



Dear Dr Kluge,

We are contacting you on behalf of the [Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe](#), a joint initiative of the Council of European Chief Dental Officers, the European Association of Dental Public Health, the Pan-European Region of the International Association for Dental Research, the Association for Dental Education in Europe, the Oral Health Foundation and associate members.

The Platform warmly welcomes the World Health Assembly's adoption of a Resolution on Oral Health and the WHO's Global Strategy on Oral Health as well as the Report of the Pan-European Commission on Health and Sustainable Development. This is entirely aligned with the Platform's [goal](#) to create a common European approach towards improved oral health outcomes through public health, primary care, research, education, health promotion, and increased access to care.

We were pleased to provide the attached comprehensive feedback to the WHO consultation on the draft Global Strategy on Oral Health in September. The commitment to developing integrated oral health promotion and preventive strategies addressing the main determinants of oral diseases and conditions, as well as striving for equality in access to oral health care, is very welcome. Indeed, oral health is very often the first line of defence in addressing key common risk factors for non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The call for integration of oral health care within Universal Health Coverage is an excellent way forward and well aligned with the SDG agenda. However, more targeted approaches and integration of oral health should be implemented in NCD policies in the European region to reduce the burden of oral diseases and conditions and address health inequalities.

As the WHO Secretariat prepares for the World Health Assembly's adoption of this Global Strategy, it is crucial to consider the mobilization of dedicated resources for oral health in the WHO Regional Office for Europe as this will be critical for the implementation of the forthcoming WHO Action Plan for Oral Health. In this regard, the Platform is available to closely collaborate with the WHO Regional Office for Europe to support the implementation of this Strategy and future action plans in Europe.

We would therefore welcome the opportunity to discuss with you and your team how oral health can best be leveraged into WHO European Region's NCD and public health agenda.

Kind regards,
Prof Georgios Tsakos

Chair of the Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe