**Subject: Prioritizing cardiovascular health at the fourth UN HLM on NCDs and Mental Health**

**Dear [Title] [Name],**

On behalf of [your organization name], I write to urge you to prioritize cardiovascular disease (CVD) in the negotiations and outcomes of the upcoming UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs and Mental Health in September 2025.

CVD remains the world’s leading cause of death, responsible for over **20 million lives each year**, many of them preventable. It is a major barrier to development and economic stability, particularly in **low- and middle-income countries**.

To meaningfully address this burden, we encourage your delegation to support the following priorities in the Political Declaration and national implementation plans:

* **Set a global target of 50% hypertension control by 2030** by expanding treatment to 500 million more people, integrated within primary health care and task-sharing models.
* **Adopt a minimum 50% excise tax** on tobacco, alcohol, and sugar-sweetened beverages, with revenues invested in health systems.
* **Implement the 2021 WHO Air Quality Guidelines** and align national targets with recommended levels for key pollutants.
* **Ensure financial protection** by integrating CVD services into UHC benefit packages and increasing CVD-specific health budgets.
* **Broaden NCD targets** to include children, adolescents, and older adults, with a commitment to reduce NCD mortality and morbidity by 50% across all age groups by 2050.

To support national implementation, we strongly recommend you endorse the development of a **Global Cardiovascular Health Action Plan,** WHF has launched a [**global petition**](https://world-heart-federation.org/sign-the-petition/) supported by policymakers, professionals, and civil society calling for its adoption.

We thank you for your leadership and remain committed to supporting your efforts to protect hearts and save lives.

**Sincerely,**
[Your Name]
[Your Title / Organization]