

Informal note on the outcomes of the meetings of Member States on NCD-related assignments (Geneva, 11-15 November 2013)

(NOT AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OR FORMAL RECORD¹)

Geneva, 18 November 2013 – Last week, Member States agreed on recommendations to the Executive Board for advancing the follow up to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs. Pursuant to resolution WHA66.10, Member States met in 3 meetings to develop: (1) the draft terms of reference for a global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of NCDs; (2) the draft terms of reference for the United Nations Interagency Taskforce on the Prevention and Control of NCDs; and (3) a limited set of action plan indicators for the WHO global action plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013-2020.

Formal meeting of Member States to conclude the work on the terms of reference for a global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of NCDs
(Geneva, 11-13 November 2013)

Member States agreed on elements of the draft terms of reference of the global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs related to the scope, purpose and functions of the mechanism.

The scope and purpose of the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of NCDs will be to facilitate and enhance coordination of activities, multistakeholder engagement and action across sectors at the local, national, regional and global levels, in order to contribute to the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020, while avoiding duplication of efforts, using resources in an efficient and results-oriented way, and safeguarding WHO and public health from any undue influence by any form of real, perceived or potential conflicts of interest.

Guided by, and in line with, the six objectives of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020, the functions of the global coordination mechanism will be as follows:

- Advocating for and raising awareness on the urgency on implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020; mainstreaming the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the international development agenda; and giving due consideration to the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

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- Disseminating knowledge and sharing information based on scientific evidence and/or best practices regarding the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020, including health promotion, prevention, control, monitoring and surveillance of NCDs.
- Provide a forum to identify barriers and share innovative solutions and actions for the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan 2013-2020.
- Advance multisectoral action by identifying and promoting sustained actions across sectors that can contribute to and support the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020.
- Identifying and sharing information on existing and potential sources of finance and cooperation mechanisms at the local, national, regional and global levels for the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020.

A report summarizing the outcome of the meeting will be published at the following WHO website: http://apps.who.int/gb/ncds/e/ncd-11-12_E.html

The draft terms of reference will be submitted to the 134th session of the Executive Board (Geneva, 20-25 January 2014) for its consideration and guidance on the follow-up process to be pursued before the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly (Geneva, 19-24 May 2014).

With a view to completing the work on other elements of the terms of reference for a global coordination mechanism on NCDs before the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly (Geneva, 19-24 May 2014), Member States recommended that the 134th session of the WHO Executive Board (Geneva, 20-25 January 2014) ensures a follow-up process, including another formal meeting.

Formal meeting of Member States to complete the work on the terms of reference for the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, including a division of tasks and responsibilities for United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and other international organizations (Geneva, 13-14 November 2013)

Member States agreed on the draft terms of reference for the UN Interagency Task Force for the Prevention and Control of NCDs. The Task Force, which will be convened and led by WHO, will coordinate the activities of UN organizations to support the realization of the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs, in particular through the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020.

The objectives of the Task Force will be as follows:

- To enhance and coordinate systematic support to Member States, upon request, at the national level, in efforts to support responses to prevent and control NCDs and mitigate their impacts.
- To facilitate systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the UN system and intergovernmental organizations about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities to prevent and control NCDs and mitigate their impacts, at global, regional and national levels, including through the establishment of a virtual practice community for Members of the Task Force, with updates regularly circulated to subscribers, and the preparation and regular updating of an inventory of UN system activities on the prevention and control of NCDs.
- To facilitate information on available resources to support national efforts to prevent and control NCDs and mitigate their impacts, and to undertake resource mobilization for the implementation of agreed activities, including for joint programmes in accordance with guidelines of the UN Development Group.
- To strengthen advocacy in order to raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of NCDs on the international development agenda, including the post-2015 development agenda, and sustain the interest of Heads of State and Government in realizing their commitments through statements, reports and participation in panels by high-level United Nations officials.
- To incorporate the work of the UN Ad Hoc Interagency Task Force on Tobacco Control, including by utilizing the matrix of work of the Members of the UN Task Force on the implementation of the WHO FCTC, and to ensure that tobacco control continues to be duly addressed and prioritized in the new task force mandate.
- To strengthen international cooperation in support of national, regional and global plans for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health promotion, legislation, regulation and health systems strengthening, training of health personnel, development of appropriate health-care infrastructure and diagnostics, and by promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the production of affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines and vaccines.

A report summarizing the outcome of the meeting will be published at the following WHO website: http://apps.who.int/gb/ncds/e/ncd-13_E.html

The draft terms of reference of the Task Force will be submitted to the 134th session of the Executive Board (Geneva, 20-25 January 2014) and the 67th World Health Assembly (Geneva,

19-24 May 2014) for their consideration, before being submitted to the ECOSOC Substantive Session in 2014.

Consultation with Member States to conclude the work on the limited set of action plan indicators for the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020 (Geneva, 15 November 2013)

Member States agreed on 9 action plan indicators to inform reporting on progress made in the process of implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020:

Number	NCD action plan indicator
1	Number of countries with at least one operational multisectoral national policy, strategy or action plan that integrates several noncommunicable diseases and shared risk factors in conformity with the global/regional noncommunicable disease action plans 2013–2020
2	Number of countries that have operational noncommunicable disease unit(s)/branch(es)/department(s) within the Ministry of Health, or equivalent
3a	Number of countries with an operational policy, strategy or action plan, to reduce the harmful use of alcohol, as appropriate, within the national context.
3b	Number of countries with an operational policy, strategy or action plan to reduce physical inactivity and/or promote physical activity
3c	Number of countries with an operational policy, strategy or action plan, in line with the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, to reduce the burden of tobacco use
3d	Number of countries with an operational policy, strategy or action plan to reduce unhealthy diet and/or promote healthy diets
4	Number of countries that have evidence-based national guidelines/protocols/standards for the management of major NCDs through a primary care approach, recognized/approved by government or competent authorities
5	Number of countries that have an operational national policy and plan on NCD-related research including community-based research and evaluation of the impact of interventions and policies
6	Number of countries with noncommunicable disease surveillance and monitoring systems in place to enable reporting against the nine voluntary global NCD targets

A report summarizing the outcomes of the meeting will be published at the following WHO website: http://apps.who.int/gb/ncds/e/ncd-14-15_E.html

The above-mentioned set of NCD action plan indicators will be submitted to the 134th session of the Executive Board (Geneva, 20-25 January 2014) and the 67th World Health Assembly (Geneva, 19-24 May 2014) for their consideration.

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