



Statement to the 138th Session of the World Health Organisation's Executive Board Agenda Item 6.3 Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

Consumers International and World Obesity Federation welcome the continued focus on NCDs. We have read the report on progress made on the control of NCDs since 2013 and on the preparations for a third high-level meeting in 2018. We are concerned that whilst some progress is being made, we are not on track to meet the nine voluntary global targets for achievement by 2025. We cannot hope to make sufficient progress in reducing NCDs globally until all Member States take strong enough action to seriously reduce risk factors associated with NCDs.

When it comes to reducing dietary risk factors in particular, we are not lacking in policy recommendations. Besides the 2013 NCD Global Action Plan there are regional action plans such as in the PAHO and EURO regions and, as noted in this report, a growing number of WHO tools to help Member States develop interventions as well as a growing body of evidence on the interventions that work. We also welcome the publication on Monday of the final report of the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity which includes recommendations for regulatory changes to address the obesogenic environment.

If we are to see significant progress towards meeting the NCD targets, a strong set of regulatory actions covering the full range of these policy interventions will be required. We urge Member States to call on the WHO to consider the development, via a process free from commercial influence, of a global legal mechanism to strengthen the capacity Member States to protect and promote healthy eating.