

**Delegation from the State of Switzerland.**

***Position Paper for the World Health Organization.***

**I. Adolescent Health in LCDs**

Switzerland is a federal state situated in Western Europe, with an area of 41,285 km2 and a population of 8.24 million people. The country has a long tradition of direct democratic processes and federalism, which allows a high degree of political self-determination to cantons and communes. Switzerland is not a member of the European Union and maintains a state of armed neutrality. Switzerland is generally considered to be a healthy country. Its healthcare system is ranked as one of the best in the world, and its citizens enjoy high life expectancy and low mortality rates. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Switzerland has a life expectancy of 83 years, which is among the highest in the world. The country also has a low infant mortality rate and a low rate of deaths from non-communicable diseases, such as heart disease and cancer.

Adolescent health is a critical global health priority, as young people represent a significant demographic group and are critical to achieving sustainable development goals. Adolescents in developing countries on the other hand, face a variety of health challenges, including infectious diseases, malnutrition, mental health issues, and high rates of injury and violence. Factors such as poverty, limited access to healthcare services, inadequate health education, and gender inequality can exacerbate these challenges and make it difficult for young people to access the care they need. Moreover, many adolescents in developing countries lack the social and economic resources necessary to lead healthy lives, such as education, employment opportunities, and supportive social networks.

International actions related to adolescent health in developing countries include the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the World Health Organization's Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents Framework, United Nations Population Fund State of World Population Reports, and United Nations Children's Fund programs. These actions emphasize the importance of improving access to healthcare services, promoting health literacy, and supporting community-based initiatives to improve adolescent health outcomes. They provide valuable frameworks for addressing the unique challenges facing young people in developing countries and highlight the need to prioritize adolescent health in order to create a brighter future for all.