



***Third Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on
the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases***

(New York, 16-17 June 2014)

INFORMAL SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

1. The Third Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (the Task Force) was co-hosted and co-chaired by WHO and UNICEF and held at UNICEF in New York, 16-17 June 2014. The meeting was attended by: IAEA, ICRC, IDLO, ILO, IOC, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, OIC, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNU, WB, WHO, WHO FCTC and WIPO. The meeting was chaired by UNICEF and WHO. The list of participants is in Annex 1. The agreed agenda is Annex 2.

2. The main objectives of the meeting were:

- (i) To agree the next steps in mapping ongoing activities;
- (ii) To agree an approach to operationalize and monitor the workplan;
- (iii) To agree next steps in moving forward on joint programmes and implementing other agreements;
- (iv) To agree our approach and next steps for UNIATF missions to countries;
- (v) To review key policy issues, such as conflicts of interest and financing of UNIATF workstreams.

UPDATE ON PROGRESS TO DATE

3. Task Force members were briefed that on 13 June 2014 ECOSOC noted the UN Secretary-General's report on the implementation of resolution 2013/12 (UN Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs) and endorsed the UNIATF Terms of Reference (TORs) and division of tasks and responsibilities. Task Force members were also briefed on the key outcomes of the 67th World Health Assembly (19-24 May 2014) in the areas of NCDs, including the Global Coordination Mechanism. Task Force members also reviewed the outcomes of the Second UNIATF meeting (29-30 January 2014), the Second Joint UNDP-WHO letter to UNCTs (24 February 2014) and progress on the UN High-level Review (10-11 July 2014).

KEY POLICY AREAS

4. Intelligence from members suggested that the Task Force could be confident that NCDs would be part of the post-2015 agenda. The Open Working Group currently has identified 17 areas for goals and it seems clear that there will be a health goal. NCDs may well be included as one target. UNDP described the opportunities for positioning NCDs within UNCTs and how to explore opportunities for integrating NCDs into UNDAFs. Upcoming guidance to support countries do this is currently being developed by UNDP and WHO. Engaging with the private sector was discussed. It was clear that agencies have very different approaches. While consistency across different agencies may be difficult to achieve there was agreement that there should be no engagement with the tobacco industry. It was agreed that greater guidance for UNIATF members would be helpful.

Action: IAEA, ITU, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO to lead the development of a virtual Working Group to develop an internal discussion paper on the way forward to implement Paragraphs 22-24 of the UNIATF ToRs in the context of the objectives of the workplan set out in Paragraph 12 of the ToRs.

UNIATF WORKPLAN

5. The Task Force agreed that one individual from the group of agencies leading on each of the 42 areas of action should be identified to report both on operationalization and progress. The Task Force agreed that this should be made as unbureaucratic as possible.

6. ECOSOC has asked the Secretary-General to report on the work of the Task Force in 2015. It was agreed that it would be important to be able to report on both the workplan and the division of tasks and responsibilities. A mapping exercise carried out during the meeting demonstrated clear linkages between: (i) the six objectives of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-20 as set out in the division of tasks and responsibilities and the four action areas of the workplan; and (ii) suggested areas of work under the six objectives of the division of tasks and responsibilities and the 42 actions in the workplan. The conclusion of this exercise was that the Task Force could be confident that if it was delivering effectively on the action plan it would be able to report effectively to ECOSOC in 2015.

Action: UNIATF Secretariat to identify named focal points for each of the 42 actions and ask for regular updates on progress, with simple traffic light progress reports being presented to future Task Force meetings.

JOINT PROGRAMMES¹ AND AGREEMENTS: OVERARCHING APPROACHES, PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

7. WHO and UNFPA presented their plans for a joint global programme on cervical cancer. In the first instance this joint programme would start with these two agencies. A comprehensive approach is being envisaged, including primary prevention (vaccination), secondary prevention (screening), treatment and rehabilitation. On vaccination, existing activities of GAVI, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO were acknowledged.

8. ITU provided an update on the WHO-ITU Be Healthy, Be Mobile initiative. Plans for collaboration between IAEA, IARC and WHO were outlined by IAEA. A joint agreement between UNDP, WB and WHO to take forward key areas of the UNIATF action plan was described by UNDP and WB. FCTC provided an update on their work with the WB and UNODC. There followed a discussion on financing for the various global joint programmes.

Action: UNDP, WB and WHO to develop an internal UNIATF discussion paper on resource mobilisation for implementation of the UNIATF activities included in the 2014-2015 work plan, for a dedicated session on this at the next meeting.

¹ Note: this refers to specific joint activities between two or more of the agencies within the overall context of the UNIATF work plan as per UNDG guidance, rather than funding for the entire workplan of the UNIATF.

MAPPING NCD ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE UNIATF – RESULTS OF SURVEY AND NEXT STEPS

9. WHO presented the results of an initial analysis. A questionnaire had been distributed to 27 agencies. Fifteen agencies responded and 99 activities were recorded. Results were presented graphically (by geography, activity type, risk factor and disease). Discussion suggested that while the exercise had worked to a greater or lesser extent for those providing returns, it had not for some of the others. It was agreed that the mapping exercise was not an accountability exercise, rather a vehicle to assist, harmonise and align our actions and also as an advocacy tool and a signpost for further information. It was agreed that agencies could provide narrative returns if the questionnaire was proving to be too difficult to complete and the Secretariat would then attempt to use all the information collected in the best possible way to provide a visual overview. We agreed that this exercise would not in the first instance be perfect but would allow us to describe a little better what we are doing in a more visual way. We also agreed that some agencies are not yet in a position to provide a full description of their current activities but would not want to be reflected as not involved in NCD prevention and control-related activities. Appropriate disclaimers would therefore need to be included alongside the analysis to reflect the above.

Action: WHO Secretariat to send reminder to agencies yet to provide returns and produce a draft analysis for review by Task Force.

UNIATF COUNTRY MISSIONS: TORS, TIMETABLE AND APPROACH

10. Terms of reference for the upcoming mission (week of 14 July 2014) to Belarus were shared. It was agreed that there needed to be a balance on missions between inclusivity and not overwhelming the country. A core group of agencies for the mission was emerging: UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WB and WHO. Other agencies would engage on the ground through the UNCT. The latest list of countries for missions and timings was also shared and discussed. So far, a tentative country had been identified for all regions – and in two regions, two countries. There was general agreement on the approach being taken.

Action: Secretariat of the UNIATF to provide monthly updates to all Members on outcomes of missions and timetable for future missions.

UNIATF INVOLVEMENT IN THE UN NCD REVIEW 2014

11. It was agreed that there was no formal UNIATF delegation or event for the Review but that individual agencies should make their own arrangements for participation and involvement in (1) the Round Tables and (2) specific side events listed at <http://www.who.int/nmh/events/2014/high-level-unga/en/>. WHO would represent the UNIATF at the Informal interactive hearing with NGOs, CSOs, the private sector and academia" (New York, 19 June 2014) as part of the preparatory process leading to the High-level Meeting of the UNGA to undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of the 2011 Political Declaration on NCDs (New York, 10-11 July 2014)

Action: *Members to ensure that Heads of Agencies consider attending one of two Round Tables on 11 July 2014 on whole-of-government approaches or international cooperation and/or participating in side events. WHO to share the presentation that it plans to deliver on 19 June 2014 at the interactive hearing with the UNIATF in advance for comment.*

FACTS FOR LIFE: HEALTHY LIVING AND THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NCDs IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

12. UNICEF provided an overview on their emerging approach to support the global NCD agenda. They highlighted their increasing commitment to build capacity at all levels of the organization. This was followed by members providing further inputs into the Facts for Life chapter.

Action: *Agencies still to provide comments to UNICEF to do so by return.*

UPDATES ON AGENCY SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES/ISSUES

13. Report backs and updates included the following:

- The joint UNDP/WHO guideline “Integrating UNDAFs in NCDs” is under development. A global baseline of the number of UNDAFs which include NCDs is being established. The consultant leading this work will join the Belarus mission
- The UNDP NCD webinars
- WHO FCTC work on integrating the FCTC into UN and National Development Planning Instruments
- UNDP and WHO currently exploring opportunities to engage on NCDs in cities
- WB’s work on developing an intersectoral/multisectoral tool
- IAEA’s ongoing work on cancer and health more broadly
- A discussion on the UNIATF’s response to harmful use of alcohol was postponed until the next meeting.

DATES AND VENUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING

14. January/February 2015, probably in Geneva. IOC and IOM have expressed interest in hosting. WB said they were interested in hosting the next meeting in the US. This meeting would be preceded by a videoconference in September 2014 which would review the internal discussion papers (under development) on (1) conflict of interest and (2) resource mobilization. Members agreed that in future the UNIATF should identify opportunities to meet in a low- or middle-income country, perhaps at the same time as a joint UNIATF country mission.

Action: *UNIATF Secretariat to liaise with the above agencies to agree the date, venue and hosting arrangements.*

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Annex 1: List of Participants

**THIRD MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON THE
PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES
16 – 17 JUNE 2014
UNICEF, NEW YORK**

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Annex 2: Agenda

THIRD MEETING OF THE UN TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NCDs 16-17 JUNE 2014, UNICEF, NEW YORK

PROGRAMME

Chairs

Oleg Chestnov, ADG, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Cluster, WHO

Nick Alipui, Director and Senior Adviser on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, UNICEF

Moderators

Werner Obermeyer, Senior External Relations Officer, WHO Office at the UN

Nina Schwalbe, Principal Advisor, Health Section, UNICEF NY Headquarters

Kerida McDonald, Senior Advisor, Communication for Development, UNICEF, NY Headquarters

DAY 1: Monday 16 June 2014

09:00 – 09:15 **Welcome and introductions**

09:15 – 10:15 **Update on Progress to Date** (Nicholas Banatvala, Senior Adviser , NCDs and Mental Health, WHO and Douglas Bettcher, Director, Prevention of NCDs, WHO)

- Outcomes of conclusions of ECOSOC discussions (12-13 June 2014), including report to ECOSOC, UNIATF ToRs and division of tasks and responsibilities
- Outcomes of the 67th World Health Assembly (19-24 May 2014), including the Global Coordination Mechanism
- Review of summary of teleconference to finalise the UNIATF workplan (21 March 2014), including review of the agreed UNIATF workplan
- Review of summary of Second UNIATF meeting (29-30 January 2014)
- Second Joint WHO-UNDP letter to UNCTs
- Progress on the UN High-level Review (10-11 July 2014)

10:15 – 11:30

Key Policy Areas

- NCDs in the Post 2015 agenda: is there a UNIATF position? (Werner Schultink, Senior External Relations Officer, WHO, WUN)
- UNCTs, NCDs and development frameworks: role of the UNIATF – how do we get the message out to UNCTs? (Brian Lutz, Policy Specialist AIDs and MDGs, UNDP)
- Engaging with the private sector: towards a unified UNIATF approach. (Menno van Hilten, External Relations Officer NCDs and Mental Health, WHO)

- 11:30 – 11:45** **Coffee break**
- 11:45 – 12:45** **UNIATF workplan** (Nicholas Banatvala, Senior Adviser, NCDs and Mental Health, WHO)
- Monitoring framework
 - Ways of working: operationalizing workstreams
- 12:45 – 13:00** **Joint programmes and agreements: overarching approaches, progress and next steps**
- Presentation on plans and progress for a WHO-UNFPA joint global programme on cervical cancer (Nuriye Ortayli, UNFPA and Andreas Ullrich, Medical Officer, WHO)
 - Update on the WHO-ITU mHealth initiative (Kadi Sall-Beye, ITU)
 - Plans for collaboration between WHO and IAEA (Nelly Enwerem-Bromson, Director Div. of POA for Cancer Therapy, IAEA) and between WHO, WB and UNDP (Montserrat Meiro-Lorenzo, WB and Brian Lutz, Policy Specialist AIDs & MDGs, UNDP)
- 13.00-14.00** **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 14: 45** **Joint programmes and agreements: overarching approaches, progress and next steps**
(continued)
- 14:45 – 15:30** **Mapping NCD activities across the UNIATF – results of survey and next steps**
- 15:30 – 15:50** **Coffee break**
- 15:50 – 16:45** **UNIATF country missions: ToRs, timetable and approach**
(Nicholas Banatvala, Senior Adviser, NCDs and Mental Health, WHO)
- 16:45 – 17:15** **UNIATF involvement in the UN NCD review (10-11 July 2014)**
(Joy St John, Senior Advisor, WHO, WUN)
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DAY 2: Tuesday 17 June 2014

- 09:00 – 9:30** **Focus on Children and Adolescents in the NCD Agenda**
(David Hipgrave, Senior Advisor, Health Section, UNICEF, Headquarters)
- 9:30 – 11:00** **Technical Review of NCD Chapter for “Facts for Life”** Kerida McDonald
- 11:00 – 11:20** **Coffee break**

11:20 – 13:00

Updates on agency specific activities/issues

- Getting UNDAFs in NCDs (UNDP and WHO), (Brian Lutz/Nicholas Banatvala)
- UNDP webinars (UNDP) (**Brian Lutz, UNDP**)
- Others (to be notified in advance)

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14:00 – 14:30

UNIATF meetings: 2014 and 2015 (Menno van Hilten, External Relations Officer NCDs and Mental Health, WHO)

- Dates and venues
- Key issues/themes

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