3.8 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), to be held in 2018

On behalf of Global Health Council, supported by NCD Child, American Academy of Pediatrics and IFPA -International Federation of Psoriasis Associations, we call on Member States to ensure their Heads of State/Government participate in the High-level Meeting (HLM) on NCDs.

Member States must put a human face on the growing NCD epidemic, and leverage efforts to implement best practices and interventions. For people living with NCDs (PLWNCDS), including +125 million people with psoriasis, the obstacles listed in EB142/15 translate to everyday life through untimely access to care, costly treatments and poor life quality.

WHO needs to update its definition of premature deaths from NCDs, currently described as deaths from 30-70 years, to align with the Sustainable Development Agenda NCD targets and indicators, which have no age restrictions. NCDs affect millions of children, and half of adult NCDs begin during childhood or adolescence.

NCD programs must address unique needs of children, while R&D priorities should include access and availability of medicines. Countries should be supported to ensure that programs are appropriate and accessible to women, and integrate NCD prevention and care into existing reproductive, maternal, child, newborn, and adolescent health programs.

We encourage priority NCD investments, including innovative approaches in NCD prevention and control. Innovations such as early screening of psoriasis patients for other major NCDs, especially diabetes and CVDs, can reduce the NCD burden.

We call on Member States to:
- Schedule the HLM for immediately prior to the UNGA;
- Facilitate meaningful participation from civil society and PLWNCDS, through supporting a Civil Society Task Force and an Interactive Hearing; and
- Promote policy coherence and include robust commitments in the HLM Outcome Document.