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Dear Dr. Juliano do Vale,

In the first Political Declaration on NCDs endorsed during the first UN High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2011, oral health was officially recognized as a major public health problem that could benefit from common responses to NCDs. The recent Global Burden of Disease Report and Lancet series in oral health reinforce the impact of unmet oral disease, both at an individual and national level.


The draft political declaration of the Universal Health Coverage presents a ground-breaking opportunity to strengthen and intensify efforts to implement the Oral health: action plan for promotion and integrated disease prevention Resolution WHA 60.17 of the Sixtieth World Health Assembly.

Brazil is a global leader in oral health having the largest and most complex universal public health system that has successfully integrated oral health in primary health care. Robust scientific documentation demonstrates how Government programs through mainstreaming oral health into general health have delivered value-based outcomes, and importantly return on investment. The Brazilian experience constitutes a sound reference worldwide.

Thailand is another country that has applied Universal Health Coverage, including Oral Health, for more than two decades which bring benefit to the population with affordable cost. Oral health is a gateway to general health thus will eventually lead to correct some NCDs common risk factors as well.

As a WHO Advisory Expert Panel on Oral Health and Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, Thammasat University, Thailand, we welcome the initiative of the Brazilian Oral Health Sector to mobilize and further strengthen primary health care in the UHC political declaration by calling for inclusion of oral diseases as part of efforts to address the Non-Communicable Diseases.

Yours sincerely



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