WHO Independent High-level Commission on NCDs

INFORMATION NOTE

What is the Commission tasked to do?

The Commission is convened by the WHO Director-General to advise him on bold, forward-looking, innovative – and at the same time practical – recommendations on how to accelerate progress towards SDG target 3.4 on NCDs (see Terms of Reference for the Commission\(^1\)). As part of its first phase, the Commission is tasked to produce a report by 1 June 2018.

Who are the Commissioners?

The proposed list of Commissioners was published on WHO’s website\(^2\) on 1 February 2018 for a two-week period, during which the public has the opportunity to provide information on any conflicts of interest. The confirmed list of Commissioners will be published on 15 February 2018.

What are the events in which the Commissioners are invited to participate?

During its first phase, the Commission will meet three times before the launch of the report:

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<th>Meeting</th>
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| 2 March 2018     | Virtual     | – Agree on the scope and purpose for the first phase of the work of the Commission  
|                  |             | – Agree on the method of work                                              | Summary       |
| 26 March 2018    | Virtual     | – Appraise and prioritize the recommendations made during a technical consultation held with global NCD experts and advocates (21-22 March 2018)  
|                  |             | – Agree on the contours of the preliminary report                          | Preliminary report |
| 7 May 2018       | WHO Geneva  | – Appraise and prioritize the feedback received during a web-based consultation (1-20 April 2018) on the preliminary report  
|                  |             | – Agree on the recommendations of the report to the WHO Director-General    | Report         |
| 1 June 2018      | TBD         | – Launch of the report                                                     |               |

What are the organizational arrangements?

The first two virtual meetings will be conducted by web conferencing using Cisco WebEx. Commissioners can join from any internet browser. The meetings will be convened starting at 13:00 (Geneva time) and will adjourn before 15:00 (Geneva time). Commissioners are invited to both virtual meetings. Due to technical limitations, the virtual meetings will be conducted in English only.

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\(^{1}\) [http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/high-level-commission/en/](http://www.who.int/ncds/governance/high-level-commission/en/)

Commissioners wishing to speak in another language are encouraged to use whisper translation. An agenda, joining instructions and documentation will be emailed closer to the virtual meetings.

The face-to-face meeting of the Commission will take place on 7 May 2018 at the WHO Executive Board Room, WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland. Interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Working hours will be from 09:30 to 12:30 and 14:00 to 17:00. Commissioners will be contacted in due course by WHO to start their preparations for travel and visa arrangements. Financial provisions are available to support Commissioners from low- and middle-income countries, as needed.

Where to find additional information on NCDs?

- The report of the United Nations Secretary-General on the prevention and control of NCDs, including progress since 2011, will be published shortly (in six official UN languages).
- The report of the WHO Director-General on the preparations for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs is available on the website of WHO’s Executive Board\(^3\) (in six official UN languages).
- The “best buys and other recommended interventions for the prevention and control of NCDs”, endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2017, is available on WHO’s website\(^4\) (in six official languages).
- The website of the Commission, which includes a first “think piece” on why 2018 is a strategically important year for NCDs. More think pieces will follow.

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\(^3\) [http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb142.html](http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb142.html)  