Young Health Programme (YHP) statements for the informal interactive hearing with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and academia on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.


1. Children and adolescents should be explicitly called out as a central part of the discussion of progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs. This is something absolutely important to accelerate progress in the prevention and control of NCDs for two main reasons: First, nowadays there is the largest cohort of adolescents and young people in the world, with percentages increasing up to 60% in some developing countries. Second, evidence has shown that risk behaviours usually start or are reinforced in adolescence. In fact, it has been estimated that over half of the NCDs deaths every year are associated with behaviours that began or were reinforced during adolescence.

2. Acknowledge that improvements in data on NCDs in children and adolescents are urgently needed, including through the systematic monitoring of NCDs risk factors, morbidity and mortality, and health systems responses.

3. Local NCDs actions plans should stipulate the target populations of policies and interventions specifying age and sex.

4. Both, the second WHO Global Status Report on NCDs to be produced this year and the 2016 report on the implementation of the 2011 Political Declaration should include a specific section on children and adolescents.

5. To enhance international cooperation for NCDs, the Global Coordination mechanism or the Interagency Task Force should publish a list of activities where cooperation is required indicating objectives, expected outcomes, and time frame so it may be easier for organizations interested in cooperating to make commitments to the prevention and control of NCDs.