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On 19-20 September, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly held a High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs), adopting a Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases. The meeting addressed the four main NCDs that jointly kill three out of five people across the globe: cardiovascular disease; cancer; chronic lung diseases; and diabetes. During his opening speech, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon identified the event as a “landmark meeting” and expressed his hope that it will place NCDs high on the development agenda.

The meeting was an outcome of a five month preparatory process, which followed after the General Assembly’s decision in April (resolution A/RES/65/238) to convene this meeting. During this preparatory processes, views from civil society were collected through online consultations and an informal interactive hearing with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector, which was held on 16 June 2011 in New York.

More than 250 civil society representatives took part in the hearing, advocating for NCDs to be recognized as a threat for development, and for more effective international cooperation to tackle these diseases, including the active engagement of civil society in the monitoring process. (...)

The article:

<http://www.un-ngls.org/spip.php?article3574>

More about:

<http://www.who.int/nmh/en/>

http://www.who.int/nmh/events/un_ncd_summit2011/en/index.html

Basic information:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-communicable_disease