

Agenda Item 11.7: Preparation for the Third High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held 2018

Honourable chair, distinguished delegates,

The ISN welcomes the draft report's clear recognition that without reinforced action guided by strong political will SDG 3.4 will not be met by 2030.

ISN notes that the current global political focus on NCDs is predominantly on four main diseases and fails to recognize the burden of many others. Indeed, 55% of the global NCD burden arises from other NCDs, which tend to be ignored in terms of premature mortality and reduced quality of life.

Notably, kidney disease – now the 11th leading cause of death globally – is a rapidly growing health burden and poses a significant health care challenge for governments, particularly in low and middle income countries. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) causes an estimated 1.2 million deaths per year and is now the 6th fastest growing cause of death. An additional 1.2 million cardiovascular deaths are attributable to reduced kidney function. Kidney disease is a major risk factor for, and a consequence of other major NCDs, including heart disease and diabetes, but has been neglected in global NCD discussions to date.

We therefore call on the WHO Secretariat, member states and on the members of the WHO High Level Commission on NCDs to:

- Leave no disease behind: implement an integrated approach to NCD prevention and management, which recognizes the burden of kidney disease and concomitant co-morbidities e.g. CVD, DM, HT and CKD
- Cover all bases: implement a comprehensive approach to reduce the burden of NCDs (including kidney disease) though national strategies which include prevention, screening (requiring reliable and affordable laboratory services), detection and management of early stage disease, and providing active or supportive treatment for end-stage disease
- Increase available resources: Increase and meet the financing needs of the global NCD response from all sources, including innovative financing by 2025 and support fair pricing of NCD therapies.

Thank you