

June 2015



World Health  
Organization



## News update from the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCD (WHO NCD/GCM) and the UN Task Force on NCDs

### Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly

The [Sixty-eighth session of the World Health Assembly \(WHA\)](#) took place in Geneva from 18 to 26 May 2015. Some agenda items relevant to the GCM/NCD and the work on NCDs that were covered at the WHA were:

1. **Follow-up to the 2014 high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to undertake a comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.** The 2016-2017 workplan for the GCM/NCD is Annex 3 of the report ([A68/11](#)).
2. **Programme Budget 2016-2017:** The proposed [Programme Budget 2016-2017](#) was approved with NCDs allocated US\$ 340 million.

Updates and resolutions for other areas relevant to the GCM/NCD and other NNH departments include:

1. [A68/10](#) **Update on the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity**
2. [WHA68.9](#) **Framework of engagement with non-State actors**
3. [WHA68.19](#) **Outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition**

### United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (UNIATF)

**ECOSOC adopts resolution for enhanced action by UN agencies in the fight against NCDs and considers the Report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases**

On 9 June 2015, ECOSOC at its 33rd session adopted a resolution entitled “United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases” (E/2015/L.14), following the consideration of WHO Director-General’s report transmitted by the UN Secretary-General on the progress of the work of the UN Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and control of NCDs ([E/2015/53](#)).

The Resolution encourages:

1. Members of the Task Force to continue to work together in a coordinated manner to support national efforts to implement the commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration

2. Agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to scale up the delivery of actions contained in the workplan of the Task Force;
3. The Task Force to further enhance systematic support to Member States, upon request, at the national level, in efforts to support responses to prevent and control NCDs, including through the establishment of a resident thematic group or equivalent entity on NCDs by United Nations country teams or incorporating NCDs into an existing thematic group to ensure that these issues are integrated into health planning and national development plans and policies, including the design process and implementation of UNDAFs.

### **ECOSOC luncheon seminar on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases**

Following the ECOSOC session on 9 June 2015, the Task Force briefed Ambassadors, senior officials from the Member States and development partners on the work that it has done over the last year and its future plans. The Task Force highlighted joint country missions that had been undertaken in Belarus, Kenya, India, Tonga and Barbados, the development of joint global programs, and its work to support the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The Task Force was represented at the briefing by WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the World Bank.

### **Meetings and events**

#### **Second meeting of the WHO GCM/NCD Working Group on how to realize governments' commitments to provide financing for NCDs**

The second meeting of the Working Group was held in Geneva from 6 to 7 May 2015.

At its first meeting in February 2015, the Working Group decided to have a consultation with organizations relevant to the financing for NCDs. On 6 May, the Working Group had a one day consultation with the following 8 organizations: Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNITAID, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, the NCD Alliance, World Economic Forum, BUPA, USAID and the World Bank. Organizations gave brief presentations of its work and had an exchange of views with Working Group members.

On 7 May, the Working Group decided to issue an interim report of the Working Group. This report will be launched at a WHO side event at the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#) that will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 13 to 16 July 2015. Web-based public comments will be accepted until mid-August 2015, and this will then feed back into the final report.

Summary report of the second meeting and the presentations by relevant organizations on 6 May are posted [here](#).

#### **Second meeting of the WHO GCM/NCD Working Group on how to realize governments' commitments to engage with the private sector for the prevention and control of NCDs**

The second meeting of the Working Group on engagement with the private sector is being held in Geneva from 17 to 18 June 2015.

A consultation with relevant stakeholders will be held on 17 June 2015. The Working Group agreed at its first meeting in February 2015 to consult with private sector entities and, as appropriate, other non-State actors including representatives from NGOs, philanthropic organizations and academic institutions, to inform their work and the development of useful recommendations for the WHO Director-General. In addition, the Working Group will get input from relevant UN agencies and other intergovernmental organizations. The stakeholder consultations will be accessible on the WebEx platform. The WebEx invitation and registration page can be accessed on the GCM/NCD [website](#) or [here](#).

A briefing on the Working Group discussions for Member States is planned on 19 June 2015. The presentation for the briefing will be posted [here](#).

### **Dialogue on NCDs and development cooperation – The meeting report has been published**

The report of the Dialogue on NCDs and development cooperation is now published on the WHO GCM/NCD [website](#).

The discussions among participants during the two-day dialogue clearly established that, while addressing NCDs must be country driven and financed to a significant degree through domestic resources, not all developing countries were in a position to address NCDs alone, and that consequently more catalytic support was needed from elsewhere, including from international development agencies, United Nations organizations, international financial institutions and NGOs. Participants conveyed a sense of urgency in calling on governments and the international community to scale up action for the prevention and control of NCDs at local, national and global levels.

An open call for comments on the report will run until 31 August 2015 and enable stakeholders to continue the Dialogue virtually beyond the 20-21 April 2015 event. Comments should be submitted by email to [gcmncd@who.int](mailto:gcmncd@who.int) with “Dialogue report comments” in the subject line. The report on the Dialogue and other meeting documents can be found [here](#).

### **The Dialogue continues – Call for comments to the Dialogue meeting report (June-August)**

An open call for comments on the report has been made on the WHO GCM/NCD website. The call for comments will run until 31 August 2015 and enable stakeholders to continue the Dialogue virtually beyond the 20-21 April 2015 event. Comments should be submitted by email to [gcmncd@who.int](mailto:gcmncd@who.int) with “Dialogue report comments” in the subject line. The report on the Dialogue can be found [here](#).

### **Help improve the knowledge base on NCD, Poverty & Development – Call for content for the GCM/NCD website**

An open call will soon be made on the GCM website for new content that can strengthen the knowledge base on NCD, poverty and development ([www.who.int/global-coordination-mechanism/poverty-development/](http://www.who.int/global-coordination-mechanism/poverty-development/)). This is an opportunity for interested parties to propose material to be reflected on the GCM/NCD web page on NCDs, poverty and development. The GCM especially welcomes concrete cases and country examples that demonstrate how NCD prevention and control:

- a) have been incorporated into poverty reduction strategies and development initiatives, and/or how this could be promoted;
- b) have benefited from international cooperation in the framework of South South, North South or Triangular cooperation, and/or how this could be promoted.

Proposed content should be submitted by email to [gcmncd@who.int](mailto:gcmncd@who.int) with subject “Dialogue – Knowledge base”.

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### SAVE THE DATE

*The next Dialogue of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs  
will take place in Geneva, Switzerland on  
**30 November to 1 December 2015.***

*The dialogue will focus on how to strengthen international cooperation  
on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases within the  
framework of North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation.*

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## **Publications and Resources**

**A Proposal for a WHO-UNDP Global Joint Programme to Mobilize Country Action** that aims to support countries fulfil their national commitments to implement health-in-all-policies, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches for noncommunicable diseases can be found [here](#).

An information sheet by the Integrated IAEA-IARC-WHO Joint Project on **Towards UN Joint Action on Cancer Control** can be found [here](#). The purpose of the project is to increase national capacity to prevent, control and monitor cancer within a comprehensive cancer control framework.

Meeting documents from the **Dialogue on NCDs and development cooperation** can be found [here](#).

The Co-Chairs’ report for the **Working group on how to realize governments’ commitments to provide financing for the control and prevention of NCDs (Working Group 5.1)** can be found [here](#).

The Co-Chairs' report for the second meeting of the **Working Group on how to realize governments' commitments to engage with the private sector for the prevention and control of NCDs (Working Group 3.1)** will be posted [here](#).

#### Upcoming meetings and events

- 17-18 June: 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Group meeting on engagement with the private sector. Please click [here](#) to register to join the 17 June stakeholder consultation via WebEx
- 19 June: Member State briefing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Working Group on engagement with the private sector
- 23 June: Webinar on the harmful use of alcohol via WebEx, 16.00-17.00 Geneva time. Please click [here](#) to register and join the webinar.
- 21-22 September: The third meeting of the Working Group on private sector engagement
- 23-24 September: The third meeting of the Working Group to provide financing for NCDs
- 30 November – 1 December : Dialogue on how to strengthen North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation on NCDs

#### Lunch time seminars and webinars

A webinar on the harmful use of alcohol will be held using the WebEx platform on Tuesday, 23 June from 16.00 to 17.00 Geneva time. Please click [here](#) to register and join the webinar.

#### Important Links

- WHO GCM/NCD <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-coordination-mechanism/>
- NCD Homepage: <http://www.who.int/nmh/>
- NCD Tools: <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-tools/>
- UNIATF: <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-task-force/>

The WHO GCM/NCD can be contacted at [gcmncd@who.int](mailto:gcmncd@who.int).

The UNIATF can be contacted at [unncdtaskforce@who.int](mailto:unncdtaskforce@who.int).

#### Vacancies

No vacancies for this month.