

Working together to translate words into *action*:

NCD PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

73rd United Nations General Assembly – Side Event

A Japanese translation of this newsletter will be available at www.accessaccelerated.org.

1 October 2018

In the days leading up to the [Third United Nations High-Level Meeting on NCDs](#), Access Accelerated and IFPMA convened partners and stakeholders at a UN General Assembly side event, "Working Together to Translate Words into Action: NCD Prevention, Treatment and Care." Held on 25 September at the Harvard Club of New York City, speakers discussed the progress made in one of the initial Access Accelerated focus countries, [Kenya](#), and reaffirmed the commitment to decisive, sustained action on global and local NCD priorities.

Following opening keynotes from the First Lady of Burkina Faso H.E. Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré and Dr. Sania Nishtar, Co-Chair of the WHO High-Level Commission on NCDs, the event's two panels reflected on the following themes:

- **The need for transformational change in low- and middle-income country health systems to effectively address NCDs.** Panelists spoke about the challenges of integrating NCDs into global and local systems focused primarily on communicable diseases, including the need to break down funding silos and build new capacity at the primary care level. Despite these challenges, opportunities exist to leverage new or existing resources to fight NCDs. For example, in Kenya, the Ministry of Health recently found success in joint tuberculosis / diabetes programming, and a new industry partnership, [Ngao ya Afiya](#), is using mobile technology to connect directly with individuals.



From left to right: Justine Hibbert, Roche; H.E. Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré, First Lady of Burkina Faso; James Pfitzer, Access Accelerated; and Dr. Eva Njenga, NCD Alliance Kenya.

- **The need to empower people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) and national governments to co-create sustainable, locally-owned NCD solutions.** Civil society was a key participant in the event, with sickle cell advocate Lea Kilenga speaking passionately about keeping PLWNCDs at the center of our efforts, empowering them and understanding their needs holistically as people, not just as patients. Dr. Eva Njenga of NCD Alliance Kenya, reflected on the convening held by Access Accelerated in Nairobi in March and the importance of bringing together NCD advocates, government, the biopharmaceutical industry and other key stakeholders to forge a common path forward.



From left to right: Dr. Sania Nishtar, Co-Chair of the WHO High-Level Commission on NCDs, and H.E. Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré, First Lady of Burkina Faso.

- **The need for greater global mobilisation on NCDs and the catalytic role that Access Accelerated, as a public-private partnership, can play in that process.** Progress towards SDG 3.4 has been slow worldwide, and panelists called for greater global and local action, and accountability on NCDs. Notably, Dr. Nishtar highlighted how Access Accelerated serves as catalyst for greater mobilisation, convening critical partners like the World Bank, to make NCDs a priority for investment at the global and local levels.



From left to right: Dr. Eva Njenga, NCD Alliance Kenya; James Pfitzer, Access Accelerated; Her Royal Highness Princess Dina Mired; Laura Solia Shellaby, UICC; and Shiulle Ghosh, journalist and event moderator.

Notably, two key Access Accelerated partners brought additional contributions to the event, highlighting recent advancements in their work. **The PATH Coalition for Access to NCD Medicines and Products** convened a technical session focused on country-level efforts to reduce fragmentation, strengthen supply chains and institute policies to reduce NCD risk factors. The **World Heart Federation** also convened a presentation to jointly launch its [White Paper on Circulatory Health](#) with Dr. Vytienis Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health, and Dr. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health of Jamaica.

Overall, as stated by IFPMA representative Martin Bernhardt [on the floor of the High-Level Meeting](#), Access Accelerated and the biopharmaceutical industry stand ready to turn global commitments into practical action and forge innovative public-private partnerships to co-create sustainable solutions to improve people's health. We look forward to meeting the challenges laid forth by our partners and stakeholders at this event:

1. To continue seeking innovative, integrated solutions for NCDs at global and local levels;
2. To follow through on our commitment to people living with NCDs in Kenya and other LMICs; and
3. To be a voice for action and mobilisation on NCDs worldwide.

Following the release of the High-Level Meeting Outcomes Declaration, Access Accelerated will issue a formal report on how we will respond to the needs and concerns of both local stakeholders and the global health community.



From left to right: The Honorable Dr. Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health, Jamaica; and Greg Perry, IFPMA

The full list of speakers who contributed to the event's insightful discussion, include:

- Her Excellency Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré, First Lady of the Republic of Burkina Faso
- Dr. Sania Nishtar, Co-Chair, WHO High-Level Commission on NCDs
- Greg Perry, Assistant Director General, IFPMA
- Dr. Kibachio Joseph Muiruri Mwangi, Ministry of Health for Kenya, Head of the NCD Division
- Dr. Joseph Lubega, Global Hematology Oncology Pediatric Excellence (HOPE)
- Dr. Githinji Gitahi, Global CEO, Amref Health Africa
- Dr. Eva Njenga, Chairperson, NCD Alliance Kenya
- Lea Kilenga, Sexy Sickle Cell Founder, Advocate and Entrepreneur
- Dr. Catherine Karekezi, Medical Director, Kenya Diabetes Management and Information Centre
- Dr. Edward Omete, PharmAccess Foundation, M-TIBA Platform
- James Pfitzer, Director, Access Accelerated
- Shiulle Ghosh, journalist and event moderator

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

World Cancer Congress
1 – 4 October: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The World Cancer Congress aims to strengthen participants' action and impact on national, regional and international scales through a multidisciplinary programme that features the latest successful interventions in cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care.

On 2 October (17:00 – 18:30, Conference Room Hall 3), Access Accelerated will host a joint event with the City Cancer Challenge program, "Transforming public-private partnerships to strengthen health systems." The panel will discuss how, through the City Cancer Challenge process, Access Accelerated and C/CAN can take a patient-centered approach to harness the diverse and broad expertise, resources and competencies of local, regional and global partners to support cities to develop their plans and implement sustainable solutions that will save lives.

Follow the conversation using the hashtag, #CityCancerChallenge

The full World Cancer Congress programme [can be viewed here](#); other key panels to attend include:

- **Bridging the Resource Gap: Attracting New Financing to Cancer Care in LMICs:** Tuesday, 2 October, 14:20 – 15:20, Conference Room T5-14
- **City Cancer Challenge Partners Briefing on the City Health Financing Lab:** Wednesday, 3 October, 12:00 – 13:00, UICC Members' Convening Room, Global Village
- **Delivering Equitable Access to Quality Cancer Care: Local Champions Driving Change:** Thursday, 4 October, 15:00 – 16:30, Conference Room 304

CONTACT US

Please contact us at AccessAccelerated@webershandwick.com with any questions and follow the conversation around industry actions to tackle NCDs on Twitter at [@NCDAccess](#) and on our website www.accessaccelerated.org.