Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 2 June 2016

[on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2016/L.16)]

2016/5. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2013/12 of 22 July 2013, 2014/10 of 13 June 2014 and 2015/8 of 9 June 2015 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as the global burden of mental health and neurological issues, constitute major challenges for economic and social development in the twenty-first century and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,
Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while highlighting the integrality of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, goals and targets related to health and non-communicable diseases,

Welcoming also that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognizes that, as part of a comprehensive strategy of prevention and control, price and tax measures on tobacco can be an effective and important means of reducing tobacco consumption and health-care costs and represent a revenue stream for financing for development in many countries,

Welcoming further that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda supports, inter alia, research and development of vaccines and medicines, as well as preventive measures and treatments for communicable and non-communicable diseases,

1. Takes note of the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and the recommendations contained therein, including to report annually on progress made in implementing Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/12;

2. Encourages members of the Task Force to continue to work together in a coordinated manner, as part of a relevant, coherent, efficient and effective United Nations system, to support national efforts to implement the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, building on guidance set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020;

3. Also encourages members of the Task Force to provide support to Member States in reflecting the new non-communicable disease-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in their national development plans and policies, in order to enable them to accelerate progress on specific non-communicable disease-related targets, and encourages Member States to access the available United Nations policy expertise on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2017 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution 2013/12, under the sub-item entitled “Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases” of the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”, in preparation for a comprehensive review by the General Assembly, in 2018, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

28th plenary meeting
2 June 2016

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1 E/2016/53.
2 General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.
3 General Assembly resolution 68/300.
4 World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.
5 General Assembly resolution 70/1.