

**NCD Alliance Statement at the 72<sup>nd</sup> World Health Assembly****Agenda Item 11.6 Health, environment and climate change**

1989/2000 characters

This statement by IOGT International is supported by NCDA, UICC, and Vital Strategies. We commend the measures included in the draft strategy and action plan and make 3 key asks:

1. **All Member States must elevate health in UNFCCC processes:** Health sector inputs including assessments of health costs and benefits of policies contained in national adaptation plans and nationally determined contributions can accelerate action to mitigate the global climate emergency. This is a priority not only for SIDS, as outlined in the draft Action Plan, but for *all nations*. Coordination among Ministries of Health, Energy, Environment, Agriculture and Finance is necessary ahead of the June Intersessionals in Bonn and COP25.
2. **Build sustainable food and consumption systems:** A growing body of evidence shows the importance of sustainable consumption to protect human and planetary health. Food is a strong lever to optimise human health *and* environmental sustainability. This must be better reflected in the Strategy.
3. **Protect public and planetary health from undue influences:** We note with grave concern that language on tackling ‘undue influence and vested interests going against public interests’ has been removed in this iteration of the Strategy. Governments and the wider health community must counteract the tactics deployed by the fossil fuel, vehicles, meat, dairy and other industries responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, which echo those used by the tobacco, alcohol, and processed food industries. These industries have repeatedly promoted unscientific scepticism concerning their role in elevating global greenhouse gas emissions. Experiences from the FCTC can support this, particularly Article 5.3 which prohibits influence of the tobacco industry on health policy making.

With less than 12 years until the effects of climate change are irreversible, these actions cannot wait. We stand ready to support finalisation and implementation of the global strategy and action plan.