



**IOGT International Official Statement
WHA72 Agenda item 11.8, A72/19 and Decision EB144)1)
11.8 Prevention and control of NCDs**

22.05.2019

Honorable Chairperson, I thank you for the opportunity to address you on behalf of IOGT International.

IOGT International welcomes the actions outlined to support Member States in **accelerating implementation** of the 2018 Political Declaration on NCDs.

One **major obstacle** to the implementation of the best buys is the alcohol industry. We remain concerned about the annual dialogue with the alcohol industry. For three out of five asks there is already abundant evidence that the alcohol industry does not want to take meaningful action. We therefore caution that the dialogue might be a waste of precious time and resources.

The 2018 Political Declaration (OP28c) challenges the alcohol industry to **eliminate marketing, advertising and sale of alcoholic products to minors**. If they fail in this regard or in the other asks, the dialogues should be terminated.

Recent data shows that the target to reduce alcohol use and related harm may be out reach if action is not urgently accelerated. We therefore call on the Secretariat to better support Member States with technical advice in the formulation and implementation of the Alcohol Policy Best Buys.

To that end WHO should foresee top-level management to ensure cross department coordination and delivery, including sufficient resources to meet increasing demand for technical assistance and to support roll-out of the technical packages and recommended interventions .

We call on Member States to make sustainable financing of NCDs an urgent priority and long-term commitment.

I thank you for your attention.

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