



**Remarks  
by**

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High-Representative  
and  
Under-Secretary-General**

**Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island  
Developing States**

**High Level Meeting on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable  
Diseases  
Multi-stakeholder Panel 2:  
Opportunities and challenges in engaging Governments, civil society and  
the private sector at the global, regional and national levels to promote  
multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of non-  
communicable diseases and the promotion of healthy lifestyles**

**3:00-5:00pm  
Trusteeship Council Chamber**

**New York**

**27 September, 2018**

Honourable Co-Chairs,  
Distinguished Panelists,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Small island developing States (SIDS) for a wide range of well documented reasons -ranging from patterns of nutrition due to economic factors to the impact of climate change incidences - are among the most affected by non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Some SIDS by now experience crisis levels in the incidence of NCDs. These are no ordinary crises levels but levels that have the potential to lead to the disappearance of entire populations given the small, dispersed and ecosystem vulnerability of SIDS populations.

The SAMOA Pathway adopted in 2014 already recognized that. In 2019, the High-Level Review of the Mid Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway takes place.

This is our shared opportunity to look at how we can accelerate implementation of action to support SIDS in achieving their sustainable development priorities.

The prevention and control of NCDs are not only a priority in and of themselves but will largely be dependent on achieving the overall set of linked development priorities the SAMOA pathway agreed on.

This includes the promotion of effective universal health coverage implementation, the distribution of medical and drug supplies, education and public awareness campaigns, and incentivizing people to lead healthier lives through a healthy diet, good nutrition, and sports.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

SIDS by the very nature of their geography and size have known for centuries that life must be about partnership and community.

We now need your partnerships to assist in addressing the prevention and control of NCDs.

OHRLLS has said times over that NCDs can be reduced by comprehensive and integrated preventive and control strategies at the individual, family, community, national and regional levels. Our shared goal in NCD prevention and control can indeed only be realized through strong partnerships between governments, private sectors, civil society, NGOs and other social, regional and international partners.

OHRLLS has already initiated a series of activities to strengthen the engagement with all stakeholders to support the full implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.

For example, as a member of the Broadband Commission's working group on digital health we strongly push for how we can leverage technology for NCDs. The group— which is chaired by Novartis, the Novartis Foundation and Intel—has just released a report that shows how digital health solutions could help address NCDs and accelerate universal health coverage in developing countries, including in SIDS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The prevention and control of NCDs is as much a local as a global issue calling on all of us to stand together and partner.

Let us ALL rally across the public, private, civil society, NGO and donor sectors for action on NCDs that is pragmatic, innovative and creative.

OHRLLS will be there to support the SIDS in this endeavor.

I thank you.