Dear Member States consultation and WHO NCD-GCM leadership;

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft outcome document for the WHO Global Conference on NCDs to be held in Montevideo, 18-20 October 2017.

The following comments are offered on behalf of NCD Child, a global multi-stakeholder coalition dedicated to inclusion of children and youth in the NCD and SDG agenda, and on behalf of the International Pediatric Association, a global association of national pediatric societies and international pediatric specialty societies, dedicated to healthy children for a healthy world.

There is much to applaud in the draft outcome document, including a substantive recognition of the magnitude of the problem for adults and for health systems and society, and the excellent stewardship and need for continued focused attention by WHO.

However, the document does not adequately address the needs of children, adolescents, and young people.

The NCD target and indicator (SDG 3.4) does not discriminate by age – this inclusiveness must be reinforced by the Montevideo Roadmap. If adopted in its current form, we will fail our children and adolescents in 2030 and beyond. However, we offer the following suggestions to strengthen the linkage and relevance to children and youth.

**Include specific emphasis on prevention & treatment of NCDs for children & youth in the NCD Roadmap**

- In paragraph 2: include recognition that “millions of children & youth are living with or affected by NCDs; most risk factors start during adolescence, and many risk factors impact prenatal development and directly affect children.”
- Paragraph 2: Change “reduce inequities and premature deaths from NCDs.” to “reduce inequities and premature morbidity and mortality from NCDs.”
- Paragraph 13: The NCD target and indicator (SDG 3.4) does not discriminate by age – this inclusiveness must be reinforced by the Montevideo Roadmap in order for governments to recognize the need for age disaggregated data and inclusive programming.

**Add recognition of the need for a life-course approach when confronting NCD prevention and management**

- Paragraphs 5, 7, 12: mention an inclusive life-course approach and/or the goal being relevant across the life course
- Paragraph 8: add “for all - at all ages, including children, adolescents, young people and older age groups.”
- Paragraph 13: change ‘gender-based approaches’ to “gender and age-based approaches”
- Paragraph 26: make “children” “children, adolescents, and young people”

**Add recognition of full range of NCD-related nutrition issues**

- Paragraph 3: change “harmful use of alcohol and unhealthy diets,” to “harmful use of alcohol, and inadequate and unhealthy diets,”
- Paragraph 22: add ‘adequate’ to “developing guidelines and recommendations that support and encourage healthy, adequate, and sustainable diets throughout the life-course…”
• **Paragraph 26**: add “options that are affordable and accessible, contain adequate micro-nutrients, and follow relevant nutrition facts and labelling standards…”

**Add recognition of the special needs and vulnerabilities of children, adolescents, and young people**

• **Paragraph 10**: acknowledge other special health care needs, too
• **Paragraph 17**: add “children who serve as caregivers for family members and those whose parents die from NCDs are at risk for extreme poverty and loss of educational and vocational successes” and add “adolescents and young adults are also particularly vulnerable; NCDs can prevent educational and vocational successes and life trajectories.”
• **Paragraph 18**: delete “death related” from the inclusion of “environmental exposure” – gain – there are substantial morbidities from environmental risks, and children have special and significant additional vulnerabilities.

We urge member states to recognize the need to ensure young people are not left behind as governments implement and measure the NCD Roadmap, and the post-2015 agenda.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment, and please let me know if we can provide any additional information or clarify any of the above points.