



**UN INTERAGENCY
TASK FORCE ON NCDs**



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

5–7 March 2024

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A. Objectives and participating agencies

1. The twenty-second 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 05–07 March 2024 at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Thirty Task Force member organizations participated.¹ WHO and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) 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-first Task Force meeting (10–12 October 2023); (ii) initiate discussions on improving collaboration within the UN system for alcohol control; (iii) receive updates on joint programmes and other workstreams; and (iv) review planning of the WHO/World Bank Second global dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health.

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

3. The Task Force Secretariat reviewed progress in taking actions agreed at the twenty-first meeting (Annex 3).

Action

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

C. Updates on global events

4. UNHCR provided an overview of the key messages from the Global high-level technical meeting on NCDs in humanitarian settings, held on 27–29 February 2024 in Copenhagen, Denmark, and the Task Force

¹ Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Development Law Organization (IDLO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT), United Nations Nutrition (UN Nutrition), United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 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), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Secretariat presented a background document developed for the meeting, *'Integration of NCDs and mental health in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs): insights from humanitarian settings'*.

5. UNU presented the [UNU International Institute for Global Health \(IIGH\) Strategic Plan 2024–2028](#) on addressing inequalities in global health.

6. WHO and the World Bank described preparations for the June 2024 [Second global dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health](#), to be held in June 2024, including the background papers under development. Task Force members provided feedback on topics that should be addressed during the dialogue and committed themselves to participate in the preparations and the event through the Task Force Secretariat.

7. WHO updated Task Force members on preparations for the [2025 UN High-level meeting on NCDs and mental health](#), as well as plans for the upcoming [4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States](#) (SIDS) (to be held on 27–30 May 2024, Saint John's, Antigua and Barbuda).

Actions

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*).

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

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*).

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*).

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*).

D. Health4Life Fund

8. The Health4Life Fund Secretariat, on behalf of the three participating UN organizations (UNDP, UNICEF and WHO), provided an update on activities, including grant operations and the first call for expressions of interest from countries following funding by Scotland.

Action

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*).

E. Updates on selected joint workstreams and programmes

9. WHO provided an update on the country-level [assistive technology](#) investment case methodology jointly developed with the Task Force Secretariat, and on the WHO-Task Force Secretariat initiative on assistive technology in humanitarian crises and emergencies.

10. ITU and the Task Force Secretariat provided an update on the WHO-ITU joint programme on supporting countries in promoting and implementing cost-effective [digital solutions](#) for NCDs and mental health. The launch of the digital health business case is expected for the second quarter of 2024.

11. United for Global Mental Health provided an update on the Interagency Working Group on [Mental Health Comorbidities](#), including: (i) aligning key messages and joint participation in key global events; (ii) sharing tools and resources among working group members; and (iii) national resource mobilization.

12. UNDP presented activities being conducted by the working group on [NCDs and communicable disease comorbidities](#), including creation of a [document repository](#) and development of an investment case methodology for comorbidities.

13. The UN-Nutrition Secretariat described the activities of the [Nutrition Technical Working Group](#). The Group: (i) published a paper for use at COP28 '*Aligning positions, seizing opportunities, and setting directions for the integration of nutrition and climate action*'; (ii) submitted a proposal for a side-event at the 4th International Conference on SIDS; (iii) continues to explore the possibility of a joint programming mission in a SIDS; and (iv) is finalizing publication on the methodology for nutrition investment cases.

14. OHCHR reported on the impact of briefings conducted with the Task Force Secretariat and Task Force members on NCDs to UN human rights mechanisms, including treaty body mechanisms, and on the capacity-building webinar organized for civil society organizations to work with treaty monitoring mechanisms. The [Human Rights Team](#) is looking into how the group could support national implementation of human rights-based approaches to NCDs and are incorporating feedback received during the 21st Task Force meeting Special session on human rights and NCDs into the group's workplan.

15. UNHCR provided an update on the activities of the Informal Interagency Working Group on [NCDs in humanitarian settings](#), including (i) finalizing a publication on under-researched areas of NCDs in humanitarian settings, (ii) developing a core set of NCD indicators in humanitarian settings and (iii) a follow up study on access to diabetes care.

16. UN-Habitat informed Task Force members of (i) publication of the [UN-Habitat General Assembly Briefing Event summary](#); (ii) the [Healthy Cities](#) programme in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and use of urban indicators to assign healthy city status; (iii) their partnership with IOC on developing strategies for repurposing urban spaces for exercise and sports activities in Olympic cities; (iv) development of a strategy for urban safety and security in partnership with UNODC; and (v) a possible Task Force side event at the next World Urban Forum on 4–8 November 2024 in Cairo, Egypt.

17. WHO provided a description of the global burden of [sensory impairments](#) and UN General Assembly and World Health Assembly resolutions that included action for the UN system. WHO encouraged Task Force members to consider opportunities for scaling up their activities individually and collectively and encouraged the Task Force to act as a convening platform for eye and hearing health. Task Force members endorsed

those suggestions. They highlighted the importance of including sensory (vision and hearing) impairments in the political declaration of the 4th high-level meeting.

18. UNEP provided an overview of the new [Global Framework on Chemicals for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste](#). UNEP emphasized the importance of the health sector for the success of the Global Framework, with international cooperation and coordination and the role of UN agencies in creation of a global network for the collection of health surveillance data and for analysis of trends regarding selected chemicals of concern.

19. ILO and WHO informed Task Force members about the ILO [Global strategy on occupational safety and health](#) and development of a concept note for a UN joint mission on [NCDs in the workplace](#).

20. IDLO and WHO reminded Task Force members about the structure of the [Global Regulatory and Fiscal Capacity Building Programme](#) (RECAP) for [promoting healthy diets and physical activity](#) and provided an update on the five new countries (Ghana, Indonesia, Mauritius, Nepal and Thailand) participating in the programme.

21. 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 included (i) an overview of completed and ongoing investment cases; (ii) development of a website for sharing investment case reports and key indicators hosted on the UNDP Data Futures Exchange; and (iii) joint UNDP/WHO country activities for strengthening NCD and mental health governance and fiscal measures.

22. UNDP provided an update on the progress of an evaluation of the implementation of the Algerian [NCD multisectoral action plan](#) being undertaken by UNDP and the Task Force Secretariat.

23. UNEP shared information on the development of a concept note for a UN joint mission on [NCDs and air pollution](#).

Actions

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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

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*).

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

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*).

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*).

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

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

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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

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*).

NCDs and air pollution

E21. Continue to make progress in the air pollution joint mission (*UNDP, UNEP, WHO and Task Force Secretariat*).

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*).

F. Tobacco control

23. The Convention Secretariat presented the outcomes of the [Tenth session of the Conference of the Parties \(COP10\) to the WHO FCTC](#) (5–7 February 2024) and the [Third Session of the Meeting of the Parties \(MOP3\) to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products](#) (12–15 February 2024) held in Panama, including the decisions adopted at [COP10](#) and [MOP3](#).

24. The Convention Secretariat reminded Task Force members of the [Model Policy for Agencies of the United Nations System on Preventing Tobacco Industry Interference](#) and encouraged Task Force members to provide a focal point for the *Alert Network for Tobacco Industry Involvement* (ANTII).

25. WHO informed Task Force members that the Panama declaration following COP10 includes a paragraph on promoting the ban on indoor and outdoor use of smoke- and aerosol- emitting tobacco and related products, throughout the UN system. In addition, a letter from the Director-General of WHO to the heads of UN agencies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Vienna, Austria, has been drafted to end the sale of tobacco and nicotine products on UN premises

26. The [Toolkit for Article 17 of the WHO FCTC](#) to support Parties in promoting alternative livelihoods for tobacco growers was launched in November 2023 and promoted during COP10.

27. WHO provided an update on the [Alternative livelihoods](#) project to support tobacco farmers in shifting to alternative livelihoods, which has now reached over 4000 farmers in Kenya and Zambia.

28. WHO presented the strategy and material for the 2024 World No Tobacco Day on Tobacco Industry Interference, with a focus on raising awareness among youth.

29. UNDP shared developments on the UNDP and Convention Secretariat joint draft papers 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.

30. UNDOC presented a pilot project in collaboration with the Convention Secretariat on an open-source database of tobacco seizures.

Actions

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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*).

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

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*).

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*).

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*).

F10. Share information on the Zambia Tobacco Social Impact Bond project (*UNDP*).

World No Tobacco Day 2024

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*).

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*).

Open-Source Database of Tobacco Seizures

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

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

31. WHO led a special session on the [WHO Global Alcohol Action plan 2022–2030](#). The session consisted of a presentation on the action plan and proposed areas for international partners, the [SAFER initiative](#) and discussions on improving collaboration within the UN system for alcohol control activities.

Actions

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*).

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*).

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*).

H. Other updates

33. The Task Force Secretariat provided an update on: (i) the new Task Force website; (ii) independent formative evaluation of the work of the Task Force; and (iii) integration of NCDs and mental health into UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) 2022/2023 roll outs.

Actions

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*).

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

Task Force Evaluation

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

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*).

Integration of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCFs

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*).

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 UNSDCFs and the implications of the findings (*Task Force Secretariat, All*).

I. Task Force awards

36. The annual meeting of the Friends of the Task Force is planned for September 2024 as a side-event at the United Nations General Assembly.

Action
I1. Continue to build the network of former winners to determine the impact of the award, encourage continued action and share best practices (<i>Task Force Secretariat</i>).
I2. Task Force members to encourage nominations for the 2024 award (<i>Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate</i>).
I3. Task Force members to consider participating on the Task Force awards selection committee (<i>Task Force Secretariat and other members of the Task Force as appropriate</i>).

J. Report to ECOSOC

37. The deadline for submission of the Task Force’s 2024 ECOSOC report to UNDESA is 29 April 2024, for consideration in July 2024. Members will be asked for input in the coming weeks.

Action
J1. Task Force members to provide input to the ECOSOC report (<i>All</i>).

K. Dates and venues of future Task Force meetings

38. It was agreed that the twenty-third meeting be held in the third quarter of 2023, in a hybrid approach.

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

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Annex 1. Agenda

Co-moderators:

Werner Obermeyer (WHO Office at the United Nations)

Ani Shakarishvili (UNAIDS)

Day 1: Tuesday 05 March 2024

Time	Agenda Item
Agenda item 1 10.00–10.10	Welcome and introductions
Agenda item 2 10.10–10.30	Review of actions agreed at the 21st meeting
Agenda item 3 10.30–11.00	Updates on selected global events
Agenda item 4 11.00–11.30	Health4Life Fund
Agenda item 5 11.30–12.30	Updates on selected Task Force thematic working groups/workstreams (comorbidities, nutrition, human rights, assistive technologies, NCD in emergencies, and digital health)
Agenda item 6 12.30–13.30	Other workstreams to bring to the attention of the Task Force (NCDs and urban health, addressing sensory impairments, NCDs in the workplace, and the Global Framework on Chemicals)

Day 2: Wednesday 06 March 2024

Time	Agenda Item
Agenda item 7 10.00–12.00	Updates from the Convention Secretariat and WHO No Tobacco group (COP10 and MOP3, human rights and tobacco, UN Model Policy, Tobacco-free UN Campuses, Alternative livelihoods, World No Tobacco Day, Publications regarding the Protocol, and Open-Source Database on Tobacco Seizures)
Agenda item 8 13.00–14.30	Updates on selected joint UN programmes (NCD 2030, RECAP, updates on Joint missions)
Agenda item 9 14.30–16.30	Special session on the WHO Global Alcohol Action plan 2022-2030

Day 3: Thursday 07 March 2024

Time	Agenda Item
Agenda item 10 14.30–14.50	New Task Force website
Agenda item 11 14.50–16.00	Updates on additional areas of work from the Task Force Secretariat
Agenda item 12 16:00–17.00	Special session on June 2024 WHO/World Bank Second global dialogue on sustainable financing for NCDs and mental health
Agenda item 13 17:00–17.10	Closing remarks

Annex 2. List of participants

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Vasoontara S. Yiengprugsawan

Health Sector Group Secretariat

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Nutrition Officer

INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER

Véronique Terrasse

Communications Officer

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

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Director, Division of Human Health

Elena Fidarova

Radiation Oncologist

Cornelia Loechl

Section Head, Nutritional and Health-related Environmental Studies Section

Arsen Juric

Programme officer

Lisa Stevens

Director, Division of Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION

Maria Chiara Campisi

Health Law Programme Coordinator

Giulia Zevi

Program Lead at IDLO

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Halim Hamzaoui

Occupational Safety and Health Specialist

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Saurabh Mishra

Technical officer

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

Alice Wimmer

Health Systems and Emergency Health Expert

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Roman Chestnov

Digital Services Project Officer

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

Ani Shakarishvili

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THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

Olga Bornemisza

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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

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Raoul Bermejo

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Emily Roberts

Policy Analyst, Health and Development

Roy Small

Policy Specialist, Health and NCDs

Dudley Tarlton

Health Economics Analyst, Health and Development

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Saurabh Sinha

Chief of Social Policy Section

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Catherine Carty

UNESCO Chair for Inclusive Sport

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Soraya Smaoun

Coordinator - Air Quality, Pollution and Health Unit

Pierre Quiblier

Coordinator, Officer in Charge

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 OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lynn Gentile

Human Rights Officer, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

Theodore Leggett

Research Officer

Elizabeth Saenz

Liaison Officer in Geneva

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

Seita Akihiro

Director of Health

Zoheir Elkhatib

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INVITED OBSERVERS

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Erin Ferenchick

Senior Consultant

Annex 3. Review of actions agreed at the twenty-first meeting, 10-12 October 2023, Vienna (as delivered by the Secretariat under Agenda Item 2).

B. Review of the summary of the twentieth meeting

B1. Continue to identify opportunities to highlight the work of the Task Force at meetings of senior management and governing bodies of Task Force members.

- a) Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP
- b) UNHCR
- c) UN-Habitat
- d) Convention Secretariat
- e) World Bank, regional development banks

Task Force Secretariat has been in contact with a number of agencies: Members to report back on current thinking.

C. Update on global events

C1. Task Force Secretariat to continue to work with WHO and other Task Force members to prepare for the fourth high-level meeting on NCDs in 2025, including preparatory meetings such as the second financing dialogue (WHO, Task Force Secretariat, Convention Secretariat and other members of the Task Force).

Task Force Secretariat is part of the planning group of the second financing dialogue on NCDs and mental health. Interactive session facilitated by WHO and WB later in the meeting. Presentation on emerging thinking around the fourth high-level meeting also included in the agenda, including an update on the WHO DG report that will support this process.

C2. Develop an action plan for enhancing collaboration with the UN Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs to further the objectives of the Task Force strategy (Task Force Secretariat).

Discussions held with UNDESA. As a result, we have now established direct contact with the UN regional commissions. Briefing call with ECLAC held with plans for a further call with focal points across all the five commissions later this month in order to develop an action plan.

C3. Explore options to mark the 10 years of the World Health Assembly resolution on palliative care (INCB, WHO and UNODC).

Discussions were held between WHO and the Task Force Secretariat. Opportunities for collaboration recently shared with IAEA, INCB, UNHCR, UNODC and UNICEF.

E. Updates on selected joint workstreams and programmes

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

The digital health business case report is being finalised, with launch planned for Q2 2024. Task Force Members will be invited to participate in the launch to advocate for scaling up of digital solutions to accelerate NCD and mental health responses.

E2. Propose the inclusion of indicators of urban design and development to combat NCDs, and discuss the idea of joint Task Force missions at the upcoming Regional Healthy Cities conference in Doha, Qatar (UN Habitat).

UN Habitat to report back.

E3. Explore investment opportunities in urban design to facilitate provision of exercise and sport through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (SDCF) Cities initiative and as a proposal for the Health4life Fund (UN Habitat with IOC, UNDP, UNICEF and Task Force Secretariat).

UN Habitat to report back.

E4. Human Rights Working Group to continue to review and update its work plan, taking into account the discussion during the special session on human rights and NCDs, as well as updates provided on assistive technology (OHCHR and the Human Rights Working Group).

A summary of the Special Session on Human Rights and NCD at the 21st Task Force meeting was made available. Human Rights Working Group is currently finalising the next workplan activities. Update to be provided later in the meeting.

E5. Nutrition Technical Working Group to:

(i) position and finalize messages on the nexus of environment, climate, health and nutrition in readiness for events, notably the 28th UN Climate Change Conference.

UN-Nutrition published “*Aligning positions, seizing opportunities, and setting directions for the integration of nutrition and climate action*” for COP28. The December 2023 UN-Nutrition newsletter collated [highlights and agency resources on nutrition](#) at COP 28 highlighting progress across food systems, integration of nutrition considerations within this requires ever greater joint advocacy.

(ii) give specific attention to addressing NCDs related to overweight and diet in discussions on food systems, including through the HDSFS Coalition.

Members of the Nutrition TWG are developing a side event submission for the 4th SIDS Global Conference to bring attention to the importance of healthy diets from sustainable food systems for health, economic and environmental prosperity.

(iii) take part in a joint mission in a SIDS on climate change and healthy diets in line with the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN).

A UN joint mission to Comoros continues to progress, with ToRs agreed. Dates still to be agreed.

(iv) test the revised nutrition guidance to provide technical support to two countries to include evidence of policy and legislative implementation.

Exploring Comoros as a first country.

(v) publish and disseminate the method and the case report on investment in nutrition in Zimbabwe.

The investment case report is close to finalisation.

E6. 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 UNDP).

In the first instance this is being taken forward through Sovereign Sustainability and Development (SSD), who convenes the G20 Health and Development Partnership. Task Force Secretariat and UNDP have had discussions with SSD and we are now developing a joint plan of action to engage with G20, and SSD’s network of parliamentarians and ministers of finance.

E7. Explore involvement of Task Force members’ country and regional offices in SAFER (WHO and other Task Force members).

This will be included in a special session on the WHO Global Alcohol Action Plan 2022-2030 during the meeting.

E8. Resume dialogue in the Task Force about better alignment of the UN system’s interaction with the alcohol industry (All).

This will be included in a special session on the WHO Global Alcohol Action Plan 2022-2030 during the meeting.

E9. Share the reports of the WHO regional meetings on NCDs in emergencies with Task Force members (Task Force Secretariat and WHO).

Actioned.

E10. Ensure effective contribution of Task Force members at the Global High-level Meeting on NCDs in Emergencies (Task Force Secretariat, UNHCR and WHO).

A number of Task Force Members plus the Secretariat participated in the Copenhagen meeting.

E11. UN Joint Action Group for Cervical Cancer Elimination (CCE) to resume its work according to its revised ToR and report on its progress at the next Task Force meeting (UN Joint Action Group for CCE).

The first meeting was held on 5 December 2023 and the group has agreed and finalised the ToRs. A number of members are at the cervical cancer meeting in Colombia, but the JAG is really struggling to move forward.

E12. Task Force members that are implementing complementary activities to RECAP to contact IDLO and WHO to share lessons and good practices in countries and explore opportunities for collaboration (All).

Five second wave countries have recently been agreed. Discussions on collaboration can now go ahead. Update to be provide with suggested next steps at UNIATF22.

E13. Develop a concept note for discussion at a future Task Force meeting on how the Task Force can strengthen its support to Member States to scale up action on the prevention and control of NCDs in the workplace and on how Task Force members can be exemplary by promoting occupational safety in their organizations, including through the UN Forum on Occupational Health and Safety (ILO and WHO).

Discussions held between ILO, WHO and the Task Force Secretariat. A concept note is being developed for a UN joint country mission on addressing NCDs at the workplace. A presentation will follow during UNIATF22.

F. Session on human rights and NCDs

F1. Human rights team to summarize the session and review its work plan in the light of the discussion (OHCHR and the UN Nutrition Secretariat).

Covered under E4.

G. Tobacco control

G1. Explore advocacy for SDG target 3.a (accelerated implementation of WHO FCTC) in the preparation and organization of the 2025 High-level Meeting on NCDs, as well as other high-level events such as the Summit for the Future and the Fourth International Conference on SIDS (Convention Secretariat, OHCHR, Task Force Secretariat, UNDP, WHO and WHO Office at the United Nations).

Will be covered in relevant sessions during the meeting. A new [video](#) on tobacco and SDGs will be shared with Task Force members during the meeting.

COP10 and MOP3

G2. Encourage country, sub-regional and regional offices of intergovernmental organizations accredited as observers to participate in COP10 (20–25 November 2023) and MOP3 (27–30 November 2023) in Panama (Convention and Task Force secretariats).

The Task Force Secretariat reached out to Task Force Members to encourage registration at COP10 and MOP3. UNDP, UNEP, and WHO participated in COP10. UNODC, WHO, and the World Customs Organization (WCO) participated in MOP3. Full report back of COP10 and MOP3 during UNIATF22.

G3. Explore establishment of a booth to highlight the work of the Task Force on tobacco control at future meetings (COP11 and beyond) (Convention Secretariat and Task Force Secretariat).

Discussions between the Task Force and Convention secretariats to be held closer to COP11 dates.

Human rights and tobacco

G4. Raise the visibility of the WHO FCTC as a tool to promote the right to health and the broader human rights agenda in UN fora (Convention Secretariat, OHCHR and Task Force Secretariat).

Briefing provided on tobacco and NCDs to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 9 October 2023.

G5. Share COP10 outcomes on human rights with Task Force members, and agree on follow-up actions to the outcomes (Convention Secretariat).

Deliberations of Parties supported by FCTC/COP/10/15 that outlined the mutually supportive nature of the WHO FCTC and human rights, nexus between tobacco control and human rights, and the work of the CS on human rights. COP10 adopted decision “Contribution of the WHO FCTC to the promotion and fulfilment of human rights” (FCTC/COP10(20)). Further details to be provided at UNIATF22.

Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products

G6. Task Force members to provide input into the report on accessing UN-wide support for implementing the Protocol (Convention Secretariat and UNDP).

A first draft has been developed by UNDP and CS and will be shared with Task Force members after UNIATF22. An update will be provided during UNIATF22.

Model policy (Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC)

G7. Share the link to the Model Policy explainer video with Task Force members for widespread dissemination (Convention Secretariat and Task Force Secretariat).

The Task Force and Convention secretariats e-mailed Task Force members with a reminder of the background to the Model Policy, including the explainer video, and encouraged Task Force members that had yet to identify an ANTII focal point to nominate one. An update on ANTII and the position on focal points will be provided during UNIATF22.

G8. Encourage Task Force members to name a focal point for the ANTII to the Convention Secretariat (All).
See G7.

FCTC2030

G9. Task Force members to provide feedback on tobacco sectoral briefs, including their most effective use after the launch during COP10 (Convention Secretariat, Task Force Secretariat and UNDP).

Draft sectoral briefs were shared with Task Force members by Task Force Secretariat on behalf of CS and UNDP ahead of publication. Only feedback was from FAO. [Briefs](#) launched at COP10 at the CS and UNDP side event “Everyone has a role to play: promoting a multisectoral approach to WHO FCTC implementation”.

Tobacco-free UN campuses

G10. Explore options for the WHO Director-General to write to the heads of relevant agencies that are based on campuses where tobacco and/or nicotine products are still sold (Convention Secretariat, Task Force Secretariat and WHO).

Draft letters being prepared by WHO and CS for UN Vienna and UN Nairobi. Report back during the UNIATF22 tobacco agenda item.

Alternative livelihoods

G11. Task Force members to participate in the launch of the webinar on the Toolkit for Article 17 of the WHO FCTC (Convention Secretariat, All).

Webinar held. UNODC, WHO, and the Convention Secretariat all spoke. YouTube recording available [here](#). Further report during the UNIATF22 tobacco agenda item.

2024 World No Tobacco Day

G12. 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).

The 2024 World No Tobacco Day will be on protecting children from tobacco industry interference. Task Force members will be asked to share the campaign material once they are prepared. Further report during the UNIATF22 tobacco agenda item.

Data exchange and analysis

G13. Task Force members to inform WHO and the Convention Secretariat of opportunities to share tobacco-related data (Convention Secretariat and members of the Task Force).

CS has been in touch with, FAO, ILO, OECD, UNIDO, UN Comtrade, UNODC, WB, WCO, WHO and UN Statistics Division to jointly review opportunities for data exchange and utilization of other agencies’ data to assess global progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, with a number identified as potential sources of data. Discussions ongoing between CS and these agencies. Further report during the tobacco agenda item.

H. Other updates

H1. Task Force members to: (i) provide comments on the draft ToR for the joint independent evaluation by 27 November 2023; (ii) express interest in joining the Evaluation Management Group; and (iii) explore the possibility that their agency could make a financial contribution to the evaluation (All).

Actioned. ToRs finalised. Progress report to be provided during UNIATF22.

H2. Provide comments on the draft WHO tool *Supporting Member States in informed decision-making before engaging with private sector entities for the prevention and control of NCDs* (All).

Task Force Secretariat shared the draft tool with Task Force members. No comments received.

H3. Task Force Secretariat to explore with a few Task Force members the most effective approach to populating members’ publications for the new Task Force website (Task Force Secretariat and other members).

Task Force Secretariat has received relevant publications from a number of agencies that are now on the Task Force website. A demonstration of the website will take place during UNIATF22.

H4. Task Force members to respond to the survey on inclusion of NCDs and mental health in governing body policies, strategies and plans shared by the Task Force Secretariat (All).

Approximately 30 returns now received. The Task Force Secretariat is currently analysing returns, and a short summary of the current position will be included in the annual report to ECOSOC.

[H5. Finalize and publish the revised reports of analyses of inclusion of NCDs and mental health in UNSDCFs \(Task Force Secretariat\).](#)

Revised reports published on the Task Force website. A sub-analysis in countries with ongoing emergency/crisis developed for NCD in humanitarian settings meeting in Copenhagen.

[H6. Determine baselines and targets for the M&E framework of the Task Force Strategy 2022–2025 \(Task Force Monitoring and Evaluation Group\).](#)

In progress. Further work being undertaken by the Secretariat ahead of discussions with the Group.

I. Task Force awards

[I1. Review the impact of the awards scheme and identify opportunities for the winners to provide individual or collective mentoring of others \(Task Force Secretariat\).](#)

The Task Force Secretariat contacted the winners of the previous editions of the Task Force award ceremony, years 2018-2023, with the proposal to establish an alumni network and collate information on impact. A first call resulted in a 30% response. Follow up calls ongoing.

K. Dates and venues of future Task Force meetings

[K1. Task Force Secretariat to explore dates, hosts and potential venues for the 22nd meeting. Members to inform the Task Force Secretariat of competing events in order to avoid those dates.](#)

The twenty-second meeting is being hosted by WHO, 5-7 March 2024, co-moderated by WHO and UNAIDS.