

MOVENDI INTERNATIONAL STATEMENT

30/08/23

WHO AFRICA RCM73 AGENDA ITEM 12

**FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTING THE GLOBAL ALCOHOL ACTION
PLAN 2022–2030 IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION (AFR/RC73/8)**

Thank you, Honorable chairperson.

Movendi International welcomes the new alcohol policy framework and we support its adoption.

In our region we are facing a lost decade for action on alcohol. The figures about rising alcohol consumption among alcohol users, about youth alcohol use, and about lack of alcohol policy action are alarming.

That is why Movendi International supports key elements of the new framework, such as:

- The clear statements on alcohol industry interference and protecting alcohol policy making from conflicts of interest,
- The focus on protecting African children and youth from alcohol industry practices, and
- The focus on priority interventions as they reflect the SAFER alcohol policy blueprint.

To achieve much-needed alcohol policy progress we propose three key actions:

1. Adopt a stronger focus on alcohol taxation and on population-level approaches in general,
2. Ensure better inclusion of civil society in alcohol policy making, and
3. Replace the flawed concept of "harmful use of alcohol" with correct and evidence-based terms.

Movendi International is ready to support and partner with Member States and the Secretariat in developing and implementing high-impact, scientifically proven alcohol policy solutions.

Thank you.

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