

Statement to the 150th session of the Executive Board of the

World Health Organization, 24 to 29 January, 2022

on agenda item 7. Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

This statement is supported by the People's Health Movement.

For decades, NCDs have received insufficient attention with progress largely limited to tobacco control. For any significant progress, MS must commit to effective national regulation of the junk food industry.

Addressing NCDs requires an economic developmental perspective. Unhealthy development models associated with unequal terms of trade pushed by the global trade regime and financial institutions are a driver of NCDs.

The inclusion of corporate entities in decision-making for NCDs is worrisome considering conflict of interest and potential commercial gains. The engagement of CSOs must be diverse groups and not limited to patient groups.

The GCM must address cross-cutting issues that impact NCDs' control, including the availability of essential drugs and diagnostics, new drug innovation, the development of domestic manufacturing of medicine and workforce development. Health systems strengthening should integrate universal systems and CPHC with referral support and continuity of care.