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## DIABETES AND OTHER NCDs IN EAST, CENTRAL & SOUTHERN AFRICA

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CROSS-LEARNING FROM NATIONAL APPROACHES

DAR ES SALAAM  
17 - 18 MARCH 2016

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WORLD **DIABETES** FOUNDATION



Ministry of Health, Community Development,  
Gender, Elderly and Children  
United Republic of Tanzania

## THE 2016 DAR ES SALAAM CALL TO ACTION ON DIABETES AND OTHER NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

**WHEREAS** today Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) - mainly diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases and cancers - pose a large and rapidly growing challenge to health in the world, with more than 60% of all deaths attributable to NCDs;

Whereas more than 80% of the burden from NCDs is borne by low and middle income countries;

Whereas in sub-Saharan Africa NCDs are widespread and identified as barriers to health and development of peoples, nations, societies, communities and individuals;

Whereas most of premature deaths from NCDs are largely preventable by enabling health systems to respond more effectively and equitably to people with or at risk of NCDs, and, by influencing public policies also in sectors outside health that tackle shared risk factors – mainly unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, tobacco use and harmful use of alcohol;

Whereas more than half of people with diabetes are unaware of their condition due to lack of access to care, whereas more than three quarters of people with diabetes live in low and middle income countries, and whereas undiagnosed or uncontrolled diabetes leads to disabilities and premature death;

**AND, WHEREAS** the United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting of September 2011 adopted the Political Declaration on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases;

Whereas the World Health Assembly of May 2013 endorsed the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013-2020, and, whereas Member States agreed to set four time-bound commitments towards implementation of the Global Action Plan;

Whereas the First Meeting of African Ministers of Health jointly convened by WHO Regional Office for Africa and the African Union Commission, held in Luanda, Angola, in 2014, committed to ensure that prevention and control of NCDs and their risk factors are given the prominence they deserve and that the WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs 2013-2020 is fully implemented through the national NCD multisectoral plans, and through mobilizing resources, both domestic and external, including the use of innovative funding;

Whereas the Agenda 2063 development framework for Africa adopted by the Member States during the summit of the African Union, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in June 2015, compel all actors in Africa to implement the first 10-year implementation plan of the Agenda 2063 and strive to ensuring healthy and well nourished citizens;

Whereas the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by Member States at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit September 2015 specifically include the reduction of premature deaths from NCDs;

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED**, as representatives of Ministries of Health, civil society, international organizations, and of other non-state actors, **HEREBY DECLARE:**

That we met in Dar Es Salaam on 17 and 18 March 2016 and discussed among us the status of national NCD responses at country level in East, Central and Southern Africa within the framework of the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013-2020 and of the four time-bound commitments;

That progress and achievements within, and barriers to, development and implementation of national NCD responses were presented and discussed, and that valuable cross-learning and exchange of knowledge took place;

That national NCD responses have reached a diversified level of implementation across our countries, however, that significant barriers must be overcome in all countries to attain the objectives and targets of national NCD responses as aligned with the objectives and targets of the WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs 2013-2020 and of the four time-bound commitments;

**AND, TO THIS EFFECT WE AGREE** to enhance our joint efforts, accelerating implementation of national NCD responses in our countries, with emphasis on, but not limited to, following key actions:

1. Develop, renew or refine national multisectoral NCD strategies and action plans in alignment with the WHO Global Action Plan and based on STEPS surveys and other available data and information, and on tangible achievements from countries of sub-Saharan Africa (and beyond)
2. Strengthen NCD Units within Ministries of Health including through establishing of NCD coordinator positions at decentralized levels
3. Establish or strengthen multisectoral national NCD steering committees under government leadership in order to ensure involvement and commitment of health as well as non-health stakeholders including, but not limited to, civil society, academia, professional societies, media, and, other non-state actors
4. Develop, renew and refine integrated NCD protocols, clinical guidelines and training and awareness material, with emphasis on capacity building at primary care and community level, and on prevention broadly perceived
5. Mobilize domestic resources and international support to initiate or expand implementation of national NCD responses as defined through multisectoral national strategies or action plans, even if through incremental or stage-wise approaches that would catalyze scale up
6. Pursue opportunities through national level consultations to promote the inclusion of prevention and control of NCDs within responses to HIV/AIDS and within programmes for maternal and child health, as well as within other communicable disease programmes such as those on tuberculosis, and, including as part of wider efforts to strengthen prevention and control of NCDs through people-centred primary health care
7. Promote, respect and empower people affected by NCDs and involve them as equal partners in the implementation of national NCD responses
8. Share knowledge and best practices, and advocate within our countries and at regional and global level for further attention to and prioritisation of prevention and control of NCDs

*Endorsed in Dar Es Salaam on 18 March 2016 by the following authorities, organizations and institutions:*

Ministry of Health, Community Development,  
Gender, Elderly and Children  
**United Republic of Tanzania**

WHO Country Office  
**United Republic of Tanzania**

Social Affairs Department  
**African Union Commission**

NCD Prevention and Control  
**WHO Regional Office for Africa**

**Ministry of Health Kenya**

**WHO Country Office Kenya**

**Ministry of Health Uganda**

**WHO Country Office Uganda**

**Ministry of Health Ethiopia**

**WHO Country Office Ethiopia**

**Ministry of Health Mozambique**

**WHO Country Office Mozambique**

**Ministry of Health Botswana**

**WHO Country Office Botswana**

**Ministry of Health Burundi**

**Ministry of Health Union of Comores**

**Global NCD Alliance**

**Ministry of Health Madagascar**

**East Africa NCD Alliance**

**Ministry of Health Malawi**

**Tanzania Diabetes Association**

**Ministry of Health Mauritius**

**Uganda Diabetes Association**

**Ministry of Health Rwanda**

**Diabetes Association Malawi**

**Ministry of Health Zambia**

**Diabetes Association Zambia**

**Ministry of Health Zimbabwe**

**Diabetes Association Angola (ASDA)**

**Ministry of Health Zanzibar**

**Diabetes Kenya**

**Kenya Defeat Diabetes Association**

**Baobab Health Trust Malawi**

**Diabetes Association Madagascar**

**Lions Eye Hospital Malawi**

**Rwanda Diabetes Association**

**College of Medicine Malawi**

**Diabetes Association Mozambique (AMODIA)**

**Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital Malawi**

**Botswana Diabetes Association**

**Kenya Diabetes Management & Information Centre**

**Ethiopia Diabetes Association**

**Zimbabwe Diabetes Association**

**Burundi Diabetes Association**

**International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)**

**International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD)**

**Steno Health Promotion Research Denmark**

**World Diabetes Foundation (WDF)**

**East African Diabetes Study Group (EADSG)**