

## **78<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Health Assembly (WHA78)**

### **Provisional agenda item 12. The role of the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in WHO's work on multistakeholder engagement for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases: report on independent evaluation**

(Document [A78/INF./2](#))

FDI and IADR welcome the evaluation of the GCM on NCDs which emphasizes GCM's role as a critical platform for advancing multisectoral collaboration.

Oral diseases affect nearly 3.7 billion people worldwide and oral health is a key indicator of overall health, well-being, and quality of life. Member States adopted the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan (WHA76(9)), which calls for urgent multistakeholder collaboration to tackle oral diseases, including a monitoring framework for tracking progress. We therefore urge the WHO and Member States to ensure that oral health is explicitly integrated into future efforts.

This includes:

- Expanding regional implementation and technical support to meaningfully engage oral health stakeholders including providers, researchers, and people living with oral diseases; and
- Embedding oral health indicators in monitoring and evaluation frameworks to promote comprehensive, evidence-based NCD strategies.

The GCM's role must be preserved and strengthened as a platform for inclusive, science-driven collaboration and shared accountability.

Thank you.

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