Preliminary draft Scope and Purpose

Dialogue on NCDs and International Cooperation

Dialogue on how to strengthen international cooperation on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases within the framework of North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation

Monday 30 November – Tuesday 1 December 2015
(preceded by Pre-Discussion stakeholder meetings on 29 Nov)

Executive Board Room, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

Mandate
Pursuant to objective 1, Action 1.2. of the work plan 2014-2015 for the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on Noncommunicable Diseases (GCM/NCD), the GCM/NCD will convene a Dialogue on how to strengthen international cooperation on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCD) within the framework of North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation.

Venue
The Dialogue will take place on 30 November 2015 and 1 December 2015 at the WHO Executive Board Room, 20 Avenue Appia, Geneva, Switzerland. Pre-Discussion events on Sunday 29 November will convene subsets of stakeholders (non-state actors and the UN system) to prepare their respective inputs to the Dialogue. On the evening of 29 November a reception for all participants of these events and the ensuing Dialogue will be held.

Scope
Being the first global meeting convened by the WHO on NCDs following the United Nations General Assembly Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 development Agenda (New York, 25-27 September 2015), the Dialogue will provide an opportunity to explore how to countries can fulfil their NCD commitments in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2015-2030, which includes a global target to, by 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from NCDs.

The Dialogue will build on the acknowledgement from world leaders that NCDs constitute one of the major challenges for development in the 21st century, that NCDs worsen poverty, while poverty contributes to rising rates of NCDs, making NCDs a contributing factor to poverty and hunger.

The Dialogue will provide a platform for an interactive, strategic multistakeholder discussion on how countries can fulfil the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in 2011 and

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1 See action 2.1 in document A67/14 Add.3 Rev.1 available at http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67/A67_14Add3Rev1-en.pdf?ua=1
2014\textsuperscript{3} to strengthen international cooperation on the prevention and control of NCDs within the framework of North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation. The dialogue will result in a report with recommendations.

In 2011, world leaders assembled at the United Nations General Assembly for the first UN High-level Meeting on NCDs stressed the importance of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation in the prevention and control of NCDs\textsuperscript{4}. Accordingly, in 2014, Ministers assembled at the United Nations General Assembly for the second UN High-level Meeting on NCDs, committed themselves to:

1. **strengthen international cooperation** through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation in the prevention and control of NCDs to promote at the national, regional and international levels an enabling environment to facilitate healthy lifestyles and choices, bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South collaboration\textsuperscript{5};

2. **align international cooperation** on NCDs with national plans concerning NCDs in order to strengthen aid effectiveness and the development impact of external resources in support of NCDs\textsuperscript{6};

3. **strengthen international cooperation** in support of national plans for the prevention and control of NCDs, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health promotion, legislation, regulation, strengthening of health systems, training of health-care personnel and the development of appropriate health-care infrastructure and diagnostics and by promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms for the production of affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines and vaccines, while recognizing the leading role of WHO as the primary specialized agency for health in that regard\textsuperscript{7}.

In discussing the progress against the above commitments, the Dialogue provides an opportunity to advocate for NCDs as a challenge to sustainable development that requires multisectoral action by development and other stakeholders beyond the health sector, take commitments forward within the newly adopted Post-2015 SDG framework, and explore opportunities for innovation and scaling up of current initiatives, including by learning from experiences in international cooperation in different development areas, such as poverty eradication, environment, climate change, and HIV/AIDS.

\textsuperscript{3} A/RES/68/300: 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.

\textsuperscript{4} See paragraph 48 of resolution A/RES/66/2 (2011 Political Declaration on NCDs) available at http://www.who.int/nmh/events/un_npd_summit2011/political_declaration_en.pdf?ua=1

\textsuperscript{5} See paragraph 31 of resolution A/RES/68/300 (2014 Outcome Document on NCDs) available at http://www.who.int/nmh/events/2014/a-res-68-300.pdf?ua=1

\textsuperscript{6} See paragraph 30(a)(ix) of resolution A/RES/68/300 (2014 Outcome Document on NCDs)

\textsuperscript{7} See paragraph 30(g)(h) of resolution A/RES/68/300 (2014 Outcome Document)
Participants
The participants will be Member States, United Nations agencies and other IGOs, NGOs in official relations with WHO, as well as eligible participants to the WHO GCM/NCD, which include philanthropic foundations, WHO collaborating centres, academic institutions and selected private sector entities, and invited speakers and resource persons.

Co-Chairs
- An Ambassador from a developing country
- An Ambassador from a developed country

Why now?
Over 14 million people die each year from NCDs between the ages of 30 and 70, of which 85 per cent are in developing countries, making the largest contribution to mortality in the majority of developing countries. It is estimated that up to two-thirds of these premature deaths from NCDs are linked to risk factors – namely, tobacco use, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, and the harmful use of alcohol – and up to half of all such deaths are linked to weak health systems that do not respond to the health-care needs of people with NCDs – principally cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes. Most of these premature deaths from NCDs can be prevented by governments taking a leading role and responsibility in implementing an agreed package of “best buys” for NCDs.

The probability of dying from one of the main NCDs between the ages of 30 and 70 ranges from 10% in high-income countries to 40% in low-income countries. The underlying drivers for the inequalities between countries are:
- poverty
- the effects of globalization of marketing and trade in the absence of regulatory, statutory and policy frameworks to reduce risk factors for NCDs
- unplanned rapid urbanization
- population ageing.

Accordingly, a multisectoral, whole-of-government and whole-of-society response is needed to prevent and control NCDs and avert their threat to undermine development gains. As often said: “You can’t do development without addressing NCDs” and vice-versa.

The world has unprecedented opportunities – now and in 2016 and 2017 – to strengthen international cooperation on tackling NCDs for sustainable development. On the one hand, the road map of national commitments made in 2011 and 2014 have united all countries around a common action agenda. On the other hand, it is has become clear that tackling NCDs will be prominent in the post-2015 development agenda which will be adopted in September 2015.

Aim
To mobilize stakeholders from multiple sectors, including poverty eradication, climate change, urban planning, gender, education, taxation, food and pharmaceutical production, in strengthening national efforts to address NCDs, and to raise the priority accorded to NCDs in international cooperation.
Objectives

- Explore if the achievement of the NCD-related targets in the SDGs requires international cooperation to significantly step up its efforts to include NCDs into discussions on strengthening international development cooperation, maximizing its effectiveness, transparency, impact and results, and related investment decisions.

- Review international cooperation experience among DAC Members in investing in projects supporting national NCD efforts and identify lessons learned.

- Identify successful approaches in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation between countries aimed at supporting national NCD efforts.

- Analyse the extent to which national NCD efforts benefit from international cooperation provided in areas beyond NCDs, including support to the health sector, as well as poverty eradication, climate change, urban planning, gender, education, taxation, food and pharmaceutical production.

- Brainstorm about the ways and means to better integrate NCDs into the international cooperation architecture in the post-2015 SDG-era with a view to ensuring that the NCD-related targets will be attained in 2030.

- Discuss if the use of existing or new innovative financing mechanisms for additional financing based on models combining public and private resources would enable countries to better address NCDs.

- Explore how trade can contribute to the NCD-related targets in the SDGs, how the health and trade sectors can further integrate health and trade policies, and how these sectors can closer engage in contributing to the design of trade policies and trade agreements that are health promoting.

- Discuss the role of philanthropic foundations, NGOs, academia and WHO Collaborating Centres, private sector entities, and the UN System in raising the priority accorded to NCDs in international cooperation on NCDs.

Key questions to be addressed at the Dialogue

- Where do we stand in raising the priority accorded to NCDs within international cooperation?

- How can international cooperation provided within the framework of the goal 3 (health) of Sustainable Development Goals support countries in their national NCD efforts?

- How can international cooperation provided within the framework of the SDGs to support sectors like poverty eradication, climate change, urban planning, gender, education, taxation, food and pharmaceutical production, also strengthen national efforts to address NCDs?

- How can the UN system, philanthropic foundations, NGOs and private sector entities ensure that the priority given to the prevention and control of NCDs on the international cooperation agenda is raised?
• How can international cooperation support efforts to promote trade as an engine of economic growth and development, while safeguarding areas critical for public health?

• A High-level Segment will address the “fitness” of the international cooperation architecture to support countries in building national NCD solutions, and how to get it into shape for the post-2015 era.

Format
- **Pre-Discussion events on Sunday 29 November 2015**: Groups of stakeholders such as philanthropic foundations, NGOs (or sub groups thereof, e.g. youth NGOs), private sector entities, and the UN System are encouraged to convene in separate groups in the lead up to the Dialogue, preferably on the day prior to the Dialogue (Sunday 29 November 2015) to analyse how different stakeholders can ensure that the priority given to the prevention and control of NCDs on the international cooperation agenda is raised. Representatives of stakeholder groups interested in organizing a pre-dialogue event, are encouraged to inform the WHO GCM/NCD Secretariat so that an appropriate space can be provided for the respective groups to have a voice or visibility as part of the Dialogue programme. Please see annex 1 for more details on the modalities of the pre Dialogue events.

- **Evening of 29 November**: a reception for all participants of the Pre-Discussion meetings and the ensuing Dialogue will be held.

- **Two-day Dialogue meeting on Monday 30 November to Tuesday 1 December**: in WHO’s Executive Boardroom

- **Evening reception on Monday 30 November**

- **High-level Segment on Day Two (1 Dec)**

- **Interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations**

- **Web conferencing/ WebEx in the six official languages of the United Nations**

- **Co-Chairs to lead the Dialogue**

- **Moderation of technical sessions by selected keynote speakers**

Documentation
- Background paper
- Policy briefs (to be prepared by speakers from each session)
- Case studies
- Audio-visual documentation (videos, photographs)

**Overarching principles and approaches at the Dialogue**

- **Alignment**: Discussions at the Dialogue will align with the outcome of the UN Summit in September 2015 on the adoption of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda at the United Nations General Assembly, and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa in July 2015, as well as the principles of relevant international agreements on development aid effectiveness, including the Paris Declaration, the Accra Agenda for Action, and the Busan Partnership agreement.
Multistakeholder and multisectoral engagement: discussions at the Dialogue will align with the mandate of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs to facilitate and enhance coordination of activities, multi-stakeholder engagement and action across sectors at the local, national, regional and global levels, in order to contribute to the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020.

Upholding commitments: Discussions at the Dialogue will uphold the commitments made by governments on addressing NCDs at the United Nations General Assembly and the World Health Assembly, including the 2011 UN Political Declaration on NCDs, 2014 UN Outcome Document on NCDs, WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020, WHO Global Monitoring Framework on NCDs (including its 9 global targets), WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs, and UN Interagency Task Force on NCDs.

Observing the Principles and Approaches of the WHO Global Action Plan 2013-2020: the discussions at the Dialogue will take into account overarching principles and approaches indicated in the Global Action Plan 2013-2020 (para. 18), i.e. life-course approach; empowerment of people and communities; evidence-based strategies; universal health coverage; management of real, perceived or potential conflicts of interest; human rights approach; equity-based approach; national action and international cooperation and solidarity; and multisectoral action.

Expected output
- A report summarizing the outcomes and recommendations of the Dialogue
- Policy briefs
- Case studies with lessons learned to inform future decisions on strengthening and aligning international cooperation on NCDs.
Annex 1: Pre-Dialogue events – guiding principles

- Pre-Dialogue meetings are ‘side events’ which are organized independently of the Dialogue.

- Different groupings of stakeholders, e.g. private sector entities, philanthropic foundations, NGOs, possible subgroups of NGOs such as youth groups, and the UN system – are encouraged to assemble prior to the Dialogue, preferably on the day before the Dialogue (Sunday 29 November), with a view to kick-starting discussions on the topic of the Dialogue within their respective circles, which will serve as an input into the Dialogue.

- Pre-Dialogue events should discuss the topic of the Dialogue, including different stakeholders’ contribution to ensuring that the priority given to NCDs in international cooperation is raised, define key messages and recommendations to feed into the Dialogue.

- A convening entity within each group should take the lead in convening relevant parties. The WHO GCM/NCD Secretariat can help facilitate the initial steps, but will otherwise not be influencing on the content of these pre Dialogue events.

- The WHO GCM/NCD Secretariat will work with the conveners of the Pre-Dialogue events to define an appropriate space and/or the visibility of the respective stakeholder groups to convey key messages and/or recommendations to the Dialogue.

- For the sake of consistency and coordination, the GCM/NCD will provide a proposed format for both written and verbal reports from the Pre-Dialogue events.