First WHO Global Meeting of
National NCD Programme Directors and Managers
(Geneva, 15-17 February 2016)

Briefing Note
Setting the scene
Monday, 15 February 2016, from 10:45 to 12:00

Context

The first WHO Global Meeting of National NCD Programme Directors and Managers is taking place at a critical juncture in the global struggle to contain the epidemic of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). We are just two years away from the third UN High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2018 which will, for the second time, review the global progress in the prevention and control of NCDs.

At the second UN High-level Meeting on NCDs in July 2014, Ministers of Health noted the urgent need to accelerate progress in prevention and control of NCD. They collectively, committed to prioritize four immediate domestic actions:

- By 2015, consider setting national NCD targets for 2025
- By 2015, consider developing national multisectoral policies and plans to achieve the national targets by 2025
- By 2016, reduce risk factors for NCDs, building on guidance set out in the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020

WHO is monitoring the progress in realizing these four commitments using a set of 10 indicators. Although data collected in 2015 shows progress, majority of countries are not on track in meeting their commitments. The objective of this first WHO Global Meeting of National NCD Programme Directors and Managers is to assist all countries to realize the four commitments in a timely fashion.

In 2017, WHO will report to the UN General Assembly on the progress achieved in the implementation of these time-bound commitments. Based on this WHO report in 2017, progress on prevention and control of NCDs will be reviewed at a third UN High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2018.

Objectives

This “setting the scene” session seeks to help participants understand where we currently are:
• in implementing the four time-bound commitments for 2015 and 2016
• in reaching the nine global NCD targets for 2025
• in integrating the NCD prevention and control in national Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) responses to reach the NCD-related SDG targets for 2030.

Expected outcomes

At the end of this session, participants will have:

• learned about the current global status in implementing the four time-bound commitments for 2015 and 2016
• learned about the progress and gaps in the attainment of the nine global NCD targets for 2025
• reflected on the importance of integrating the NCD prevention and control in national SDG responses to reach the NCD-related SDG targets for 2030
• understood how this meeting can assist them in fulfilling their responsibility of ensuring that their countries succeed in meeting the four time bound commitments and reaching the NCD targets.

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