The World Cancer Congress aims to strengthen participants’ action and impact on national, regional and global health community. 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.

On 2 October (17:00 – 18:30, Conference Room Hall 3), Access Accelerated will host a joint event convened a technical session focused on country-level efforts to reduce fragmentation, strengthen health systems. The session featured a panel discussion with Dr. Sania Nishtar, Co-Chair of the WHO High-Level Commission on NCDs, and Global CEO, Amref Health Africa, Her Excellency Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré, First Lady of Burkina Faso; Dr. Githinji Gitahi, Chairperson, NCD Alliance Kenya; Dr. Eva Njenga, NCD Alliance Kenya; Greg Perry, Assistant Director General, IFPMA; and Dr. Vytenis A. Andriukaitis, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

The event explored the following key themes:

1. Transforming public-private partnerships to strengthen health systems and improve health outcomes.
2. Practical action and forging innovative public-private partnerships to co-create sustainable solutions to the challenges of improving access and providing quality care.
3. The need to empower people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) and national governments to co-develop programs that meet their needs.

Panelists spoke about the challenges of integrating NCDs into existing systems, particularly within local and global systems focused primarily on communicable diseases, including the need to effectively address NCDs. Despite these challenges, opportunities exist to leverage new or existing resources to fight NCDs.

In Kenya, the Ministry of Health recently found success in breaking down funding silos and building new capacity at the primary care level. Despite these global and local systems focused primarily on communicable diseases, including the need to effectively address NCDs. Despite these challenges, opportunities exist to leverage new or existing resources to fight NCDs.

For example, 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.

Access Accelerated’s focus countries, Harvard Club of New York City, speakers discussed the progress made in one of the initial Access Accelerated focus countries, the Philippines. Speaker Dr. Sania Nishtar commented on how Access Accelerated can work with formal and informal stakeholders at this event:

1. To be a voice for action and mobilisation on NCDs worldwide.
2. To continue seeking innovative, integrated solutions for NCDs at global and local levels;
3. To be a global hub, a catalyst for greater mobilisation, convening critical partners like the World Bank, to make NCDs a global health priority.

The need to empower people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) and national governments to co-create sustainable, locally-owned NCD solutions.

Overall, as stated by IFPMA representative Martin Bernhardt: "Working Together to translate words into action: NCD prevention, treatment and care."

On 1 October 2018, the event’s two keynote speakers were Dr. Sania Nishtar, Co-Chair of the WHO High-Level Commission on NCDs, and Global CEO, Amref Health Africa, Her Excellency Madame Adjoavi Sika Kaboré, First Lady of Burkina Faso.

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