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Official Statement William Ntakuka Regional Representative to the UN

Addressing: 69th Session WHO Regional Committee for Africa, Brazzaville, Congo Agenda item 7

IOGT International Official Statement RC69 Agenda item 7 13th General Program of Work, Results Framework

19.08.2019

Honorable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates, I thank you for the opportunity to address you on behalf of IOGT International, supported by the East African Alcohol Policy Alliance.

We commend the Regional Office for explaining the state of the art and outlining the further process of adopting the results framework for WHO's 13th General Program of Work.

The IOGT International members in Africa welcome the new focus on country delivery and impact.

An adequate results framework will be instrumental in assessing whether WHO on all levels is responding well to the interlinked challenges of poor health and lack of development.

In the context of these interlinked challenges we note with concern that Africa now carries the **biggest relative burden of alcohol harm**. Our governments are increasingly aware and we see **substantial and growing demand** from our governments for **technical assistance regarding the alcohol policy best buys** and protection against alcohol industry interference.

Recent data shows that global targets to reduce alcohol use and related harm will remain out of reach if action is not accelerated.

That is why we call on African Member States to ensure that alcohol indicators feature robustly in the results framework. Such indicators are of critical importance to assess whether alcohol as one of the major challenges is tackled more adequately than is currently the case.

I thank you for your attention.

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