



# WHO GCM/NCD GENERAL MEETING

5-6 NOVEMBER, 2018  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

ADVANCING  
MULTISTAKEHOLDER  
ACTION

**MEMBER  
STATES**

**UN  
PARTNERS**

**NON  
STATE  
ACTORS**

**COLLABORATIVE ACTION TO  
PREVENT AND CONTROL NCDs**

# About GCM/NCD

The GCM/NCD is a global Member State-led coordinating and engagement platform, established in 2014 by the World Health Assembly to help counteract the growing global health threat of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

The GCM/NCD contributes to accelerating the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2013-2020, and the NCD-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets by fostering high-level NCD commitments through multisectoral and multistakeholder engagement at local, national, regional and global levels.

The GCM/NCD connects and convenes a diverse group of Participants comprising WHO Member States, United Nations organizations and non-State actors around a shared goal to support countries to reduce premature mortality and unnecessary suffering from NCDs.

The GCM/NCD convenes stakeholders to address its five functions:



Participants are entities that have applied and been confirmed to join the GCM/NCD, based on clear eligibility and selection criteria. They are committed and active partners who bring knowledge and experience to support the actions and efforts by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels to prevent and control NCDs.

The GCM/NCD is led by WHO Member States. Other Participants include the following constituencies:

- United Nations funds, programmes and organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, including those participating as a part of the UN Interagency Task Force on NCDs; and
- Non-State actors
  - Nongovernmental organizations
  - Private sector entities (including International business associations)
  - Philanthropic foundations
  - Academic institutions

Please note, only entities, not individuals, are eligible and may become GCM/NCD Participants.

## Where do we stand now?

Premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases constitutes one of the major challenges for development in the 21st century. It affects women and men between the ages of 30 and 70 years and leaves no country untouched: WHO estimates that each year, 15 million people die from an NCD between the ages of 30 and 69 years; over 85% of these “premature deaths” occur in low- and middle income countries.

The global epidemic of premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases is driven by poverty, the impact of the globalization of marketing and trade of products deleterious to health, rapid urbanization and population ageing. Within countries (at all levels of development), noncommunicable diseases particularly affect the poorest and most disadvantaged people. Therefore, premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases is the threat to socioeconomic development.

Premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases in people between the ages of 30 and 70 years can be largely prevented or delayed by implementing the updated set of “best buys” and other recommended interventions for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases endorsed by the Health Assembly in resolution WHA70.11 in May 2017.

Efforts to reach target 3.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals (by 2030 reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being) require that the existing political commitments made at the United Nations General Assembly in 2011 and 2014 be implemented on a dramatically larger scale. The current rate of decline in the number of premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases is insufficient for the target to be met by 2030.

## The General Meeting of the WHO GCM/NCD

The General Meeting of the WHO GCM/NCD will be co-organized by the Government of Switzerland and WHO and in accordance with the modalities set out in Appendix 1 to Annex 3 of document A68/11.

Pursuant to paragraph 12 of the terms of reference of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCD, the GCM/NCD Participants will meet face-to-face to facilitate and enhance coordination of activities, multi-stakeholder engagement and action across sectors at all levels.

The General Meeting of the GCM/NCDs will take place on 5 and 6 November 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland.

# Goal and Objectives

The goal of the General Meeting is to bring together Governments, the United Nations System, and non-State actors (non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, philanthropic foundations and private sector entities) with the aim to galvanize commitments and accelerate multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder action at the local, national, regional and global levels to meet the NCD targets of the WHO Global Action Plan and the NCD (SDG3.4) and the NCD-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The objectives of the General Meeting are the following:

- To highlight action and progress made in mobilizing multisectoral and multistakeholder partnerships to share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to complement the efforts of national Governments towards achieving the nine voluntary global targets of the WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs (2013-2020) and the NCD- (SDG 3.4) and NCD-related targets of the 2030 Agenda;
- To promote and take stock of commitments and pledges made by non-State actors to support national efforts for NCD prevention and control;
- To showcase and identify best practices and enabling factors that make partnerships successful, scalable and sustainable;
- To highlight the key role of the health sector as a steward for policy coherence and universal health coverage for NCDs;
- To call for increased cooperation between Governments and non-State actors, including the private sector, to accelerate country-level action, while avoiding duplication of efforts and potential conflicts of interest;

## Expected Outcomes

The General Meeting outcomes will include:

- Greater understanding of the GCM/NCD's value to help Member States and non-State actors to accelerate the implementation of the commitments delineated in high-level political declarations and outcome documents, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the WHO Global Action Plan 2013-2020 at global, regional national and local levels;
- Increased ownership of the GCM/NCD by its Participants as a platform to increase awareness, encourage innovation, advance multisectoral action, advocate for resource mobilization, share best practices and forge partnerships to enhance the NCD prevention and control at all levels;
- Increased multistakeholder and multisectoral dialogue and communication on how to capitalize on each stakeholder's strength for accelerating action towards SDG 3.4 and improved accountability;
- Agreement on the future strategic directions of the GCM/NCD, taking into account the preliminary results of the GCM/NCD evaluation, outcomes of the UNGA third High-level Meeting on NCDs, and the WHO 13th General Programme of Work.

The General Meeting is expected to result in a concise report. Co-chairs may consider issuing a statement.

# Modalities

The General Meeting will include the following segments:

- Formal plenary meetings
- High-level segment
- Parallel sessions

The General Meeting will provide interpretation services in the six official languages of the United Nations. It will also provide web-conferencing services for Participants unable to attend and will broadcast the proceedings over the internet.”

## Participants

**Participants:** All GCM/NCD Participants will be able to attend - Member States, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations System, the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on NCDs, other intergovernmental organizations, non-State actors – relevant non-governmental organizations, selected private sector entities, philanthropic foundations, and academic institutions. Participation criteria of non-State actors will be in accordance with WHO’s Framework on Engagement with non-State Actors .

## Practical Information

### 1) Directions to the Venue

Geneva’s International  
Conference Center  
Rue de Varembe 17  
CH - 1202 Geneva  
T +41 22 791 91 11

[See on the map](#)

### Parking des Nations:

The parking des Nations is located 50 meters from the CICG.

With more than 2200 places available, you will have no trouble parking your vehicle for the duration of your conference.

[Find the car park](#)

**Free travel on public transport during your stay in Geneva. From the airport to your hotel. You can pick up a free ticket for public transport** from the machine in the baggage collection area at the Arrival level. This Unireso ticket, offered by Genève Aéroport, allows you to use public transport in Geneva free for a period of 80 minutes.

**From the city to the Conference venue**

If you are staying at a hotel, the establishment will offer you the [Geneva Transport Card](#) that allows you to use public transport in Geneva free of charge during your stay.

The Conference venue is reachable with the following urban buses/tram



## 2) Weather in Geneva

Typical temperatures in Geneva in November range from 2 to 9°C and around 9 rainy days per month.

## 3) Power outlets

Electricity in Switzerland comes with 230V at 50Hz (although some hotels might offer 110V two-pin sockets for electric razors). The plugs in use are the two-pin Europlug CEE 7/16, and the three-pin Swiss SEV 1011 (Type J).



CEE 7/16



SEV 1011

Power plugs with two pins (CEE 7/16) can fit both CEE 7/16 and SEV 1011 sockets. In particular, travel adapters with a CEE 7/16 male end can power laptop computers, even if the laptop has a three-pin cable.

## 4) Time zone

Switzerland is in the Central European Time zone (UTC+1 in winter).

## 5) Money

Switzerland uses the Swiss Franc (CHF). Euros may occasionally be accepted, and can be used in most vending machines, including those of the Geneva public transports.

Indicative rates (as of September 2018) for one Swiss Franc (1 CHF): 0.89 Euro; 1.04 US \$.

Credit cards are widely accepted. The most usual are Visa and Mastercard.

## 6) Banking

An office of the x is located close to the University/Museum at x. It is open from 8:30 to 16:30 during the week. There are Automatic Teller Machines (ATM) x.

## 7) Tipping

Prices are calculated to include taxes and service. Therefore, tips are at the client's discretion but are often around 5 or 10% of the check.

## 8) Emergency numbers

Emergency numbers can be reached free of charge from any payphone or from any mobile phone.

- 112 Inter-service European emergency
- 144 Medical emergencies
- 118 Fire brigade
- 117 Police

## **9) Tourism**

Known both as the “smallest of big cities”, or the “city of peace”, Geneva, among other things, is home to the European headquarters of the United Nations. The quayside of Lake Geneva, the parks, the old alleyways and smart boutiques are an invitation to a leisurely stroll. For more information on tourism opportunities, please visit: <http://www.ville-geneve.ch/welcome-geneva/>.