

NCD Alliance Membership Criteria and Principles

May 2022

Membership with NCD Alliance

The NCD Alliance (NCDA) is a non-governmental not-for-profit organisation based in Switzerland with a President, Board and consolidated membership base. The Board of Directors, the executive body of NCDA, consists of 14 directors elected by the NCDA General Assembly, the organisation's supreme governing body that meets every two years.

NCDA's mission is to unite civil society and drive action on NCD prevention and care, leaving no one behind, through advocacy and accountability, capacity development, knowledge exchange and partnerships. Our network currently brings together more than 350 member organisations in more than 80 countries and is committed to NCDA impact goals and addressing the broader NCD agenda by putting health at the centre of all policies and by advocating for NCDs as a development priority.

NCDA has a tiered membership model for civil society organisations: Founding, Full, Associate and Network. Founding membership is limited to the four founding federations of NCDA: the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the World Heart Federation (WHF) and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF).

NCDA offers two paid membership categories to organisations interested in **NCDA activities and receiving members benefits**:¹

Full members are entitled to attend and vote at the NCDA General Assembly meetings² and can nominate and vote on NCDA's leadership including the President and Board Members. They can submit activity proposals to the Board and are entitled to a range of members benefits.

Associate members can attend the NCDA General Assembly meetings as observers (with no vote) and nominate individuals for the Board (not for President). They are entitled to a range of members benefits.

¹ Please note, Network members of NCDA receive the weekly NCDA Newsletter and no other members benefits. Network members have no role in NCDA governance. No fee applies for network members.

² Every two years, NCDA convenes a meeting of the General Assembly, its supreme governing body, through which NCDA full and founding members elect the NCDA President and Board of Directors and have a say in NCDA's global strategy and activities.

Membership Criteria

The following criteria are used by NCDA to assess whether an applicant organisation should be accepted as a member and are part of NCDA's due diligence process for membership applications:

- 1 The organisation is a civil society organisation: NGO, association, society or alliance of national or professional nature, patient organisation, community group, academia, etc.³

- 2 The organisation is NOT a for-profit entity, business association, philanthropy or grant-making foundation, government or UN agency.⁴

- 3 The organisation has a defined governing body and organisational structure, and it is governed transparently. There should be no record of litigation or regulatory sanction against the organisation. Any arising issue should be brought to the attention of NCDA.

- 4 The organisation can demonstrate at any time good financial management and its active engagement in ensuring its financial sustainability. The organisation is able and willing to meet its financial obligations, including the NCDA membership fees.

- 5 The organisation has a demonstrable track record or interest in NCDs and is committed to evidence-based advocacy and practice.

- 6 The organisation has current projects or activities that are NCD-focused, in addition to disease-specific or risk factor-specific activities.

- 7 The organisation supports the vision, mission, values and strategic goals of NCDA, and its own vision, mission and objectives must be consistent with those of NCDA.

- 8 The organisation IS NOT involved in tobacco and nicotine, alcohol, ultra-processed and HFSS foods and beverages, fossil fuel extraction, and arms industries, given they are considered as either harmful to health or may increase the risk of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).⁵

- 9 As well as adhering to the criteria and principles outlined in this document, the organisation is willing to adhere to NCDA's Constitution and the NCDA Membership Conflict of Interest Policy, as well as to commit time to support NCDA activities.

³ Civil society organisations (CSOs) are non-governmental and not-for-profit organisations that do not fall within the private sector.

⁴ For-profit entities, business associations, philanthropies, foundations, governments and UN agencies can ONLY become **partners** of NCDA, not paying full or associate members. Please note, network members can be CSOs, a government entity, UN agency, or interested individual because of the lack of any governance role within NCDA.

⁵ Please refer to the NCDA Membership Conflict of Interest Policy for further detail.

Membership Principles

All NCDA members are expected to uphold the following principles, and it is their responsibility to ensure that the principles are being honoured at all times.⁶ NCDA members commit to:

- 1 Support NCDA's mission to achieve a future free from the preventable suffering, disability and death caused by NCDs.

- 2 Work together as a network of organisations on evidence-based policy and advocacy initiatives in furtherance of the objectives in the NCDA Strategic Plan.

- 3 Communicate successes and challenges, lessons learnt, and case studies to the NCDA team.

- 4 Ensure that NCDA news, resources and opportunities are disseminated within their organisations.

- 5 Strive to be transparent and to make every attempt to ensure the integrity of policy, advocacy, and communications produced and promoted, avoiding and disclosing any real or apparent conflict of interest or any compliance risk that may arise.⁷

- 6 Recognise that they are responsible for maintaining the reputation and integrity of NCDA and not jeopardizing any existing relationships with other NCDA members and/or partners.

- 7 Advise NCDA if any issue emerges in their work or community that may have an impact on the reputation of NCDA.

- 8 Respect the logo and recognition guidelines for NCDA members. Only Full members are entitled to use the NCDA logo and auspices for their own events upon approval from NCDA.⁸

⁶ Please note that NCDA reserves the right to perform due diligence checks at any time throughout the membership, and that the membership may be terminated at any point due to non-compliance with the membership criteria, violation of the membership principles or any other reasons deemed appropriate by the NCDA Board at its discretion. Where any potential non-compliance is identified, NCDA will perform a risk assessment and issue a formal report to the member organisation, including clear guidelines on how the issue(s) should be rectified. Where rectification is not undertaken within the timeline set, or in cases of extreme violation of the terms outlined above, termination of membership will be immediately effective.

⁷ Please refer to the NCDA Membership Conflict of Interest Policy.

⁸ Please refer to the Recognition and Logo guidelines for members of NCDA.



**Accelerating action on NCDs to
PROMOTE HEALTH, PROTECT RIGHTS AND SAVE LIVES**

Complete the online membership application at
ncdalliance.org/membership



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