



**EM-NCDA statement – CSOs UN interactive hearing on NCD, New York, 5 July 2018**

**Chairperson, distinguished participants, Colleagues,**

We congratulate the co-facilitators on developing the zero draft elements' paper for the outcome of the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs.

The zero draft paper reflect to great extent the bold and strong recommendations outlined in report of WHO Independent High-Level Commission on NCDs, including the involvement of civil society and people living with NCDs.

Acknowledging, the huge burden of NCD in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR), accounting for equal to 62 % of all deaths in the Region, with rising trends and prevalence of NCD risk factors, namely tobacco use, in particular shisha among youth, widespread of unhealthy food outlets, aggressive marketing to children, increasing childhood overweight and obesity, lack of physical activity. The region has the highest prevalence of diabetes, and one of the highest in overweight and obesity among children, compared to other WHO regions.

In recognition of the uneven progress and remarkable resources differences within and between countries in EMR, hindering national progress, in particular in low income countries and humanitarian and emergencies countries.

Aware that accelerating national response requires innovative, multisectoral, health in all policy response, in partnerships that draw upon all sectors including the national and regional civil society organizations to deliver effectively.

Acknowledge and support the priority recommendations outlined at Global NCDA statement, under the following 7 sub-headings

1. Reinvigorate political leadership to accelerate the NCD response
2. Put people first in the NCD response
3. Scale up sustainable and smart financing for NCDs
4. Ensure prevention is a cornerstone of the NCD response
5. Strengthen health systems and UHC for NCDs
6. Constructive engagement with the private sector
7. Follow up and accountability

This UN HLM on NCD will provide an ample opportunity for our political leaders to reinforce their commitments to scale up national NCD response and achieve health related SDGs 2030.

EM-NCDA lobby for the highest possible representation of the head of state and head of governments in New York on 27 September, to renew commitments and ownership for NCD agenda, provide strong regional leadership and national accountability for NCD response. We call for wider engagement of national stakeholders including civil society organizations and people living with NCDs to ensure effective and coherent national response.

Thank you