

Agenda item: EB 140/32 Progress in the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development

Speaker: Gabriella Sozanski

Honourable Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Alliance for Health Promotion, an alliance of international NGOs involved in health promotion with an aim to empower communities and individuals to gain ownership over their own well-being and enjoyment of a healthy life.

The adoption of Goal 3 of the 2030 Agenda for SDGs reaffirmed that the principles of the Ottawa Charter are more than ever relevant.

As a representation of civil society, the Alliance for Health Promotion held a Global Forum on Health Promotion in Charlottetown, Canada in October 2016 gathering 300 participants. A Declaration and Call to Action was adopted there stressing that positive change through health promotion in contribution to SDGs can be achieved through

- Increasing education and information to empower individuals and communities to take responsibility for their own health
- Calling for greater social mobilisation
- Advocating for a holistic approach to health
- Facilitating local community opportunities to provide an exchange of knowledge and lessons learned
- Supporting structural change that closes the gap between international declarations and local realities
- Governments investing more resources across all sectors for civil society, communities and health promotion to strengthen their capacity for engagement and action
- Civil Society Organizations being the conscience of political decision-makers, in using health promotion strategies to achieve the SDGs

This declaration was the contribution of Civil Society to the discussions held in Shanghai. We note with interest that some of these considerations are already reflected in the WHO Secretariat report.

Civil society is a crucial enabler to making global declarations, such as the Shanghai Declaration and Goals of the SDGs agenda a reality. Be assured that the Alliance for Health Promotion is keen to continue being your partner and actively contribute to moving from declaration to implementation and action.

Thank you for your attention.

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