

October 2015



World Health
Organization



News update from the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCD (NCD/GCM) and the UN Interagency Task Force on NCD (UNIATF)

GCM/NCD news

GCM/NCD Secretariat news

The GCM/NCD welcomed a new staff member, Dr Guy Fones. Guy is a medical doctor by training with 25 years' experience and achievements in the public, private and global health sectors. He joins WHO as Advisor directly from his previous post as Health Attaché for the Permanent Mission of Chile here in Geneva. Guy's first task will be to prepare for the work of the three new working groups to be established under the WHO GCM/NCD in 2016-2017 <http://www.who.int/global-coordination-mechanism/working-groups/>:

1. [Working Group for the Action 3.1](#) of the 2016-2017 GCM work plan will be established "to recommend ways and means of encouraging Member States and non-State actors to promote the inclusion of the prevention and control of NCDs within responses to HIV/AIDS and programmes for sexual and reproductive health and maternal and child health, as well as other communicable disease programmes, such as those on tuberculosis, including as part of wider efforts to strengthen and orient health systems to address the prevention and control of NCDs through people-centred primary health care and universal health coverage".
2. [Working Group for Action 3.2](#) of the 2016-2017 GCM work plan will be established "to recommend ways and means of encouraging Member States and non-State actors to 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 noncommunicable diseases".
3. [Working Group for Action 3.3](#) of the 2016-2017 work plan will be established "to recommend ways and means of encouraging Member States and non-State actors to promote health education and health literacy for NCDs, with a particular focus on populations with low health awareness and/or literacy, and taking into account the cost-effective and affordable interventions for all Member States contained in Appendix 3 of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020".

[Information Note 3](#) sets out the process for the creation of the three new Working Groups. Additional information is available on the GCM/NCD Working Group webpages [here](#).

Participants to the work of the GCM/NCD

The WHO GCM/NCD initiated an open-ended call for interest for participation of non-State actors in the work of the GCM/NCD in September 2014. The GCM/NCD has accepted the first set of participants to its work on NCDs and have been listed on the GCM/NCD website [here](#).

Expressions of interest to participate in the work of the WHO GCM/NCD include the completion of a [pre-registration form](#). The eligibility criteria to be considered a participant of the work of the GCM/NCD can be found in Information Note 1 [here](#).

Meetings and events

WHO GCM/NCD Working Groups (2014-2015)

The WHO GCM/NCD Working Group on engagement with the private sector (Working Group 3.1) and the Working Group on NCDs and financing (Working Group 5.1) held their third meeting during the week of 21 September 2015. The meeting summaries of both meetings will be posted on the GCM/NCD website shortly.

Fifth meeting of the UN Interagency Task Force on NCDs

The Fifth meeting of the NCD Task Force was held 26-27 October 2015 and was attended by representatives from 23 UN agencies, programmes and funds. The Task Force reviewed progress reports from countries that have received Task Force programming missions. Members of the Task Force agreed that there has been good progress in moving the NCD agenda forward in these fast track countries. The Task Force also agreed that, moving forward, progress of the work of the UN Country Teams will be measured against the 10 WHO NCD Progress Monitor indicators which WHO published on 1 May 2015.

The latest achievements of the ongoing WHO/ITU Global Joint Programme on mHealth for NCDs was highlighted. Three other Global Joint Programmes, which are under development (two on cancer and one on multisectoral action for NCDs) were discussed so that they can be finalized during the next months. A new thematic group on the harmful use of alcohol has been established which WHO and UNDP are jointly chairing.

Task Force members also decided to develop a communications campaign to highlight the ongoing work of the WHO-led Task Force in countries.

The meeting also agreed the contours of the 2016-2017 work plan which to be focused on acceleration of national NCD responses.

United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force visits Mongolia and Sri Lanka

Mongolia

UN Task Force conducted a joint mission to Mongolia with WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) needs assessment mission on 7-11 September to support the government in reducing premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), a country where the probability of premature death is 32%.

Mongolia became the second country in the WHO Western Pacific Region to receive the Joint Mission of the UN Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs. The mission included representatives from WHO, FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and the ADB.

The missions concluded that the epidemic of NCDs is now a serious concern in Mongolia. Half of adult males in the country are tobacco smokers. One out of three people have raised blood pressure, and one out of five have diabetes. They also found that the main risk factors for NCDs in Mongolia are tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity.

Sri Lanka

A joint mission of the NCD Task Force visited Sri Lanka from 5-9 October to support the government in tackling NCDs - principally cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancers, and chronic respiratory diseases. The mission included representatives from IOM, ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNV, WFP, World Bank and WHO, which led the mission.

During the visit the Joint Mission met with high-level officials from central and local government, the President of Sri Lanka, Speaker of the Parliament, development partners, representatives of the private sectors, professional associations and civil society.

Task Force issued a number of recommendations both to Mongolia and Sri Lanka and concrete actions to the Governments and provide continuous support and technical expertise to the national efforts to fight against NCDs in these countries.

Dialogue on how to strengthen international cooperation (30 November – 1 December 2015)

The 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 will take place on 30 Nov and 1 Dec at WHO Headquarters. The documents for the Dialogue are posted on the GCM/NCD website [here](#).

The updated Provisional Programme and the Scope and Purpose Paper for the Dialogue will be finalized this week and will be posted on the GCM/NCD website with an update on how interested parties can engage in the [Pre-Dialogue Caucuses](#). The online registration form to participate in the dialogue is available [here](#). The deadline to receive completed online registration forms is **7 November 2015**.

The WebEx online platform will be used to allow participants who are not able to attend in person to listen in on the sessions of the Dialogue meetings. The WebEx invitations will be posted [here](#) the week before the meeting. All official WHO languages will be available and it

will also be necessary to complete a WebEx registration form for each day of the Dialogue before being linked to the sessions.

Recent Publications and Resources

Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including SDGs, were adopted during the UN Sustainable Development Summit (New York, 25-27 September 2015).

- The Outcome Document (adopted as resolution A/RES/70/1) is available on the UN website [here](#) and [here](#).
- Summary of statements delivered by Member States at the Summit is available [here](#).
- Statement published on WHO's website welcoming the SDGs is available [here](#).

WHO NCD Progress Monitor 2015

WHO launched the WHO NCD Progress Monitor 2015 on Friday, 25 September 2015 during a side event at the Summit. The full report and executive summary are available [here](#).

New NCD focused website

The Noncommunicable Disease and Mental Health Cluster has launched a new website to better reflect WHO's work under programme area 2.1 (NCDs): www.who.int/ncds/. The subpages of this website are the following:

1. [NCD prevention](#)
2. [Management of NCDs](#)
3. [NCD surveillance](#)
4. [Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs](#)
5. [UN Task Force on NCDs](#)
6. [Governance \(UNGA/ECOSOC/WHA resolutions and reports on NCDs\)](#)
7. [National NCD plans](#)
8. [Publications and tools](#)

The [NCD cluster website](#) will be used to better reflect WHO's common work under Category 2 (NCDs) that covers all five programme areas in addition to NCDs and includes mental health and substance abuse, violence and injuries, disabilities and rehabilitation and nutrition.

WHO Global status report on road safety 2015

The [news release](#) on the WHO Global status report on road safety 2015 was released on 19 October 2015. The Global status report comprises a narrative text combining evidence, facts and best practices with conclusions drawn following the analysis of the data collected for 180 countries. The full report and one-page profiles for each participating country and statistical annexes can be found [here](#).

Upcoming meetings and events

- 30 November – 1 December: Dialogue on how to strengthen North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation on NCDs.
- 1 December: Lunch time seminar on NCDs and financing. WebEx invitation will be posted under “Webinars” [here](#).

Important Links

- WHO GCM/NCD <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-coordination-mechanism/>
- NCD Homepage: <http://www.who.int/nmh/>
- NCD Tools: <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-tools/>
- UNIATF: <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-task-force/>

The WHO GCM/NCD can be contacted at gcmncd@who.int.

The UNIATF can be contacted at unncdtaskforce@who.int.

Vacancies

No vacancies for this month.