



**CHAIR  
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
GENEVA CHAPTER**



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**Declaration  
of the XII Ministerial Meeting  
of the Ministers of Health Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)  
“Universal Health Coverage: Leave no one behind”**

**Palais des Nations**

**21 May 2019**

We, the Ministers of Health of the Non-Aligned Movement Countries, gathered in Geneva, Switzerland on 21 May 2019;

Reiterating our strong commitment to the purposes and the founding principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and the principles of the World Health Organization Constitution which emphasizes that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition;

Reiterating our strong commitment to the purposes, principles, and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

Emphasizing that the health of all people is fundamental to the attainment, the achievement of peace and security and is dependent upon the fullest co-operation of individuals and states;

Inspired by the vision, principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement, approved in Bandung (1955) and Belgrade (1961), and guided by the Declaration of Purposes and Principles in our efforts to achieve a world of peace, equality, cooperation and well-being for all, according to the Baku Ministerial Declaration of NAM, in the 18<sup>th</sup> Mid-Term Ministerial Meeting of the Non Aligned Movement held from 5 to 6 April 2018, in Baku, Azerbaijan;

6. Underlining our commitment to the implementation of the issues related to Health contained in the Final Document adopted during the XVII Summit of the Heads of State and Government, held from 13 to 18 September 2016, in the Island of Margarita, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;



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Emphasizing the role of the NAM health meetings as an important principal platform representing the developing countries in multilateral health forums;

Reaffirming all previous NAM Ministerial Declarations on Health and determined to continue to be guided by the work of the NAM, in the WHO;

Expressing our condemnation to the promulgation and application of unilateral coercive measures of general impact against the countries of the Movement, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular the principles of non-intervention, self-determination and independence of the States subject to such practices; we reiterate our determination to denounce and demand the repeal of such measures, which affect human rights and prevent the full economic and social development of the peoples that are subject to them. In the same way, we reaffirm that each State has full sovereignty over the totality of its wealth, natural resources and economic activity, exercising it freely;

Reaffirming that unilateral coercive measures of general impact constitute a serious risk to human rights, including the right to health and the right to development, affecting the most vulnerable sectors of the countries that suffer the consequences of such measures;

Concerned that unilateral coercive measures have prevented humanitarian organizations from making financial transfers to States where they work;

Underscoring the importance of the Resolution A/HRC/40/3 "The Negative Impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures for the Enjoyment of Human Rights" adopted by the Human Rights Council in March 2019, as well as the Resolution concerning the "Promotion and protection of all human rights, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development";

Emphasizing the need for promoting unity, solidarity, and cooperation among States and renewing our commitment to the NAM principles and objectives and our pledge towards building a new pattern of international relations based on the principles of peaceful co-existence, cooperation among nations and the right to equality of all States;

Reaffirming our commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, through a constructive and cooperative international dialogue, capacity building, technical assistance and the recognition of good practices, while ensuring the full enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to development as a an inalienable, fundamental and universal right,



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and as a comprehensive part of universally recognized human rights, in order to build collective and sustainable peace and prosperity across the world;

Recognizing the historical significance of the adoption of the Declaration of the Right to Development, thirty-three years ago, which was promoted by the Non-Aligned Movement, and which requires a profound change in the international economic structure, including the creation of economic and social conditions that are favorable to developing countries. Likewise, we reiterate that human rights should be strengthened by adhering to the fundamental principles of universality, transparency, impartiality, non-selectivity, non-politicization, and objectivity while seeking to realize the human rights for all, pursuant to the principles contained in the Vienna Declaration of 1993;

Highlighting the role played by WHO as a primary organization of health in the United Nations System, and its leadership in the implementation of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and the approval of the Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019-2023;

Stressing the importance of global health cooperation as a necessary prerequisite for achieving sustainable social and economic development in its three dimensions economic, social and environmental and, to promote knowledge sharing and mutual learning between countries and other relevant international actors;

Mindful of the fact that developing countries are in general more affected by weak health systems, need more urgently international cooperation, to strengthen health systems, as key strategies for fighting poverty and fostering development;

Reaffirming Resolution 70/1 of the General Assembly of the United Nations of 25 September 2015 on Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Resolution 69/313 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, of July 27, 2015, on the Addis Ababa Program of Action of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Highlighting the WHO leadership in the implementation of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals;

Emphasizing that the Universal Health Coverage, incorporating the principles of primary health care and sustainability, is an instrument for improving the resilience of health systems and supports communities to realize health objectives better;



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Noting that Universal Health Coverage addresses multiple goals and targets in the 2030 development agenda; and includes underlying factors, determinants and risks to epidemics and provides mechanisms and systems to address the rise of non-communicable diseases and other health priorities, as a pillar of sustainable development;

Welcoming the proclamation of December 12<sup>th</sup> as the “International Universal Health Coverage Day” and the convening of the High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage in 2019 by the General Assembly of the United Nations;

Supporting the High-Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and calling for intensified cooperation and support for the objectives of the countries in the UHC, in order to achieve Goal number 3 and others objectives related to health, to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Welcoming the Astana Declaration of 2018, and convinced that the strengthening of the Primary Health Care is the most inclusive and effective approach in improving the physical and mental health of people, as a cornerstone of a sustainable health system for Universal Health Coverage;

Welcoming the Declaration of the United Nations High-Level Meeting on the Eradication of Tuberculosis, of September 25, 2018, and supporting the intensification of efforts to end the global tuberculosis epidemic;

Emphasizing that more than 400 million people lack access to basic health services and 40% of the world's population does not have social protection, we make a call to work together in order to accelerate the transformation of health systems, to help countries move towards Universal Health, in pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030;

Supporting the work done by WHO in the preparation of the First World Conference on Air Pollution and Health, held from October 30 to November 1, 2018, and recognizing that the Roadmap adopted will promote a meaningful response to the air pollution problem, taking into account that air pollution is a critical factor of noncommunicable diseases and that, more than 7 million people die each year as a result of air pollution, a situation that threatens the poorest and most marginalized, the most vulnerable and especially the children;



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Supporting the Global Coalition on Health, Environment, and Climate Change, founded on May 25, 2018, by WHO, UNEP and WMO;

Expressing our deep concern about the outbreak of the Ebola virus and its adverse impact on the affected countries, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and highlighting that the control of major epidemics requires early warning, adequate preparation, resilience, intersectoral action and greater national, regional and international collaboration;

Supporting the continued need for a coordinated response to the Ebola outbreak, through the United Nations Mission for Emergency Response against the Ebola virus;

Emphasizing that many public health emergencies could have been prevented or better controlled if the health systems were stronger and better prepared, and also emphasizing that the key role of international cooperation and transfer of technology to developing countries in this regard is of high importance and should be translated into a number of action-oriented mechanisms;

Recognizing the high mortality and disability of the victims of road traffic accidents (RTAs) that predominantly affect developing countries as a leading cause of loss of life; RTAs pose a public health and development challenge and greatly affect the human capital development of the nations;

Underscoring the need for concerted action and a coherent response at the national, regional and global levels in order to adequately address the challenges to sustainable development posed by non-communicable diseases to nations, in particular, the most prominent ones, including mental health disorders, cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, obesity, and diabetes;

Reiterating the call on countries to take measures to balance intellectual property rights between holders and users on the restrain gaps, particularly promoting measures to support the supply chain of medical products, and transfer of technology relating to health products;

Recognizing the importance of those WHO reforms aimed at addressing main areas of concern in global health, reducing disparities, preparedness for emerging and reemerging diseases, and achieving Universal Health Coverage, while strengthening the intergovernmental nature of WHO;



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Supporting the WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA) adopted by WHA 69/10 Resolution and emphasizing the importance of its full implementation and comprehensive evaluation in 2019;

Recognizing persistent challenges to reduce maternal and child mortality and improving the health of women and children, especially in the least developed countries;

Considering the adoption of the “Code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel” (WHA 63/16) as an effective initiative that requires further consolidation through practical measures to address the effects of the migration of the health workers from developing countries;

Expressing concern at the global threat posed by health epidemics, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases and calling on for enhanced cooperation at the national, regional and international levels to confront and combat these scourges;

Reaffirming that the WHO Global Influenza Strategy 2019-2030 will help to protect the world population from the threat posed by this disease given that every year there are nearly 1 billion cases in the world, and about 650.000 people die from respiratory causes related to influenza;

Supporting the new strategy that will allow our countries to prepare health systems to manage crises, strengthening and improving the health as well of their systems vis-à-vis of pandemic disease and other public health emergencies;

Expressing great concern on the spread of antimicrobial drug resistance and the crucial need to support the Member States with financial and technical assistance to develop and implement their national plan on antimicrobial resistance in response to the Global Action Plan and recognizing the serious obstacles to the effective implementation of Antimicrobial Resistance-AMR;

Appreciating the work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance co-chaired by WHO to provide practical guidance on the approaches needed to ensure effective and sustained global action for the control, distribution and appropriate use of new medicines antimicrobials, diagnostic tools, and vaccines;



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Appreciating the continuing efforts of WHO in the development of a Competency Framework, in order to train health personnel about antimicrobial resistance policies and practices related to human health;

Underline further that affordability and access to existing and new antimicrobial medicines, vaccines and diagnostics should be a global priority and should take into account the needs of all countries, in line with the WHO global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property and the UN High-Level Political Declaration on antimicrobial resistance;

Supporting decision WHA71 (8), in which the Director-General was requested, in consultation with the Member States, to develop a roadmap to define the programming of WHO's work on access to medicines and vaccines, including activities, measures, and deliverables, for the period 2019-2023;

Welcoming the Road Map to define WHO programming on access to medicines and vaccines, including activities, measures, and deliverables, for the period 2019-2023;

Expressing concern about the delay in the scheduled date for the certification of the global eradication of poliomyelitis in 2019 (WHA 69/25);

Recognizing that the Global Strategic Plan against measles and rubella 2015-2021 will contribute to achieve the objectives of control and elimination of both diseases and to reduce mortality;

Recognizing health challenges associated with migrants and refugees including the need to ensure access to health care by migrants in the framework of the broader agenda on migration and development and to implement the resolution on promoting the health of refugees and migrants (WHA 70/15);

Recognizing also the importance of sharing by all the burden and responsibility within the framework of promoting the health of migrants and refugees, taking into account the realities, capacities and national policies and national levels of development of Member States, in order to facilitate more equitable, sustained and predictable contributions among the Member States and other stakeholders;



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Recognizing the importance of paying particular attention to building core capacities to detect, report, assess and respond to public health emergencies and public health risks, as part of countries' commitments under the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005);

Recognizing that the South-South cooperation does not substitute, but complements North-South cooperation; and, in this regard, reaffirm the determination of developing countries to explore more effective South-South cooperation, as well as triangular cooperation, allowing for the mobilization of additional necessary resources for implementation of health-related development programs and reaching universal health coverage;

Expressing concern over the deteriorating health conditions in the occupied State of Palestine, particularly in occupied East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan, as a result of health-jeopardizing measures perpetrated by Israel, the occupying power;

Welcoming the Report by Director General A72/33 "Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan";

Decided to adopt the following actions aimed at improving the health conditions of all people and strengthen global solidarity, to face the international challenges in health:

Request the Director-General, in conjunction with the Member States, to guarantee the leadership of the Organization in the implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals related to health, making the necessary improvements in the priorities and working methods of the Organization. WHO, in the context of the General Work Program 2019-2023;

1. Welcome to the Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development document WHA/A72/11, which provides information on progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;
2. Support the preparation of the High-Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), to be held in 2019;





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3. We welcome the Strategic Action Plan on Polio Transition, highlighting the improvements and innovations that must be implemented to successfully address eradication, through the availability of effective and affordable vaccines;
4. Recall that according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and to the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular, article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other types of measure to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind (A/HRC/40/3);
5. Reaffirm that essential goods, such as food and medicines, should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development (A/HRC/40/3);
6. Underline the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, and in this regard call upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of domestic laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries (A/HRC/40/3);
7. Strongly urge all States to refrain from imposing unilateral coercive measures, also urge the removal of such measures, as they are contrary to the Charter and norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States at all levels, and recall that such measures prevent the full realization of economic and social development of nations while also affecting the full realization of human rights (A/HRC/40/3);
8. Recognize the importance of sharing experiences to promote good nutrition and physical activity, to eliminate overweight and associated diseases; through the initiative of the World Health Organization in the "Walk the Talk"



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activity, which will take place on May 19, 2019, on Physical Activity, according to the Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030;

9. Welcome the Report of the Director-General A72/13 on Universal Health Coverage relative the Provision of Primary Health Care by Community Health Agents: within the framework of the Global Human Resources Strategy for Health;
10. Support the optimizing of investments in health work force and the work at country, regional and global levels to ensure a fit for a purpose work force that enables Universal Health Coverage;
11. Support the efforts of WHO in advocating and supporting countries through research and policy adaptation to integrate Community Health Workers as part of Primary Health Care;
12. Urge Member States to honor their commitment and, as appropriate, provide the necessary financial support to WHO and its programs, as appropriate;
13. Request the WHO and the Member States to mobilize the additional resources necessary to achieve Universal Health Coverage, which is a key objective for the achievement of the SDGs;
14. Request the WHO to support member states in their efforts to build resilient health systems to prevent, detect and contain current and future outbreaks;
15. Call on WHO to support health systems in developing countries, in order to improve the capacity to assess and monitor the vulnerability, risks and health impacts of climate change; identify strategies and actions for the protection of human health, particularly people in difficult and more vulnerable situations; and the need to share knowledge and good practices;
16. Request WHO to ensure the effective implementation of FENSA, particularly the development, in consultation with Member States, of a set of criteria and principles for secondments from non-governmental organizations, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions, in accordance with the resolution WHA 69/10, and also encourages the resumption of discussions to develop a general policy of conflict of interest for WHO;



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17. Urge donor countries to honor their commitments to allocate 0.7% of their gross domestic product for official development assistance and urge donors to support international cooperation programs in health and strengthen national health systems, through capacity building and technology transfer to achieve the goal of building resilient health systems;
18. Request the implementation of the recommendations Global Strategy and the Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, to promote new thinking on innovation and access to medicines;
19. Encourage Member States to make full use of the flexibilities available under the TRIPS Agreement, including those recognized by the Doha Declaration of the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health and the WTO decision of August 30, 2003 , to address the public health needs of developing countries, including by adopting and applying rigorous definitions of invention and patents, adopting and applying legislation that facilitates the issuance of compulsory licenses and ensuring that bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements do not include provisions that may undermine the full use of TRIPS flexibilities for public health and encourage the provision of assistance to developing countries in this regard;
20. Welcome the Report of the Director-General A72/18 on Follow-up to the high-level meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations on health-related issues, Antimicrobial Resistance, and we invite to continue promoting the principles defined in the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance;
21. Reaffirm that Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a challenge for all humankind without impeding affordable and equitable access to existing and new medicines, vaccines, and diagnostic tools, taking into account the needs of all countries, in line with the WHO Global Action Plan on AMR;
22. Request to develop joint strategic alliances to produce medicines and supplies for health, through international cooperation with the guarantee of fair prices;
23. Support the development, control, distribution and appropriate use of new antimicrobial drugs, diagnostic tools, and vaccines, preserving existing antimicrobial drugs and promoting affordable access;



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24. Encourage continued efforts to reverse the situation of poverty and social exclusion that determines the health of our peoples, and establish ways to ensure breastfeeding and adequate nutrition in all life cycles, promoting the exchange of successful experiences;
25. Welcome the global commitment to reduce child mortality and improve maternal health and encourage joint efforts at all levels to address this challenge;
26. Urge the WHO to provide support to member states in the implementation of policies to improve road safety, mitigate and reduce traffic-related injuries, in line with the World Plan for the Decade of Action for Roads; and the implementation of the 12 voluntary overall performance targets for road safety risk factors;
27. Encourage the member states to continue fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the Political Declarations on HIV / AIDS, and urge them to expand the programs of prevention, treatment, care, and support, with a view to eradicating the AIDS epidemic by 2030;
28. Urge the relevant international organizations to continue to provide technical assistance and capacity building to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and promotion of access to medicines for all, even though the full use of the flexibilities and exceptions are provided for under intellectual property rights;
29. Welcome the Recommendations of the Secretariat Report on the Eradication of Poliomyelitis (WHA A72/9), as well as the summary of WHO's progress in ensuring the effective implementation of the objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Eradication of Poliomyelitis;
30. Support the Resolution "Follow-up to the High-Level Meetings of the United Nations General Assembly to Eradicate Tuberculosis" (WHA 72/20);
31. Request the World Health Organization and international financial organizations to provide logistical and financial support to the countries affected by the emergence and spread of pandemics, so that they can fight



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- them quickly and effectively, and also provide assistance to prevent new outbreaks, according to the International Health Regulations (2005);
32. Ask the WHO to support and help countries to implement the International Health Regulations (2005);
  33. Support the Report of the Director General A72/54 which calls on the Member States to designate the year 2020 as the International Year of Nursing and Midwifery;
  34. Reaffirm that the WHO Global Influenza Strategy 2019-2030 will contribute to protecting the world population from the threat posed by this disease; and support the new strategy that will allow our countries to have health systems to manage crises, in the face of a pandemic of this disease and other public health emergencies;
  35. Reiterate our urgent call to end completely the Israeli occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 1967, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, human rights and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, including Resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of the Security Council and its Resolution 2334 (2016);
  36. Request Member States, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies, in accordance with their respective mandates, to put an end to the violations committed by Israel, the Occupying Power, to the health situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, to the lifting of the State of Siege and its implications in the health situation, and to provide the necessary support and assistance;
  37. To ensure sustainable procurement of WHO prequalified vaccines and medicine and medical equipment to the occupied Palestinian territory in compliance with the international humanitarian law and the WHO norms and standards;
  38. Condemn all the measures adopted by Israel, the Occupying Power, to modify the legal, physical and demographic situation of the occupied Syrian Golan; we demand, once again, that Israel comply with Resolution 497 (1981)



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and that it withdraw completely from the occupied Syrian Golan until the borders of June 4, 1967, in compliance with Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

39. Request Member States, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies to act in accordance with their respective mandates to end health-related violations committed by Israel, the Occupying Power, in the occupied Syrian Golan, for guarantee the health system, and provide the necessary support and assistance to the Syrian population and in this regard request the DG of WHO to work actively to provide health related technical assistance to the Syrian population in the Occupied Syrian Golan;
40. Decide to convene the XIII Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, within the framework of the 73rd World Health Assembly, on May 19, 2020, in Geneva, Switzerland;
41. Express our sincere congratulations and thanks to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the successful preparation and organization of the XII Meeting of Ministers of Health of the NAM.