



**Second Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on
the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases**

(Geneva, 29-30 January 2014)

INFORMAL SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

1. The Second Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (the Task Force) was convened by WHO and held at WHO in Geneva, 29-30 January 2014. The meeting was attended by FAO, IAEA, IARC, IDLO, ILO, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNSCN, UNSDP, WFP, WIPO, WHO and CSF of the WHO FCTC, World Bank and WTO. The meeting was chaired by WHO. Dr Chan, Director-General, WHO, addressed the Task Force on 30 January 2014.

2. The objectives of the meeting were:

- (i) to receive updates on activities from Members, including on the outcomes of recent discussions at the WHO Executive Board on progress in developing terms of reference for the UN Interagency Task Force on NCDs and the Global Coordination Mechanism, as well as preparations for the UN General Assembly review and assessment in 2014 of progress achieved in realizing the commitments included in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs (Note: discussions on 30 January 2014 were dedicated to tobacco control);
- (ii) to develop a workplan for 2014-2015 in line with the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020, and the terms of reference for the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, including a division of tasks and responsibilities for United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and other international organizations;
- (iii) to agree the structure and content for the Secretary-General's 2014 report on the work of the Task Force.

3. The list of participants is in Annex 1. The agreed agenda is Annex 2.

Updates from members of the Task Force

4. WHO shared the following outcomes and discussions held during: (i) the 11-15 November 2013 formal meeting of Member States; and (ii) the 134th WHO Executive Board (20 -25 January 2014):

- Draft terms of reference for the Task Force, including division of tasks and responsibilities;
- Draft terms of reference for a Global Coordination Mechanism;
- Limited set of action plan indicators for the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013-2020;
- Sequencing of reporting on NCD activities to WHO governing bodies, ECOSOC and the UN General Assembly;
- Priority actions recommended for Member States outlined in the WHO Secretariat's report to the 134th Executive Board (Follow-up to the

Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs).¹

- Preparations for the United Nations General Assembly comprehensive review and assessment in 2014 of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of NCDs (UNGA NCD Review 2014).

5. WHO provided an update on the One-WHO NCD workplan with discussions around “Phase I” countries that the One-WHO NCD workplan would support in terms of providing upstream policy advance (i.e. to set national targets, and develop national multisectoral plans to attain these national targets, and integrate NCDs into UNDAFs), as well as highly technical (sophisticated) technical assistance.²

6. Other members of the Task Force provided updates on the work being done to support national efforts to implement the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. Collaborative and synergistic interagency work were specifically highlighted.

7. The Convention Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) provided an overview of updates to the Task Force on the implementation of the FCTC since the last meeting in March 2013. These included:

- The holding of regional workshops attended by other Task Force members;
- A focus on the legal challenges to tobacco control regulation;
- The identification of five projects aiming to stimulate south-south and triangular cooperation;
- The development of interagency missions working to expand the outreach of the WHO FCTC.

8. WHO described the outcomes of a joint UN project to develop recommendations for tobacco use and reproductive health. This project was developed following ECOSOC Resolution (2010/8) requesting UN agencies to “work together to promote the reduction of tobacco use among women, in particular women of reproductive age, and those around them”. As a result of this joint work, the “WHO recommendations for the prevention and management of tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure in pregnancy” was published in 2013. Similar recommendations on alcohol and other psychoactive substances are expected to be available in early 2014.

9. The Task Force engaged in a round-table discussion facilitated by the Convention Secretariat on the topic of governance as an overarching obligation in line with Article 5 of the Convention. Key recommendations from the discussion included:

- Supporting country-specific stakeholder analysis;

¹ http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB134/B134_14-en.pdf

² Countries selected are as follows: AFRO (Mozambique and Rwanda), AMRO (Costa Rica, Ecuador and Paraguay), EMRO (Morocco and Oman), EURO (Azerbaijan, Belarus and Uzbekistan), SEARO (Nepal and Sri Lanka) and WPRO (China, Fiji, Mongolia and Viet Nam).

- Generating disaggregated data and analysis;
- Adopting a more proactive approach to integrating the WHO FCTC implementation into the UN Development Assistance Frameworks in countries;
- Delivering a capacity-building strategy to support WHO FCTC implementation.

10. A discussion was held on how best to share this information to wider audiences. Participants agreed that reporting be made available online and in one place.

Action: The Task Force Secretariat to make informal situation reports accessible online on the WHO website with updates every three to six months and for this to be linked with the ongoing mapping exercise.

2014-2015 workplan

11. The Task Force reviewed an outline workplan developed by WHO. It was agreed that the workplan should be aligned with Annex 6 of Priority actions recommended for Member States outlined in the WHO Secretariat's report to the 134th Executive Board (see Paragraph 4). Members provided inputs into the workplan.

12. Taking into account discussions of the One-WHO Steering Group (see Paragraph 5), the UNDAF process and ongoing action in countries by Task Force members, the Task Force agreed to explore the possibilities of providing upstream policy advice to a Phase 1 set of countries as follows: Barbados, Belarus, China, Fiji, Mozambique, Rwanda and Viet Nam.

13. The Task Force reviewed an outline approach for providing technical assistance to these countries and that in the first instance a UN Thematic Group on NCDs at the country level be established, composed of the UN Country Team and national partners. WHO Regional Advisers indicated the need to strengthen interagency coordination at regional and specially at country level.

Action: WHO to circulate a draft work plan with Phase 1 countries included for comment. A further draft work plan would then be disseminated following comments from members of the Task Force. The final workplan would then be agreed by teleconference in March 2014.

UN Secretary General's report to ECOSOC

14. The outline, key messages, timetable, and process of the UN Secretary General's report to ECOSOC were discussed. Meeting attendees agreed the report's outline should remain similar in structure to the Ad Hoc Interagency Task Force on Tobacco Control Report (E/2013/61). The report would convey the Task Force's progress since publication of the last report in July 2013 and look to highlight the value added of the work of UN agencies to NCD

activities being taken forward by Member States. The Task Force, reflecting on ECOSOC Resolution E/2013/L.23, agreed that tobacco control should be specifically highlighted in the report. A timetable for developing the report was agreed by the participants.

Comments from the Director-General, WHO

15. The Director-General highlighted the importance of the NCD agenda and the opportunity that ECOSOC has provided through establishing the new Task Force. She reiterated the importance of the tobacco control. She also thanked members for their engagement and enthusiasm and their determination to work as one support to the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020.

Future dates

16. The following dates were shared by WHO:

- 12-13 June 2014: ECOSOC coordination and management meeting (New York) will consider the Secretary-General's report to ECOSOC on the implementation of resolution 2013/12;
- 16-17 June 2014: 3rd Meeting of the Task Force, New York, to be hosted by UNDP and co-chaired by WHO and UNDP.

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Annex 1: List of Participants

**SECOND MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION
AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES
29 – 30 JANUARY 2014
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Annex 2: Agenda

SECOND MEETING OF THE UN TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NCDs 29-30 JANUARY 2014 SALLE C, WHO GENEVA

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 29 January 2014

Moderator: Mr Werner Obermeyer, Senior External Relations Officer, WHO Office at the UN

- 09:00 – 09:15** Welcome and introductions and review of meeting notes of 2-3 Oct. 13
Dr Oleg Chestnov, ADG, NMH
- 09:15 – 09:45** Outcomes of the 11-15 November 2013 meetings of Member States and WHO Executive Board (20-25 January 2014) discussions on:
- (i) the draft terms of reference for the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs;
 - (ii) the draft terms of reference for a global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of NCDs;
 - (iii) a limited set of action plan indicators for the WHO global action plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013-2020 and implications for the UN Task Force;
 - (iv) sequencing of reports by WHO and evaluations; and
 - (v) priority actions recommended for Member States
- Update on ongoing discussions on the preparations for the UN General Assembly NCD Review in 2014
Drs Douglas Bettcher and Nick Banatvala, WHO and followed by discussion
- 09:45 – 10:15** Update from agencies
All
- 10:15 – 10:30** Report to ECOSOC. Outline, key messages, timetable and process
Werner Obermeyer and followed by discussion
- 10:30 – 11:00** *Coffee break*
- 11:00 – 11:45** Update on a one-WHO NCD work plan and its implications for the UN Task Force. *Dr Bente Mikkelsen, WHO and followed by discussion*

11:45 – 13:00 Development of a work plan for 2014-2015
Dr Nick Banatvala and followed by discussion

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 17:00 Development of a work plan for 2014-2015
Discussion (continued)
(includes coffee break)

Thursday, 30 January 2014

Moderator: Mr Werner Obermeyer, Senior External Relations Officer, WHO Office at the United Nations

09:00 – 09:30 Summary of Day 1
Mr Werner Obermeyer

09:30 – 10:00 Issues arising from EB/2013/61(Ad hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control Report of the Secretary-General)
Dr Douglas Bettcher and followed by discussion

10:00 – 10:30 Update on the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control since March 2013 meeting
Dr Vijay Trivedi, Convention Secretariat, WHO FCTC and followed by discussion

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 – 12:30 Agency update since the last meeting in March 2013
All

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 14:30 Tobacco and reproductive health: clinical guidelines and implications for UN agencies
Dr Edouard Tursan D'Espaignet

14:30 – 16:00 Round table discussion: governance as an overarching obligation in line with Article 5 of the Convention (facilitated by Convention Secretariat)
(includes coffee break)

16:00 – 17:00

- Review of the UN IATF work plan for 2014-2015: update in the light of Day 2 discussions
- Report to ECOSOC: update on outline, key messages, timetable and process in the light of Day 2 discussions

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