



WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 158TH SESSION

AGENDA ITEM 6: Follow-up to the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

CONSTITUENCY STATEMENT

Building on momentum for childhood NCDs:

From global commitments to implementation towards enhanced survival, quality of life, safety & equity

ORGANIZER: THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY [SIOP]

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List of Non-State Actors participating in the Statement

- International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) - **organizer**
- Childhood Cancer International (CCI)
- European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (EuroSafe)
- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)
- International Association for Dental Research (IADR)
- International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC)
- International Council of Nurses (ICN)
- International Pediatric Association (IPA)
- International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS)
- International Society of Radiology (ISR)
- World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB)
- World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists (WFSA)

STATEMENT

Distinguished Chair and Delegates,

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) affect over 130 million children worldwide, particularly in low-and-middle-income countries. This includes rare life-threatening NCDs with high global toll and injury risk, such as childhood cancers.

The Political Declaration of the UN Fourth High-Level Meeting on NCDs and Mental Health included the Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer target of at least 60% survival worldwide by 2030. This milestone also builds momentum for other childhood NCDs.

The WHO recognizes childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment as cost-effective NCD interventions. Investment in this multi-disciplinary area can strengthen health systems, workforce capacity, and services

including imaging, pathology, anaesthesiology, nursing, vaccination, pain, palliative, and psychosocial care. It can also advance health and safety research, injury and blindness prevention, and timely diagnosis, effective treatment, and comprehensive care. These benefits are highly relevant across childhood NCDs including sickle cell, auditory, and oral health conditions.

Political momentum must now be followed by action through strategic prioritisation of childhood NCDs in national policies and programmes. A safe, well-resourced, and trained health workforce is essential, alongside robust surveillance and monitoring to ensure effective reporting and accountability. We urge Member States to decisively build on the UN's landmark commitment to NCD control with emphasis on childhood cancer to enhance survival, quality of life, safety, and equity for all children.

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