



**IAPO Intervention**  
**Regional Committee for Europe**  
**68th session Rome, Italy, 17–20 September 2018**  
**Agenda Item 5 (o) Progress Report Category 2 Noncommunicable diseases**  
**Speaker Board member International Alliance of Patients Organizations**

Thank you Chair, Regional Director, Member States, non-State actors and observers.

The International Alliance of Patients Organizations (IAPO) is a non-State actor in official relationship with the WHO and an international alliance with over 260 patients' organisation members in over 70 countries.

We thank the Secretariat for having prepared the Progress report on implementation of the Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in the WHO European Region 2016–2025 EUR/RC68/8(D). This has been laid before the sixty-eighth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe for consideration today.

We congratulate WHO European Region Member States for the progress made towards addressing noncommunicable diseases in the region. IAPO urges Member States to accelerate progress towards safe, quality and accessible NCD promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative healthcare services as a part of their universal health coverage 2030 obligations. We call upon Member States to:

- Ensure primary and secondary prevention of NCDs remain a core goal in the Action Plan, as well as ensuring sustainable and adequate financing to prevent and control NCDs.
- Ensure implementation of evidence based programmes in early screening and diagnosis of NCDs in the Region.
- Ensure to commit to the Tokyo Declaration on Patient Safety and to building capacity in the leadership and health workforce within NCD programmes to support safe patient-centred healthcare.
- Bring expert patients, patient groups and caregivers to the core of NCD policy making. Their contribution is significant towards improving the impact and reducing of the NCD healthcare costs. The role of carers in NCDs must be recognized and strengthened; their health and wellbeing, including compensation, must be reappraised in the Region.

We urge Member States to take note of this report ahead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN High Level Panel meeting on NCDs in New York on 27 September 2018.

Thank you for your attention.