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## **IFPA's Recommendations on agenda item 15 – Regional Framework for Integrating Essential Non-Communicable Disease services in Primary Health Care (PHC)**

### **67<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Committee Meeting for Africa**

IFPA would like to commend the WHO and Member States for the efforts to develop a regional approach in addressing NCDs and integrating services in PHC. We welcome the suggested targets, milestones and actions and acknowledge them as pathway to achieve behavioral change among all stakeholders towards a cross-sectoral approach to NCDs. We encourage further development of concrete actions plans and strategies, on national and regional level, to strengthen the framework's implementation.

Secondly, IFPA welcomes the inclusion of patient-centered approach as one of the guiding implementation principles. We further call for advancing the approach to holistic person-centered approach, to encompass the human, social and economic impact of NCDs on the person, beyond its categorization as a patient and as recognized in the draft framework.

Thirdly, IFPA encourages that the interventions are strengthened with the recommendations from the WHO Global Report on Psoriasis from 2016. The complex nature of psoriasis invokes needless suffering for over 125 million people worldwide, including in the African region. The average psoriasis patient is affected by the four main risk factors, while facing an increased risk of comorbidities, including diabetes, CVDs, cancer and CRD.

From the perspective of addressing NCD comorbidities, we urge for early screening of psoriasis patients for diabetes and CVDs, which can be carried out with the tools and technologies listed in the WHO PEN for primary care in low-resource settings, as a cost-efficient way to prevent and reduce the NCDs burden.

IFPA is fully committed to support the work in the African region and to further cooperation in field of NCDs prevention and control.