

## Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly 2024

### Agenda items 11.1 Universal health coverage and 11.2: Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

Honorable Chair, Esteemed Delegates

Thank you for giving me the floor.

Research shows that near universal breastfeeding, as defined by WHO, could prevent 98 000 deaths of mothers from diabetes and hormone related cancer each year, in addition to saving 823,000 children's lives. Breastfeeding reduces rates of hypertension, obesity, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, and cardiovascular diseases in mothers and later in adulthood in the breastfed child

ILCA urges Member States to include skilled lactation care and counselling in Universal Health Coverage, and to invest in appropriate training of physicians, nurses, midwives and other health care professionals, as well as supporting the development of a skilled lactation care workforce.

ILCA calls for increased investment in breastfeeding protection and support to prevent and reduce NCDs Non-Communicable Diseases.

Thank you