



Statement to the 74th Regional Committee for Western Pacific

Agenda Item 10. Charting the course: Rethinking health financing for social well-being and sustainable development

World Obesity Federation welcomes the UHC Political Declaration, however, we remain concerned by the lack of progress to achieve UHC by 2030, and to meet NCD targets. Comprehensive action and investment in obesity is vital for both.

Obesity, like other NCDs, requires prevention, management, and treatment – and financing to make all of these a reality. People living with obesity struggle to get a diagnosis and access care from trained healthcare professionals, thanks in part to absence of training and prioritisation of obesity in health and food systems, leading to significant costs for treatment. [1 billion people globally are estimated to be living with obesity by 2030](#), thus obesity services are increasingly essential.

The need for equitable access to a continuum of care from health promotion and disease prevention to diagnosis, treatment and management of obesity as part of UHC was recognised in the WHO recommendations on obesity, adopted last year. We urge that the bold ambitions of the UHC Political Declaration be matched by action to ensure that overweight and obesity are part of essential care and within health systems that are equitable and accessible to all who need them.

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