behalf of the Eastern Mediterranean Regional NCD Alliance, a regional civil society network of over 30 organizations in EMR , united against NCDs.

We congratulate EMRO on developing a comprehensive regional Framework for action on cancer prevention and control.

We praise EMRO for the recognition of the expertise and potential contribution of CSOs to implementing the regional framework. Number of our founder organizations (**KHCC, FOCP, GFFC**) were actively involved in developing the Regional framework and consultative process.

The draft framework outlined priority interventions for cancer prevention and control and assist countries to scale up cancer prevention and control programs, eventually leading to accelerate national response a head of the third high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 to review the progress made in implementing the UN Political Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Non communicable Diseases.

The uneven progress and remarkable resources differences within and between countries in EMR , hindering progress, in particular areas of conflict, emergencies as well hosting countries. To this end, we encourage adoption of the regional framework to prioritize interventions to minimize cost at national level .

Accelerating national response requires innovative, multisectoral mechanisms and partnerships that draw upon all sectors whose outputs have an impact on cancer prevention and control. A Health in All Policies approach is essential for achieving cancer prevention and reduces cost. It is vital to develop the national action plan in consultation and collaboration with all sectors including, NGOs and philanthropic.

Specific action to increase access and availability of palliative care services in line with WHA resolution (2014) on palliative care. We organized number of palliative care missions in Irbil, Sudan and Yemen, and provided an opportunity to build capacity and collaborate across countries. We are also committed to strengthening the capacity of civil societies; convene number of training sessions to ensure effective engagement of CSOs at national and regional levels.

We stand ready to support EMRO and countries to accelerate implementation of the regional framework.

Thank you for your attention.

