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 in 2018

Statement:

GHC, supported by AAP, NCD Child, IFPA, RTI International, and PIH, commends WHO for recognizing the critical nature of the NCD burden. We must acknowledge that PLWNCDs face risks beyond health, related to poverty, stigma and social protection. Also, the current lack of action on NCDs globally is leading to reduced economic strength and productivity, acting as a barrier to UHC.

We call upon WHO and MS to:

- Update WHO’s definition of premature deaths from NCDs, which is specific to ages 30-70, to include children and adolescents, thus aligning it with the SDGs. This would support access to care for millions of children living with NCDs and help prevent many adult diseases and risk factors that begin in childhood

- Promote integrated approaches and effective use of existing resources, such as early screening of psoriasis patients for diabetes and CVD, and utilizing existing reproductive, maternal and child health programs as entry points for NCD interventions to ensure more equitable access to care

- Include mental health within NCD strategies and across the UN system

- Expand the NCD framework to include conditions and risk factors beyond the “4x4”, such as all forms of malnutrition, infectious and environmental risks

- Create meaningful ways for people living with, affected by, or at risk of NCDs to participate in shaping and implementing global NCD frameworks

We see an urgent need for:

- Catalyzing domestic resource mobilization for prevention, control and treatment through legal, fiscal and regulatory systems, including taxation

- Increasing financing and lending through bilateral and multilateral channels to build capacity in LMICs

- Exploring innovative financing mechanisms such as blended and pooled financing, social impact bonds, and public-private partnerships

We urge WHO and MS to showcase strong political commitment to NCDs and progressively work towards sustainable NCD financing. We look forward to working together, and to a successful HLM.