

Thank you madam co-chair. My name is Priya Kanayson of the NCD Alliance, and I represent civil society organisations focused on health in the New Urban Agenda. Sustainable urbanisation offers one of the greatest opportunities for the protection and promotion of health of future generations. Health is both an indicator of and a prerequisite for human and economic development. Of the three pillars of sustainable development, health is a critical component of social development, with clear linkages to environmental and economic development. Health is one of the greatest assets of sustainable societies, ensuring a strong workforce and enabling progress and creativity. Conversely, the cost of ill health is a barrier to sustainable development. Careful investment to protect and promote health is needed to ensure holistic and progressive development.

We welcome the zero draft that now contains several references on health. We are compiling a set of recommendations to further strengthen and integrate health into the draft, and look forward to ensuring a comprehensive, inclusive New Urban Agenda.

Priya Kanayson, MPH

Advocacy Officer | The NCD Alliance

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