



Statement of the NCD Alliance & Eastern Mediterranean NCD Alliance

Provisional agenda item 5(b)

EM/RC72/7 : Health systems recovery in fragile and conflict-affected situations in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Dear Chairperson, Excellencies, and colleagues,

The NCD Alliance and the Eastern Mediterranean NCD Alliance strongly support the Resolution on *Health systems recovery in fragile and conflict-affected situations (FCS)*.

The Eastern Mediterranean Region faces 16 graded emergencies and over 110 million people in humanitarian need. Protracted crises, conflicts, and fragility have reversed progress on universal health coverage (UHC), weakened health systems, and undermined continuity of care for people living with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), threatening the achievement of several health-related SDGs. Essential medicines, diagnostics, and treatment services remain disrupted, leaving millions at risk of preventable complications and deaths.

Health systems recovery must adopt a **“build back better”** approach – ensuring that NCD care is integrated into primary health care, supported by resilient supply chains, digital health information systems, and a skilled health workforce. Recovery in fragile and conflict-affected settings is not just a health priority but also an opportunity to strengthen equity, peacebuilding, and community trust.

To accelerate progress, we call on all Member States to implement the resolution and:

- Integrate essential NCD services into every part of the emergency cycle – from preparedness and disaster risk reduction to the immediate emergency response, and building back better in the recovery period.
- Strengthen primary health care as the foundation of resilient systems and ensure access to essential NCD medicines and diagnostics.

- Mobilise sustainable financing mechanisms that reduce out-of-pocket costs and protect vulnerable populations, in line with UHC and health security objectives.
- Invest in workforce capacity, training, and retention to address NCD preparedness and need, even in times of crises.
- Meaningfully engage and invest in civil society and communities to contribute to preparedness and disaster risk reduction, the immediate emergency response, and building back better in the recovery period, building trust, ownership and accountability.
- Apply the humanitarian–development–peace nexus to ensure that recovery contributes to equity, stability, and resilience.

Thank you.