Priorities for the UN High-Level Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) 2018

The George Institute for Global Health calls on governments to commit to:

1. **Universal health coverage**
   - Prioritise the achievement of universal health coverage, making appropriate national investments supported by transparent, evidence-based processes for setting health priorities, in order to ensure:
     - equitable access to quality health services
     - availability of essential medicines and technologies
     - integrated models of healthcare to address the prevention and management of multiple health conditions, focusing on patients and not isolated diseases

2. **A focus on women’s health**
   - Recognise that NCDs impose a particular burden on women’s health, and prioritise closing unacceptable health disparities between genders, by:
     - disaggregating data to understand the roles that sex and gender play
     - adopting a life-course approach to women’s health and NCDs
     - integrating the prevention and treatment of NCDs into reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health services

3. **Address unhealthy environments**
   - Adopt a wide-ranging, enforceable, health-in-all-policies approach, focusing on solutions that address the unhealthy environments which engender obesity, physical inactivity and the harmful use of tobacco and alcohol, including by:
     - increasing taxes on tobacco, alcohol and processed foods high in salt, fat or sugar
     - prioritising salt intake reduction

4. **Address the burden of mental illness**
   - Address the enormous burden of mental health conditions on all segments of society, and the strong interaction between mental health conditions and other NCDs

5. **Identify implementation strategies**
   - Convene researchers, implementers, policymakers and funders to identify effective, evidence-based strategies to implement and scale-up solutions

The George Institute For Global Health:
We’re improving the lives of millions of people worldwide through innovative health research. Working across a broad health landscape, the Institute conducts clinical, population and health systems research aimed at changing health practice and policy worldwide.

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