



**UN INTERAGENCY
TASK FORCE ON NCDs**



**Twenty-third meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency
Task Force on the Prevention and Control of
Non-communicable Diseases**

30–31 October 2024

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This publication contains the collective views of the twenty-third meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and does not necessarily represent the decisions or policies of WHO.

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A. Objectives and participating agencies

1. The twenty-third meeting of the United Nations (UN) Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (hereafter Task Force) was held on 30–31 October 2024 at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Twenty-four Task Force member organizations participated.¹ WHO and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) co-chaired the meeting. The agenda and list of participants are included as Annex 1 and Annex 2.
2. The main objectives of the meeting were to: (i) review progress on actions agreed at the twenty-second Task Force meeting (05–07 March 2024); (ii) prepare for the Fourth High-level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs); (iii) review progress and identify actions to strengthen joint programmes and other workstreams; and (iv) identify actions to promote the integration of NCDs and mental health into United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs).

B. Review of actions agreed at the twenty-second Task Force meeting

3. The Task Force Secretariat reviewed actions agreed at the twenty-second meeting (Annex 3).

Actions

B1. Continue to identify opportunities to highlight NCDs and mental health and the work of the Task Force at meetings of senior management and governing bodies of Task Force members, taking into account the findings of the independent joint evaluation of the Task Force (*Task Force Secretariat and Task Force members as appropriate*).

B2. Continue to engage with UN regional commissions to develop a collaborative plan of action to raise awareness about NCDs and mental health and the work of the Task Force, taking into account the findings of the independent joint evaluation of the Task Force (*Task Force Secretariat, UN regional commissions, and Task Force members as appropriate*).

C. Tobacco control

4. The Convention Secretariat informed Task Force members that the Eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is planned for the [week of 17 November 2025](#) and the Fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP4) to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products in the [week of 24 November 2025](#). Both meetings will take place in Geneva, Switzerland.
5. The Convention Secretariat informed members about decision [FCTC/COP10\(20\)](#), on the Contribution of the WHO FCTC to the promotion and fulfilment of human rights. The decision: (i) encourages Parties to consider including WHO FCTC principles and implementation efforts when engaging with the UN human rights mechanisms; and (ii) requests the Convention Secretariat to foster coordination and collaboration with

¹ Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Development Law Organization (IDLO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), United Nations Women (UN Women), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat), United Nations Nutrition (UN Nutrition), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Road Safety Fund (UNRSF), United Nations University (UNU), World Bank, WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Secretariat (Convention Secretariat), World Health Organization (WHO).

entities in the UN system pursuing human rights mandates in order to raise awareness of the importance of the WHO FCTC implementation in the fulfilment of human rights.

6. In line with [UN Resolution 63/8](#), the WHO Director-General has written to IAEA's Director-General to express concern regarding the continued sale of nicotine and tobacco products in the UN Commissary in Vienna.

7. An update on progress on the [Alternative Livelihoods Project](#) was provided. The project has now supported over 10,000 farmers across Kenya and Zambia shift from growing tobacco to nutritious crops.

8. The suggested theme of World No Tobacco Day 2025 is 'Unmasking the Appeal: Exposing Industry Tactics on Tobacco and Nicotine Products'. If approved by the WHO Director-General, the campaign will highlight the way that industry enhances the attractiveness of tobacco and nicotine products across all age groups.

9. A new [publication](#) was shared summarizing the current evidence on the association between tobacco use and HIV. It is also intended as an advocacy tool for the integration of screening for tobacco use, assessing willingness to quit, and offering brief advice, and supporting the initiation of pharmacotherapy as part of standard HIV care practice.

10. In 2025, the WHO FCTC will celebrate 20 years since it entered into force. The Convention Secretariat will launch a campaign in 2025 to highlight tobacco control as an accelerator for sustainable development and will seek support from the Task Force to amplify this message.

Actions

COP11 and MOP4

C1. Continue to encourage intergovernmental organizations accredited as observers (including country, sub-regional and regional offices where appropriate) to participate in COP and MOP meetings (*Convention and Task Force secretariats*).

C2. Explore establishing a booth to highlight the work of the Task Force on tobacco control at future meetings (COP11 and beyond) (*Convention and Task Force secretariats*).

Human Rights

C3. In line with FCTC/COP10(20) continue to raise the visibility of the WHO FCTC as a tool to promote the right to the highest attainable standard of health and the broader human rights agenda in UN fora (*Convention Secretariat, Task Force Secretariat, Human Rights Group*).

Tobacco-free UN campuses

C4. Contact the UN campus administration in Nairobi to stop on-campus sales of tobacco products (*Convention and Task Force Secretariats, and WHO*).

Alternative livelihoods

C5. Share the most recent report on the outcomes of the alternative livelihoods project with Task Force members (*Task Force Secretariat and WHO*).

C6. Provide a full briefing on the alternative livelihoods project at the twenty-fourth Task Force meeting (*Convention and Task Force Secretariats, and WHO*).

World No Tobacco Day 2025

C7. Encourage Task Force members to participate in the 2025 World No Tobacco Day campaign (*WHO and all members of the Task Force*).

Tobacco and HIV

C8. Share the Tobacco and HIV brief with the Inter-Agency working group on NCDs and communicable diseases comorbidities (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO and other members of the Task Force as appropriate*).

Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

C9. Task Force members to provide inputs into joint United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Convention Secretariat publications on (i) tackling illicit tobacco to advance the SDGs; and (ii) available support for countries from UN agencies and international organisations on tackling illicit trade in tobacco products (*Convention Secretariat, Task Force Secretariat, UNDP and other members of the Task Force as appropriate*).

20th anniversary of the entering into force of the WHO FCTC

C10. Convention Secretariat and Task Force Secretariat to work with Task Force members to identify ways of marking the 20th anniversary of the entering into force of the WHO FCTC during 2025 (*All*).

D. Digital Health

11. ITU, WHO, and Task Force Secretariat presented their joint activities, highlighting the business case report [Going Digital for Noncommunicable Diseases: The Case for Action](#) and its [launch at the 79th UN General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#). Digital health investment cases are underway in Kyrgyzstan and The Gambia, with new country requests emerging. An update on the revitalised [Be He@lthy, Be Mobile](#) initiative was provided.

Actions

D1. Encourage Task Force members to respond to a very brief (2 minute) survey that is being circulated to a wide range of stakeholders to guide the future direction of Be He@lthy, Be Mobile (*All*).

D2. Explore opportunities for collaboration with the [African Union's Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa \(2020-2030\)](#) and Africa CDC, including synergies for joint strategies and blueprint solutions (*ITU and WHO*).

D3. Report on the progress of country-level digital health investment cases for NCD in Kyrgyzstan and Gambia at the next Task Force meeting (*ITU and Task Force Secretariat*).

E. WHO Global Alcohol Action plan 2022-2030 and the SAFER initiative

12. WHO informed Task Force members that the WHO Director-General will be writing to twenty-four heads of UN system agencies asking for increased support for the [Global Alcohol Action Plan 2022-2030](#). Further discussions were also held on a potential alcohol awareness day and a model policy for UN interaction with the alcohol industry in follow up to those at the twenty-third meeting. The results of an [analysis on the inclusion of alcohol in UNSDCF](#)s which were presented during the UNGA were also discussed.

Actions

E1. Once WHO Director-General's letter is issued, Task Force focal points to work with heads of agencies to provide timely responses. Task Force Secretariat to support this process and collate responses to drive

forward an ever-stronger whole-of-UN responses to support Member States tackle harmful use of alcohol (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO and relevant members of the Task Force as appropriate*)

E2. Continue to explore options regarding a dedicated day each year to raise awareness about the harmful impact of alcohol (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO and relevant members of the Task Force as appropriate*).

E3. Continue to explore the potential for a model policy for the way that UN system agencies interact with the alcohol industry (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO and other members of the Task Force*).

F. Joint independent evaluation of the Task Force

13. The emerging findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Task Force evaluation were presented by the joint independent evaluation team. The next step is submission of a draft final report to the WHO Evaluation Office, the Task Force Secretariat, the Evaluation Reference Group and Evaluation Management Group for final comment before a final report is issued. The Task Force Secretariat will then lead the process of developing a management response.

Actions

F1. WHO Evaluation Office, Task Force Secretariat, Task Force Evaluation Reference Group, and Task Force Evaluation Management Group to review the draft report ahead of the joint independent evaluation team submitting their final report (*WHO Evaluation Office, Task Force Secretariat, Task Force Evaluation Management and Reference Groups*).

F2. Task Force Secretariat to lead the process of developing the management response in consultation with Task Force members (*Task Force Secretariat*).

G. Seventy ninth UN General Assembly and preparations for the Fourth NCD High-level meeting during the Eighty General Assembly

14. The Task Force Secretariat and WHO provided updates on events at the Seventy ninth UNGA, including the [11th Friends of the Task Force Meeting](#), that included the [launch of a series of briefs on health taxes](#), and the third annual gathering of the [Global Group of Heads of State and Government for NCDs and mental health](#). WHO briefed Task Force members on the [preparatory process](#) for the Fourth High-level Meeting of the UNGA on the prevention and control of NCDs. WHO and the World Bank shared the outcomes of the [International Dialogue on Sustainable Financing for NCDs and mental health](#).

Actions

G1. Task Force Secretariat to ensure that the Task Force and its achievements are reflected in the WHO Director-General's report to the UN Secretary-General on progress since the Third High-level Meeting 2025 (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO, and other members of the Task Force as appropriate*).

G2. Task Force Secretariat to continue to work with WHO to ensure that Task Force members are central to the preparation of the Fourth High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2025 (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO, and other members of the Task Force as appropriate*).

G3. Task Force Secretariat to share the report of the International Dialogue on Sustainable Financing for NCDs and mental health once finalized (*Task Force Secretariat*).

G4. Task Force Secretariat to update the Task Force's Terms of Reference to reflect the political

declarations from all UNGA high-level meetings as well as ECOSOC resolutions and decisions on the work of the Task Force (*Task Force Secretariat*).

H. Updates on selected joint workstreams and programmes

15. United for Global Mental Health provided an update on the Interagency Working Group on Mental Health Comorbidities, including the [25th International AIDS Conference](#) side event on integrating mental health into HIV prevention, treatment, and care, and the ongoing Global Fund Grant Cycle 7 tracking exercise on NCDs and mental health integration.

16. The UN-Nutrition Secretariat described activities of the Nutrition Technical Working Group, including supporting the organization of a joint programming mission in Cabo Verde and finalizing the publication on the methodology for nutrition investment cases. In addition, the UN-Nutrition Secretariat facilitated inputs from UN-Nutrition member agencies on the WHO discussion paper 2025-2030 World Health Assembly global maternal, infant and young child nutrition targets and proposal for process indicators, and participated in the fifty-second session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to discuss the implementation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines to Support the [Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security](#).

17. The Task Force Secretariat outlined the Human Rights Team's 2024-2025 workplan, which includes a joint programming mission to Liberia that will pilot the recently developed theory of change, engaging with relevant UN human rights mechanisms, including driving forward action on the WHO FCTC (see paragraph 5 above), and disseminating [existing resources](#) and conducting capacity building activities.

18. WHO provided an update on the activities of the UN Joint Action Group that was established to support the Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative.

19. UNHCR and WHO provided an update on the work of the Interagency Working Group on NCDs in Humanitarian Settings, which has now been in existence for 10 years. UNHCR and WHO also described joint activities between WHO's Health Emergencies and NCD departments, with plans to publish an operational manual on NCDs in humanitarian emergencies. Additionally, UNHCR and WHO emphasized the importance of incorporating recommendations from the Global High-Level Technical Meeting on NCDs in Humanitarian Settings in the preparatory process of the Fourth NCD High-level Meeting.

20. UN Habitat informed Task Force members on (i) the upcoming World Urban Forum, including the UN Habitat, WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, Task Force Secretariat-led side event on [Working in partnership to improve health and wellbeing in urban settings](#); (ii) the IOC and UN Habitat collaboration on Sport for Sustainable Urban Development; and (iii) plans to further investigate the links between urban crime, violence, drug use, and NCDs, as well as their public health costs.

21. WHO reminded Task Force members of the global burden of sensory impairments and the inclusion of UN system action in the [UNGA resolution on vision](#) and World Health Assembly resolutions on [prevention of deafness and hearing loss](#) and [integrated people-centred eye care](#). WHO described ongoing engagement with UNICEF, Universal Postal Union (UPU), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and ITU to take this work forward.

22. ILO and WHO informed Task Force members about the development of an ILO-WHO framework on healthy, safe, and resilient workplaces, as well as an ILO, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), and WHO program aimed at preventing carcinogen exposure. ILO provided updates on specific activities concerning asbestos management, pesticide safety, climate change impacts, psychosocial risks in the workplace, and the development of standards for chemical hazards in the workplace.

23. IDLO and WHO described the ongoing activities in ten countries across the WHO Africa and South East Asia regions under the [Global Regulatory and Fiscal Capacity Building Programme](#) (RECAP) for promoting healthy diets and physical activity. Examples of RECAP priority areas include nutrition labelling, restrictions on marketing of unhealthy foods, fiscal policies to promote healthy diets and physical activity, and national physical activity policies.

24. WHO provided an update on: (i) the [WHO Global Report on Assistive Technology](#); (ii) the country-level assistive technology investment case methodology that is being piloted in Bangladesh and Colombia; (iii) the development of a WHO Model Priority Assistive Products List; and (iv) the [WHO Training in Assistive Products](#). WHO also described the ongoing efforts to mobilize support for access to assistive technology and rehabilitation in humanitarian crisis.

Actions

Mental Health Comorbidities

H1. At the twenty-fourth Task Force meeting, present the results of the Global Funds Grant Cycle 7 tracking exercise on NCDs, mental health and substance use conditions (*United for Global Mental Health and UNAIDS*).

Nutrition and NCDs Working Group

H2. Continue to progress on planning a joint programming mission to Cabo Verde with a focus on NCDs and nutrition and in line with the commitments made in the 2023 Bridgetown Declaration (*UN-Nutrition Secretariat, Task Force Secretariat, WHO, and other Task Force Members as appropriate*).

H3. Pilot-test the revised Nutrition Guidance in at least one country to generate evidence about policy and legislative implementation (*Nutrition and NCDs Working Group*).

H4. Publish and disseminate the methodology for nutrition investment cases. Encourage uptake in one country through a multisectoral approach and with new and/or updated economic tools (*Nutrition and NCDs Working Group*).

H5. Encourage use of country voices and stories to showcase cost-effective and affordable interventions aimed at preventing diet-related NCDs (*Nutrition and NCDs Working Group*).

Human Rights Team

H6. Following the planned mission to Liberia in early 2025, hold a special session on human rights at a Task Force meeting (*Human Rights Team*).

NCDs in emergencies

H7. Once finalized, Task Force Secretariat to share the final report of the Global High-Level Technical Meeting on NCDs in Humanitarian Settings and the operational manual on NCDs in humanitarian settings (*WHO and Task Force Secretariat*).

NCDs and urban health

H8. Use WUF12 to explore opportunities to develop linkages between the Task Force and existing collaborations with cities and mayors (*Task Force Secretariat, UN Habitat and WHO*).

H9. At the twenty-fourth Task Force meeting, update Task Force members on the activities conducted by UN Habitat on the links between crime and drug policies in cities with health and NCDs (*UN Habitat*).

H10. Further the collaboration between IOC and UN Habitat on a global partnership on sport for sustainable urban development, and explore the opportunities to mobilise resources for the Health4Life Fund (*IOC, Task Force Secretariat, and UN Habitat*).

Addressing NCDs in the workplace

H11. Continue exploring opportunities to collaborate with UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty body mechanisms, on prevention and control of NCDs in the workplace (*ILO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [OHCHR], and WHO*).

H12. Bring the perspective of NCDs in the workplace to Task Force missions and explore how to engage with UN offices in the country to improve occupational health and NCD risk factors (*ILO, Task Force Secretariat, and WHO*).

Addressing sensory impairments: an integrated approach

H13. Continue to develop action across the UN system to support Member States in strengthening eye and hearing health, in line with UN and World Health Assembly resolutions (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO and Task Force Members as appropriate*).

Assistive technology

H14. Invite Task Force members to a webinar to discuss how members can support the implementation of the 10 recommendations of the WHO Global Report on Assistive Technology (*Task Force Secretariat, WHO, and all Task Force members*).

H15. Explore with the Task Force's Human rights Team on the possibility of briefing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (*Human Rights Team, Task Force Secretariat and WHO*).

H16. Provide an updated at the twenty-fourth Task Force meeting on the results of the pilot assistive technology investment cases, development of a global road map on access to assistive technology, and progress in integrating and raising resources for assistive technology into humanitarian crisis (*Task Force Secretariat and WHO*).

I. Chronic respiratory diseases

25. WHO, including the Special Envoy for Chronic Respiratory Diseases described the burden of chronic respiratory diseases (CRDs) and need to increase action on this neglected NCD. WHO also presented a work plan aimed at integrating the prevention and control of CRDs into primary care.

Action

I1. Task Force Secretariat to explore with WHO and the WHO Special Envoy for CRDs on opportunities to use the Task Force as a platform to support action on CRDs (*Task Force Secretariat and WHO*).

J. Health4Life Fund

26. The Health4Life Fund Secretariat, UNDP and UNICEF provided an update on activities, noting that the first grant funded programming is now finalized with two beneficiary countries, Rwanda and Zambia, and that a second grant cycle will be announced soon. Plans are also in hand to establish a global South-South platform to exchange best practice. Efforts continue to raise additional funds.

Action

J1. Continue to drive forward the Fund's [resource mobilization and operations strategy](#) in line with the Fund's Terms of reference (*H4LF Secretariat, UNDP/UNICEF/WHO core team*).

K. NCD2030

27. UNDP and the Task Force Secretariat provided an update on the [UNDP/WHO Joint Programme to catalyse multisectoral action on NCDs](#) (NCD 2030). The update highlighted: (i) that investment cases have been completed in 75 countries; (ii) the launch of a [report series](#) to guide the development, strengthening, and implementation of health taxes; and (iii) [outcomes of the joint UNDP/WHO country activities](#) focused on enhancing NCD and mental health governance and fiscal measures. Discussions were held on how to best leverage national investment cases to demonstrate the financial incentives for scaling up responses to NCDs and mental health and how the Health4Life Fund could support recommendations coming out of the investment cases.

Action

K1. Organize an awareness-raising session on investment cases for UN missions in New York (*Task Force Secretariat, UNDP and WHO*).

K2. Coordinate with the H4LF Fund on how to drive forward investment case recommendations through country grants and the South-South platform (*H4LF and Task Force Secretariat and UNDP*).

K3. Develop a summary of findings from a selection of institutional context analyses conducted to date as part of supporting Member States in their preparation for the Fourth High-level Meeting (*Task Force Secretariat and UNDP*).

K4. Explore the potential for more structured collaboration with ITU as part of NCD2030 (*ITU, Task Force Secretariat and UNDP*).

L. Special Session on the integration of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCFs

28. A special session was conducted to discuss the integration of NCDs and mental health into United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs). The UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) explained how UNSDCFs are built and translated into joint programs. UN Nutrition Secretariat described how they have supported countries in integrating nutrition into UNSDCFs, while the Task Force Secretariat shared the results from recent analyses on how NCDs, their risk factors, and mental health are reflected within these frameworks.

Actions

L1. Conduct an in-depth analysis on the inclusion of tobacco in UNSDCFs to be launched during the 20th year of the FCTC coming into force (*Convention and Task Force secretariats, and WHO*).

L2. Develop a peer-review publication that brings together analysis to date on how NCDs and mental health are included in UNSDCFs, including trends over time (*Task Force Secretariat*).

L3. Maintain ongoing support to UN country teams in countries with an expiring UNSDCF to highlight the opportunities of including NCDs and mental health as a development priority (*Task Force Secretariat, All*).

M. Other updates

29. The Task Force Secretariat provided an update on country missions including support for developing and finalising national NCD multisectoral action plans in Eswatini and Namibia, as well as plans for UN joint missions in Cabo Verde, Liberia and Thailand. UNDP informed the meeting that the evaluation of the Algerian multisectoral action plan has been finalized and was pending publication.

30. The WHO Global Coordination Mechanism (GCM) for NCDs shared updates on recent publications, including a [compendium of NCD and mental health multisectoral actions](#) with 17 country case studies and a [decision-making tool](#) for private sector engagement. They announced results of the [4th NCD Lab cycle](#), selecting five grassroots initiatives from 82 submissions, mainly from Africa, as the most promising primary health care practices to support local communities. The [Second GCM General Meeting](#) to accelerate multisectoral and multistakeholder NCD action is scheduled for April 2025 and its outcomes will support preparations for the Fourth NCD High-Level Meeting.

31. On behalf of the WHO Mental Health and Substance Abuse Department, the Task Force Secretariat described plans to publish a guidance for government sectors on policy and strategic actions to protect and promote mental health and well-being. UNDP described their experience in developing the [Task force NCD sector briefs](#).

Actions

M1. Finalize the Terms of Reference of the mission in Thailand on NCDs and air pollution (*Task Force Secretariat, UNEP UN Nutrition, and WHO*).

M2. Invite Task Force members to participate in a webinar to start the process of providing inputs into the development of the WHO guidance on policy and strategic actions to protect and promote mental health and well-being for key government sectors (*Task Force Secretariat and WHO*).

N. Task Force awards

32. The Task Force Secretariat informed Task Force members that the 14 winners of the 2024 Task Force awards were announced during the [Friends of the Task Force meeting](#) at the UN General Assembly. The meeting endorsed the proposal from the Task Force Secretariat for the awards to be run in 2025. A network of former Task Force awards winners is being established to share experience and encourage ever greater action.

Action

N1. Continue to build the network of former winners to determine the impact of the award, encourage continued action and share best practices (*Task Force Secretariat*).

N2. Share the recommendation from the Task Force for the awards to be held again in 2025 with the WHO Director-General. Advertise the 2025 Task Force Awards early in the year with a focus on Type 1 Diabetes (*Task Force Secretariat*).

O. Report to ECOSOC

33. Task Force members will be requested to provide inputs to the next ECOSOC report in the second quarter of 2025.

P. Dates and venues of future Task Force meetings

34. It was agreed that the twenty-fourth meeting will be held in the second quarter of 2025, in a hybrid approach.

Action

P1. Task Force Secretariat to identify a venue and host for the twenty-fourth meeting.

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Annex 1. Summary Agenda – full agenda available to Task Force members on EZCollab

Co-moderators:

Werner Obermeyer (WHO Office at the United Nations)

Hani Eskandar (ITU)

Day 1: Wednesday 30 October 2024

Time	Agenda Item
Agenda item 1 10.00–10.15	Welcome and introductions
Agenda item 2 10.15–10.30	Review of actions agreed at the 22 nd Task Force meeting
Agenda item 3 10.30–12.10	Updates from the Convention Secretariat and WHO No Tobacco group (COP11 and MOP4, human rights and tobacco, tobacco-free UN campuses, Alternative livelihoods, World No Tobacco Day, and the 20th anniversary of the entering into force of the WHO FCTC)
Agenda item 4 12.10–12.30	Digital health
Agenda item 5 14.00–14.20	Global alcohol action plan and SAFER
Agenda item 6 14.20–15.35	Task Force evaluation
Agenda item 7 15.45–17.15	Preparations for the Fourth High Level Meeting on NCDs

Day 2: Thursday 31 October 2024

Time	Agenda Item
Agenda item 8 10.30–11.30	Updates on selected Task Force thematic working groups (mental health comorbidities, nutrition, human rights, cervical cancer, and NCD in emergencies)
Agenda item 9 11.30–12.30	Updates on selected Task Force workstreams (urban health, sensory impairments, workplace health, RECAP, assistive technology)
Agenda item 10 14.00–14.15	Chronic Respiratory Diseases
Agenda item 11 14.15–14.35	Health4Life Fund
Agenda item 12 14.35–14.55	NCD2030
Agenda item 13 14.55–15.40	Strengthening the inclusion of NCDs and mental health into UNSDCFs
Agenda item 14 15.40–16.25	Other updates from Members
Agenda item 15 16.25–16.35	Updates from the Task Force Secretariat
Agenda item 16 16.35–16.50	Review of action points
Agenda item 17 16.50–17.00	Closing remarks

Annex 2. List of participants

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Jae Kyoung Kim

Health Specialist, Human and Social Development

Vasoontara S. Yiengprugsawan

Health Sector Group Secretariat

EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Derran Williams

Principal Health & Safety Officer

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Trudy Wijnhoven

Nutrition Officer

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Alexia J. Alford

Nutrition specialist

Yavuz Anacak

Radiation Oncologist, Applied Radiotherapy and Radiation Biology Section, Division of Human Health

Victor Ochieng Owino

Nutrition Specialist

Miriam Mikhail

Diagnostic radiologist, Division of human health

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION

Maria Chiara Campisi

Health Law Programme Coordinator

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Grace Monica Halim

Occupational Safety and Health Specialist

Kirubel Mussie

Junior Occupational and Safety Officer

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Saurabh Mishra

Technical Officer

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Roman Chestnov

Digital Services Project Officer

Hani Eskandar

Head, Digital Services Division

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

Rory Nefdt

Advisor Health, Head of Child and Community Health

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION OFFICE

Lily Alidri Patience

Policy Specialist on System-wide Programming

Janine Theresa Chase

Programme Officer

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Daniel Grafton

Policy Specialist

Odd Hanssen

Development and Health Economist

Daisy Lanvers

Health Economics Analyst, Health and Development

Emily Roberts

Policy Analyst, Health and Development

Roy Small

Policy Specialist, Health and NCDs

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Catherine Carty

UNESCO Chair for Inclusive Sport

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Muhammed Omotola

Associate Programme Officer in the Pollution and Health Unit

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Michael Woodman

Senior Public Health Officer

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

Graham Alabaster

Chief Waste Management & Sanitation, Urban Basic Services Branch

UNITED NATIONS NUTRITION

Kathryn Ogden

Technical Officer, UN-Nutrition Secretariat

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Petra ten Hoope-Bender

Technical Adviser, Sexual and Reproductive Health

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Zoheir Elkhatib

Senior Medical Officer

UNITED NATIONS ROAD SAFETY FUND

Nneka Henry

Head of the UN Road Safety Fund Secretariat

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

David McCoy

Public health Specialist and Professor of Global Public Health

UNITED NATIONS WOMEN

Rajnish Prasad

Regional Health and HIV Specialist

WORLD BANK

Tonny Muthee

Health Specialist

WHO FOUNDATION

Geoffrey So

Global Health & External Relations Leader

WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL SECRETARIAT

Kelvin Khaw Chuan Heng

Programme Manager

Rachelle Mendoza Jacinto

External Relations Officer

Sabina Timco Iacazzi

Treaty OFFICER

Carmen Willen

External Relations Officer

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Housin Alshamali

Global Health Policy and Partnerships, Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs

Prebo Barango

Cross-cutting Specialist (NCDs and Special Initiatives)

Faten Ben Abdelaziz

Coordinator for Health Promotion, Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases

Daria Berlina

Technical Officer, Global NCD Platform

Francesco Branca

Director of the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development

Raffaella Casolino

Technical Officer, Cancer Team

José Luis Castro

WHO Special Envoy on Chronic respiratory Diseases

Katia de Pinho Campos

Head, Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs

Shelly Chadha

Technical Officer, Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Loss

Daniel Chisholm

Mental Health Specialist, Department of Mental Health and Substance Use

Tea Collins

Cross cutting lead, Global NCD Platform

Rolando Enrique Domingo

Coordinator, Management of Noncommunicable Diseases WPRO

Christopher Fitzpatrick

Executive officer Universal Health Coverage | Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases (UCN)

Guy Fones

Acting Director, NCD Department

Susana Lidia Gomez Reyes

Consultant, Gender, Equity and Human Rights team

Sophie Gummy

Technical Officer, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health

Rachel Mary Hammonds

Consultant, Gender, Equity and Human Rights Team

Martyna Hogendorf

Technical Officer, NCD Capacity Building)

Andre Ilbawi

Technical Lead, Cancer

Stuart Keel

Technical Officer, Blindness Prevention

Eva Kiegele

Technical officer at WHO Office at the United Nations

Caroline Mukoya

Assistant to Director Global NCD Platform

Dorothy Amaleck Ngajilo,

Consultant, Occupational and Workplace Health

Werner Obermeyer

Director, WHO Office at the United Nations

Dag Rekve

Senior Technical Officer, Alcohol, Drugs and Addictive Behaviours

Kathryn Robertson

Technical Officer, Department of Health Promotion

Elisabet Ruiz Cairó

Legal consultant

Sarah Rylance

Medical Officer

Kerstin Schotte

Medical Officer, No Tobacco

Nashwa Skalk

Technical Officer, Cervical Cancer

Kylie Shae

Team Lead, Access to Assistive Technology

Shamsuzzoha Babar Syed

Head, Policy and Partnerships, WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care

Robert Angelo Totanes

Technical Officer

Giuseppe Troisi

Technical Officer

Surabhi Joshi

Lead, Country Implementation Digital Health

Mark Humphrey Van Ommeren

Head, Mental Health Unit

UNIATF SECRETARIAT**Mamka Anyona**

Policy and Programming, Health4Life Fund

Nick Banatvala

Head of Secretariat

Scott Chiossi

Technical Officer

Ilaria Corazza

Consultant, Country Support and Research

Alexey Kulikov

External Relations Officer

Alexandra Ladak

Administrative Assistant

Linda Merieau

Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, Health4Life Fund

Neneh Sallah

Consultant, Digital Health and Innovation

Carolyn Wu

Intern

INVITED OBSERVERS**TASK FORCE EVALUATION TEAM****Florianne Gaillardin**

Independent Consultant

Sugitha Sureshkumar

Independent Consultant

UNITED FOR GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH

Erin Ferenchick

Senior Consultant

Annex 3. Review of actions agreed at the twenty-second Task Force meeting, 05-07 March 2024, Geneva (as presented by the Secretariat on Day 1).

B. Review of the summary of the twenty first Task Force meeting

B1. Continue to identify opportunities to highlight NCDs and mental health and the work of the Task Force at meetings of senior management and governing bodies of Task Force members (Task Force Secretariat and Task Force members as appropriate).

The Secretariat has not been made aware of any opportunities since the last meeting. We have highlighted the importance of this issue with the Evaluation Team.

B2. Convene Task Force members to explore options on marking 10 years since the World Health Assembly resolution on palliative care (IAEA, INCB, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

IAEA, Task Force Secretariat, UNODC, WHO, and the Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance met to agree side events at WHA77 and World Cancer Congress. The group also provided inputs to WHO-WISH joint report on palliative care. Ongoing engagement now subsumed under the WHO palliative care working group with UN agencies joining as observers.

B3. Continue to engage with UN regional commissions on development of a collaborative plan of action to raise awareness about NCDs and mental health and the work of the Task Force (Task Force Secretariat, UN regional commissions, and Task Force members as appropriate).

An initial set of calls were held with the UN regional commissions where work in the areas of NCDs and mental health were discussed. A lot of interest in our work – many are already members of the Task Force. To follow up after this meeting, in particular in the run up to Fourth High-level Meeting.

B4. Continue to explore opportunities to use existing or, where appropriate, establish informal networks of parliamentarians and ministries of finance to advocate for investment and action on NCDs and mental health, taking into account investment case findings (Task Force Secretariat and Task Force members as appropriate).

[Collaboration announced at the 2024 H20 meeting in Geneva in June, between the G20&G7 Health and Development Partnership and the TF and H4LF](#). In the first instance, the collaboration will develop an initiative to encourage legislators to raise awareness, be involved in and actively promote action to tackle NCDs and improving mental health, building on the experience on the [AMR legislators initiative](#).

C. Update on global events

C1. Share the summary of the Global high-level technical meeting on NCDs in humanitarian settings with Task Force members once it is published (Task Force Secretariat), including recommendations for relevant Task Force members to take forward through the Informal interagency working group on NCDs in humanitarian settings (UNHCR and WHO).

In progress. Report is currently under review.

C2. Finalize, publish and disseminate 'Integration of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCF: insights from humanitarian settings' with recommendations taken forward by relevant members of the Task Force (Task Force Secretariat).

Report has been published on the [Task Force website](#).

C3. Share the UNU IIGH Strategic Plan 2024–2028 with Task Force members and explore opportunities to involve relevant Task Force members in implementation of the strategy (UNU and Task Force Secretariat).

Meeting convened by UNU and Task Force Secretariat, June 2024. ADB, OHCHR, UN Nutrition, UNDP, UNICEF, and WHO joined. Opportunities for collaboration were discussed and next steps were elaborated for UNU to bring forward with the different agencies.

C4. Task Force Secretariat to ensure that Task Force members are central to preparation of the global dialogue on sustainable financing.

C5. Task Force members to provide feedback on the sustainable financing web-based consultation background documents and outcome document (Task Force Secretariat, and other members of the Task Force as appropriate).

Secretariat shared drafts of [technical background papers](#) for comment. A number of members provided responses. Task Force Secretariat and a few of its members participated in the 20–21 June 2024 dialogue. Update and next steps to be provided during the 23rd Task Force.

C6. Task Force Secretariat to continue to work with WHO to ensure that Task Force members are central to preparation of the fourth high-level meeting on NCDs in 2025, including providing inputs to the WHO Director-General's progress report (WHO, Task Force Secretariat, and other members of the Task Force as appropriate). Ongoing. Report back during the 23rd Task Force meeting.

D. Health4Life Fund

D1. Continue to drive forward the Fund's resource mobilization and operations strategy in line with the Fund's Terms of reference (H4LF Secretariat, UNDP/UNICEF/WHO core team).

New funders and partners now in place. Successful events at WHA and WHO Western Pacific Regional Committee. First grants for countries disbursed. Report back during the 23rd Task Force meeting.

E. Updates on selected joint workstreams and programmes

Digital health

E1. Task Force members to participate in the launch of the digital health business case and use it to advocate for scaling up of digital solutions for NCDs and mental health (Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate).

Going digital for noncommunicable diseases: the case for action [launched during UNGA79](#) at Government of The Gambia hosted side event. ITU, UNICEF, IAEA and the World Bank participated in the launch.

Nutrition and NCDs Working Group

E2. Continue to progress on a joint programming mission to Comoros with a focus on food and nutrition and the links with climate to take forward commitments made in the 2023 Bridgetown Declaration (UN Nutrition Secretariat, UNDP, WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

Further discussions have resulted in a mission now to Cabo Verde. Invitation received from Government of Cabo Verde. Terms of Reference finalised and relevant UN agencies informed. Mission planned for early 2025.

E3. Pilot-test the revised Nutrition Guidance in at least one country to generate evidence about policy and legislative implementation (Nutrition and NCDs Working Group).

The Nutrition Guidance will be tested during the mission in Cabo Verde.

E4. Publish and disseminate the methodology for nutrition investment cases. Encourage uptake in one country through a multisector approach and with new and/or updated economic tools (Nutrition and NCDs Working Group). Ongoing. The report is being finalized and it is expected to be published end of 2024.

E5. Contribute to the Global Thematic Event on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food, to be held during the fifty-second session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 52) (Nutrition and NCDs Working Group).

FAO, OHCHR, UN Nutrition Secretariat, and the UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Food and on Water and Sanitation participated in CFS52 session to discuss the implementation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines for the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food within National Food Security Frameworks.

E6. Provide input to the extension and progress indicators of the World Health Assembly global nutrition targets (Nutrition and NCDs Working Group).

UN Nutrition secretariat facilitated inputs from UN agencies on the WHO discussion paper 2025-2030 World Health Assembly global maternal, infant and young child nutrition targets and proposal for process indicators.

Human Rights Team

E7. Develop a theory of change model for a human rights-responsive approach for NCDs, taking into account existing global and regional frameworks and country engagement (Human Rights Team).

Theory of change model has been developed and being finalised by the Human Rights Team.

E8. Complete the update of the Human Rights Team workplan, with a focus on action at national level (Human Rights Team).

The Workplan has been updated and shared with the Human Rights Team for review.

NCDs in Emergencies Group

E9. Taking into account the recommendations of the Global high-level technical meeting on NCDs in humanitarian settings, relevant Task Force members to consider joining the Informal Interagency Working Group on NCDs in humanitarian settings (UNHCR and Task Force Secretariat).

The next meeting of the Interagency Working Group on NCDs in humanitarian settings is 26 November 2024. WFP, UNICEF and UNRWA invited to join.

Assistive technology

E10. Share the WHO Global Report on Assistive Technology for members to review and determine whether there are opportunities to support implementation of the 10 recommendations (Task Force Secretariat, All).

WHO and the Task Force Secretariat are organizing a webinar for Task Force members on the WHO-UNICEF Global Report on Assistive Technology.

E11. Finalize the assistive technology investment case methodology and pilot-test it in one or two countries (WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

Methodology being finalized. Pilot underway in Bangladesh, possibly followed by Colombia.

E12. Report back to the next Task Force meeting on progress in the initiative for assistive technology in emergencies (WHO, Task Force Secretariat).

Good progress. Update to be provided during 23rd Task Force meeting.

NCDs and urban health

E13. Identify opportunities for a Task Force event that highlights NCDs and mental health in urban settings at the Twelfth World Urban Forum (WUF12) convened by UN Habitat, Cairo, 4-8 November 2024 (UN Habitat, Task Force Secretariat, and relevant members of the Task Force).

UN Habitat, The Task Force Secretariat and WHO EMRO co-organizing side event at WUF12, *'Working in partnership to improve health and wellbeing in urban settings'*.

E14. Develop a concept note for UN Habitat, IOM, and Task Force initiative for an investment project to provide community access to green and open spaces for sports and exercise (UN Habitat, IOM, Task Force Secretariat).

Concept note developed with MoU signed between IOC and UN Habitat to drive forward collaboration on Sport for Sustainable Urban Development.

E15. Organize a Geneva Urban Debate (GUD) on NCD and drug policies in cities (UN Habitat, GUD partners, Task Force Secretariat and relevant members of the Task Force).

GUD on drug policies took place in June 2024. UN Habitat to provide further details during 23rd Task Force meeting.

Addressing sensory impairments: an integrated approach

E16. Identify actions that Task Force Members are conducting on eye and hearing health and, based on the information obtained, start developing a coordinated approach to scale up action across the UN system to support Member States in strengthening eye and hearing health, in line with UN and World Health Assembly resolutions (WHO, Task Force Secretariat, and Task Force Members as appropriate).

WHO and UNESCO are agreeing collaboration around safe listening and how to integrate WHO's 'smart listening' into UNESCO's programmes.

Addressing NCDs in the workplace

E17. Explore development of a technical package of interventions for healthy, safe workplaces, with a focus on NCDs (WHO and ILO).

An electronic tool summarizing WHO's and ILO's guidelines on health in the workplace currently under development. Expected to be ready by the end of the year and will serve as a foundation for a technical package of interventions.

E18. Explore opportunities to collaborate with UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty body mechanisms, on prevention and control of NCDs in the workplace (ILO, OHCHR, and WHO).

OHCHR, WHO and ILO met in August to identify opportunities for collaboration. In the first instance, there will be a briefing in February 2025 to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

E19. Continue plans for a workplace joint mission (ILO, OHCHR, UNDP, WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

Draft concept note for the mission developed. Process currently on hold pending progress on the WHO/ILO electronic tool.

Update on the Global Framework on Chemicals

E20. Share the Global Framework on Chemicals with Task Force members and initiate discussions with relevant Task Force members on collecting and sharing health surveillance data for an analysis of trends in selected chemicals of concern (UNEP, WHO, and Task Force members as appropriate).

Meeting scheduled in December 2024 to discuss activities of UN agencies on the impact of chemicals on NCDs. Following invited: FAO, IARC, ILO, UNEP, UNICEF, WHO, and the World Bank.

NCDs and air pollution

E21. Continue to make progress in the air pollution joint mission (UNDP, UNEP, WHO and Task Force Secretariat). Preparations for a mission to Thailand ongoing. Now planned for 2025.

RECAP

E22. IDLO and WHO to contact Task Force members who are implementing complementary activities to RECAP to share lessons and good practices in countries and explore opportunities for collaboration (IDLO and WHO).

IDLO and WHO have been coordinating with Task Force members at country and regional level during RECAP missions. UNICEF has participated in WHO regional workshops (hosted in India and Uganda) on building regulatory and fiscal capacity to promote healthy diets and physical activity. WHO and IDLO are exploring collaboration with UNICEF and others in capacity building across both regions. WHO is collaborating with UNICEF and the World Bank under the Obesity Accelerator initiative to deliver capacity building training and technical support to Member States, including sharing materials and experience from RECAP.

F. Tobacco control

COP10 and MOP3

F1. Continue to encourage intergovernmental organizations accredited as observers (including country, sub-regional and regional offices where appropriate) to participate in COP and MOP meetings (Convention and Task Force secretariats).

Discussions to be held at future Task Force meetings. Update to be provided at 23rd Task Force meeting.

F2. Explore establishment of a booth to highlight the work of the Task Force on tobacco control at future meetings (COP11 and beyond) (Convention and Task Force secretariats).

As above.

F3. Raise the visibility of the WHO FCTC as a tool to promote the right to the highest attainable standard of health and the broader human rights agenda in UN fora (Convention Secretariat, OHCHR and Task Force Secretariat).

WHO FCTC has participated in UN fora, coordinating with human rights bodies to raise awareness of tobacco control as part of the broader human rights agenda. Updates on specific activities will be provided at the 23rd Task Force meeting.

Summit of the Future

F4. Continue to explore advocacy for SDG target 3.a (accelerated implementation of WHO FCTC) in the lead-up to the Summit of the Future (Convention Secretariat, OHCHR, Task Force Secretariat, UNDP, WHO and WHO Office at the United Nations).

WHO FCTC, OHCHR, and the UNIATF Secretariat explored potential entry points, including UN permanent missions and UN offices in New York, though efforts were unsuccessful.

UN Model Policy

F5. Share the video on the tobacco industry and the SDGs developed by the Convention Secretariat with all Task Force members (Convention and Task Force secretariats).

Video was sent to Task Force members following the 22nd Task Force meeting.

F6. Encourage Task Force members to name a focal point for the ANTII to the Convention Secretariat (All).

Task Force and Convention Secretariats will provide an update at 23rd Task Force meeting.

F7. Encourage Task Force members to continue reporting on any instances of tobacco industry interference and to contact WHO and the Convention Secretariat if approached by external parties or industry on the issue of harm reduction (All).

As above.

Tobacco-free UN campuses

F8. Finalize the draft letters from the WHO Director-General to the heads of relevant agencies that are based on the campuses of UN Vienna and UN Nairobi where tobacco and/or nicotine products are still sold (Convention Secretariat, WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

Letter sent from WHO Director-General to IAEA Director-General to express concern regarding the sale of nicotine and tobacco products at the UN Commissary in Vienna.

Alternative livelihoods

F9. Update and invite Task Force members to engage in potential plans to pilot-test the Toolkit for Article 17 of the WHO FCTC in the United Republic of Tanzania (Convention Secretariat, All).

Action is on hold while a new country is being identified.

F10. Share information on the Zambia Tobacco Social Impact Bond project (UNDP). World No Tobacco Day 2024. Project proposal shared with Task Force members.

F11. Identify ways in which Task Force members can make effective contributions to World No Tobacco Day 2024 (WHO and all members of the Task Force).

Task Force Secretariat and No Tobacco Unit shared information and campaign material with Task Force members in May 2024.

Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

F12. Task Force members to provide input into the two publications being developed (Convention Secretariat and UNDP).

Publications will be shared with Task Force members following the 23rd Task Force meeting for review.

Open-Source Database of Tobacco Seizures

F13. Share findings of the study with Task Force members once finalized (Convention Secretariat and UNODC).

Findings have been uploaded on the [WHO FCTC website](#).

G. Special Session on the WHO Global Alcohol Action plan 2022-2030

G11. Increase awareness of the Global Alcohol Action Plan 2022–2030 among heads of agencies and call for scaled-up action to support Member States in implementing the Global Alcohol Action Plan in a letter from the WHO Director-General to selected UN system agencies (WHO and Task Force Secretariat).

UNICEF, UNDP and Task Force Secretariat co-sponsored (together with numerous Member States) a [UNGA side event](#) led by Movendi. During the event the role of the UN system in addressing alcohol harm was discussed and a [report on the integration alcohol measures in UNSDCFs](#) was launched. Letters from the WHO DG to 24 heads of selected UN agencies are being drafted calling UN agencies to scale up efforts on alcohol control. To be further reviewed at the 23rd Task Force meeting.

G12. Identify opportunities for agencies to rapidly scale up action, especially at country level, through initiatives such as SAFER (WHO and Task Force Secretariat, All).

See action G11.

G13. Explore the process and usefulness of a dedicated day each year and use existing international days to raise awareness on the harm of alcohol consumption (WHO).

Ongoing. Further discussions to be held between Task Force Secretariat and WHO.

H. Other updates

New Task Force website

H1. Task Force members to provide Task Force Secretariat with publications they wish to see included on the website. In addition, Task Force Secretariat to solicit publications for quarterly inclusion (Task Force Secretariat, All).

New publications were submitted by UNDP, IAEA, and UN Nutrition.

H2. Develop metrics to assess use of the website (Task Force Secretariat).

Figures to be presented at the 23rd Task Force meeting.

Task Force Evaluation

H3. Task Force members to respond to requests from evaluators for interviews and material (Task Force Secretariat, All).

Excellent response from members. Detailed feedback from the independent evaluators during the 23rd Task Force meeting.

H4. Task Force members who have offered a financial contribution to the evaluation to transfer funds to the Task Force Secretariat (Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate).

No funds received.

Integration of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCF

H5. Finalize the 2022/2023 analysis and identify opportunities to contact to selected UN country teams for which the UNSDCF is expiring to highlight the importance of NCDs and mental health as development priorities (Task Force Secretariat, All).

[Report](#) finalized and shared with Task Force members. Task Force Secretariat also contacted countries developing UNSDCF and has had discussions with Cuba, Iraq, Liberia, Mali, and Syria on the integration of NCDs and mental health in the new frameworks.

H6. Arrange a special session at the 23rd Task Force meeting to review in detail the findings on integration of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCF and the implications of the findings (Task Force Secretariat, All).

Session being held during 23rd Task Force meeting.

I. Task Force awards

I1. Continue to build the network of former winners to determine the impact of the award, encourage continued action and share best practices (Task Force Secretariat).

In progress. A kick-off webinar with former winners to be planned for the end of 2024/beginning of 2025.

I2. Task Force members to encourage nominations for the 2024 award (Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate).

Overall, 32 nominations received. [14 winners announced at UNGA Friends of the Task Force event](#), 25 September 2024.

I3. Task Force members to consider participating on the Task Force awards selection committee (Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate).

The following participated: UN Nutrition Secretariat, ITU, UNDP, UN Habitat, WHO.

J. Report to ECOSOC

J1. Task Force members to provide input to the ECOSOC report (All).

2024 WHO Director-General's report to ECOSOC transmitted by the UN Secretary-General on the work of the Task Force is available [here](#).

K. Dates and venues of future Task Force meetings

K1. Task Force Secretariat to identify a venue and host for the 23rd meeting in October 2024.

Completed.