Joint Bilateral Resolution

We, the participants of the 2nd Bilateral Health Summit, focusing on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), held 18-19 August, 2011 in Apia, Samoa, hereby resolve that NCDs is an emergency crisis in both American Samoa and Samoa.

We further resolve that there should be joint commitment by the respective governments, to declare NCDs as a national emergency and development crisis, and to implement the necessary actions to combat the crisis.

To this end we resolve as follows:

1. Encourage continued sharing of experiences and lessons learnt in areas such as but not limited to:
   - legislation, policy, strategy and guideline development;
   - health promotion and health protection;
   - clinical and public health services;
   - workforce retention and capacity building;
   - program implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
   - governance

2. Strengthen relationship with civil society, NGOs, the private sector, professional organizations, the faith based organizations and the community.

3. Encourage collaboration in responding to the NCD crisis through the improvement of Health Information Systems.

4. Advocate joint commitment by government leaders to the NCD emergency crisis in both Samoas.

Dated this 19th day of August, 2011

Apia, Samoa.

Palunitina Tupuimatagi Toelupe
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