Key mission findings

1. There is commitment at the highest level in the Ministry of Public Health to address NCDs.

2. Government ministries such as the ministries of Planning, Finance and Social Affairs have shown their willingness to support NCD prevention and control.

3. NCDs are included in the National Health Development Plan 2011-2015, but there is very limited funding for NCDs.

4. The draft NCD Action Plan 2015-2020 has a strong focus on NCD management but less on preventing NCDs. National targets have not yet been included in the Action Plan.

5. A draft tobacco control bill has been under development since 2006 and the draft law has been under examination in Parliament since February 2014.

6. Where policies and guidelines exist, inadequate financial and human resources are preventing their implementation.

“Je peux vous assurer de mon implication personnelle pour le suivi à faire sur toutes ces questions cruciales liées aux MNT et à leurs facteurs de risque.”

Aubin Minaku
President of the National Assembly

Key adult NCD mortality and risk factors*: NCDs are a growing concern in DRC, causing nearly 1 in 4 deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>premature mortality from NCDs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>smoke tobacco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>insufficiently physical active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>are obese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>have diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>have hypertension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>have hypertension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>eat insufficient amounts of fruit and vegetables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drink 3.6 litres of pure alcohol per person per year

*NCDs are a growing concern in DRC, causing nearly 1 in 4 deaths
**Key recommendations**

1. Finalize the multi-sectoral action plan, including national targets and expand the National AIDS Programme or the National Nutrition Council to include coordination of NCDs.

2. Provide UN support to help the government set out the economic and business/investment case for investing in NCDs.

3. The Tobacco Control Bill should be adopted as soon as possible, as well as the agreement that some of the revenue from tobacco taxation is to be used to finance action to combat NCDs.

4. Strengthen surveillance and monitoring of NCDs and their risk factors and improving data quality and coverage nationwide.

5. The UN Country Team to identify a clear mechanism to drive forward coherent support for the government on NCDs, including funding for a National Professional Officer to coordinate a coherent UN response in the area of NCDs.

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**Next steps**


2. Integration of WHO recommended tools to standardize NCD data collection in the National Health Information System.

3. Adoption of the Tobacco Control Bill in the March 2016 parliamentary session.

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**“The mission pushed ahead activities and encouraged people from many different sectors to come together and discuss NCDs and identified priorities for support and helped raise funds for a consultant to assist in finalising the National Multi-Sectoral Action Plan.”**

*Adolphe NkongoloWHO NCD Focal Point, Kinshasa*

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**Adding value: actions taken following the mission**

1. Numerous sectors have been encouraged to come together to discuss NCDs.

2. A professor from Kinshasa School of Public Health has been recruited with WHO financial support as a consultant to finalize the National Multi-Sectoral Action Plan.

3. The Tobacco Control Bill is now under consideration in Parliament: Progress spurred on by discussions during the mission and subsequent support.

4. UNCare programme hosted an NCD awareness day at WHO, with over 700 attendees. Numerous tests for NCD risk factors were carried out and the data will be compiled and shared.