

# REDUCING THE BURDEN OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES THROUGH PROMOTION OF KIDNEY HEALTH AND STRENGTHENING PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF KIDNEY DISEASE

Resolution proposed by Guatemala. Sponsored by Thailand; co-sponsored by Armenia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Federated States of Micronesia, Georgia, Malaysia, Mexico, Nauru, Panama, Romania, Russia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Vanuatu and Ukraine

## WHAT IS THIS RESOLUTION ABOUT?



- Improving the prevention and control of kidney disease, which is an important contributor to the global burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)
- The prevention, early detection, and timely, equitable management of kidney disease—integrated and aligned with existing strategies for NCD prevention and control—including Universal Health Care
- Strengthening efforts to tackle key risk factors—such as diabetes and hypertension—through WHO’s “Best Buys” and a total risk approach to slow disease progression and prevent kidney failure
- Reducing the need for costly and carbon-intensive dialysis treatments, which will save money, avoid preventable deaths, avert catastrophic health expenditure and help combat climate change
- Improving equity for socially disadvantaged people and communities at highest risk of kidney disease
- Prioritizing kidney transplants for eligible patients, including timely referral & increased organ availability

## WHY IS THIS RESOLUTION IMPORTANT?



- 850 million people worldwide have kidney disease, the projected 5th leading cause of death by 2050
- The incidence and prevalence of kidney disease is growing rapidly, especially in lower income countries
- Kidney disease is a costly, harmful, but treatable complication of all major NCDs
- Kidney disease is a preventable but often fatal consequence of infections like malaria, HIV & hepatitis
- Kidney disease in pregnancy increases maternal mortality and the risk of preterm birth
- Cheap and effective treatments that prevent kidney failure and cardiovascular disease can easily be integrated with existing NCD programs—but are inaccessible in most low- and middle-income countries
- Since 90% of those needing dialysis cannot afford it, millions of preventable deaths occur each year—straining health systems and disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations

## HOW WILL THIS RESOLUTION HELP?



- Improve health and wellbeing:** Promotes early detection and treatment of kidney disease and its major risk factors—improving health outcomes and saving lives while leveraging existing NCD programs
- Save money:** Given the very high cost of kidney failure, integrated early kidney care will prevent kidney failure, avert substantial downstream costs and prevent catastrophic health expenditures
- Yield outstanding ROI:** Each \$1 spent on detection and timely management of kidney disease will drive up to \$45 in direct & indirect benefits, helping to ensure the sustainability of health systems everywhere
- Improve equity:** Kidney disease disproportionately affects the disadvantaged, who have the most to gain from prevention and treatment, but currently have the least access
- Guide future investments:** Supporting member states to track kidney disease burden and outcomes will enable evidence-based, needs-driven prioritization of future prevention and treatment strategies



## OUR ASK TO MEMBER STATES

Vote in favor of the resolution at the 78th World Health Assembly in May 2025.