



REPORT OF THE SECOND REGIONAL MEETING ON NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES  
WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Office, Cairo, 24-25 April 2014

The participants of the Regional Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases, representing their Member States and other stakeholders in the Region, discussed their views and positions on the forthcoming 2014 review meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on noncommunicable diseases. The following represents a summary of the conclusions made during the meeting:

1. The participants welcomed the emerging consensus among Member States in New York to convene a high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs on 10 and 11 July 2014 in New York, with the participation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Health, and other Ministers.

2. They recognized that the high-level meeting will provide an opportunity to take stock of the progress made in implementing the commitments in the Political Declaration on noncommunicable diseases, endorsed by Heads of State and Government in September 2011, and the commitments included in the Regional Framework of Action endorsed by the WHO Regional Committee in October 2012 (attached), identify and address gaps and reaffirm the political commitment in response to the challenge of noncommunicable diseases.

3. The participants recommend that the outcome document to be adopted at the high-level meeting in July 2014 includes national commitments to:

- scale up the implementation of the commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs and strengthen national efforts to address the burden of noncommunicable diseases and reduce its socioeconomic consequences;
- adopt approaches to policy development that involve all government departments and establish clear roles for the sectors beyond health in implementing the commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration;
- consider, by 2014, the development of national targets for 2025 based on national circumstances, taking into account the global targets for noncommunicable diseases adopted by the 66th World Health Assembly (May 2013);
- develop, by 2014, a multisectoral national strategy and plan for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases to attain national targets, and strengthen capacity in implementing the policy in the three major components: surveillance, reduction of exposure to risk factors and improved health care, with the allocation of adequate resources;
- establish, by 2014, a high-level national multisectoral commission, agency or task force for engagement, policy coherence and accountability of sectors beyond health, and for monitoring the implementation of the strategy and plan;
- implement, by 2015, as part of a national multisectoral strategy and plan, the cost-effective and affordable interventions, included in the Political Declaration (“best buys”), to reduce the exposure of populations and individuals to risk factors for NCDs and strengthen efforts to integrate measures for the early detection and management of common NCDs and their

risk factors into primary health care, while addressing gaps in health systems that impede optimal health care;

- implement, by 2015, the WHO Framework for NCD Surveillance covering (i) monitoring of risk factors and determinants; (ii) outcomes (mortality and morbidity) and (iii) health system response, as well as to integrate NCDs into the national health information systems, and develop national indicators taking into account the indicators endorsed by the World Health Assembly;

4. The participants also recommend that the outcome document to be adopted at the high-level meeting in July 2014 includes commitments for the UN General Assembly to:

- Take into account the serious socioeconomic consequences of noncommunicable diseases and include the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the new set of goals and targets of the post-2015 agenda on sustainable development;
- Convene a follow-up high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, with the participation of Heads of State and Government, in 2016 or 2017, to undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress of the progress achieved in realizing the commitments included in the UN Political Declaration on noncommunicable diseases, taking into account a limited set of process indicators;

5. The participants also recommend that the outcome document to be adopted at the high-level meeting in July 2014 includes global assignments for WHO to:

- Develop, in 2014, with the full participation of Member States, a set of process indicators capable of application at country level, to monitor progress made in realizing the commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration on noncommunicable diseases;
- Develop, by 2015, with the full participation of Member States, and in consultation with UN organizations, building on the work already under way, a country framework for action to engage sectors beyond health in the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;
- Develop, by 2015, with the full participation of Member States, through the governing bodies of the World Health Organization, and in consultation with non-State actors, , a tool to measure the contribution of the private sector and civil society to the commitments made in the 2011 Political declaration and the nine global targets for noncommunicable diseases;

6. The participants recommend that Ministers of Health, Foreign Affairs and Planning attend the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to undertake the comprehensive review and assessment on progress made in implementing the commitments made in the 2011 Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (New York, 10-11 July 2014).