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# **Draft terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Decision EB134(1) on the follow-up to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases requested the Director-General to convene a second formal meeting of Member States,<sup>1</sup> to be held before the end of April 2014, in order to conclude the work on the development of terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, submitting the report of that meeting to the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly for its consideration.<sup>2</sup>

## **DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE**

2. Pursuant to subparagraphs 3(2) and 3(3) of resolution WHA66.10, a first formal meeting of Member States was held in Geneva from 11 to 13 November 2013 in order to conclude work on the terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. The report of that first formal meeting is contained in the Annex, and contains the work under way (Appendix) that resulted from the first formal meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

<sup>2</sup> See document EB134/14 Annex 2 and Appendix.

ANNEX

**REPORT OF THE FIRST FORMAL MEETING OF MEMBER STATES TO  
CONCLUDE THE WORK ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GLOBAL  
COORDINATION MECHANISM ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF  
NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

1. The Formal Meeting of Member States to conclude the work on the terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases was held in Geneva from 11 to 13 November 2013, chaired by Ms Maria Luisa Escorel de Moraes (Brazil). The session was attended by representatives of 116 Member States and one regional economic integration organization.
2. The second WHO discussion paper (document A/NCD/GCM/1/2) and a report summarizing the results of the discussions in each of the regional committees (document A/NCD/GCM/1/INF./1) were considered by Member States.
3. The attached draft terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (Appendix) resulted from the Formal Meeting. It is important to note the elements of consensus that were reached on various aspects, which are reflected in the text. Member States requested more time to consider elements where consensus has not been achieved, including on the new proposal reflected in paragraphs 7 to 11, which was presented during the formal meeting.
4. The Formal Meeting requests the Director-General to submit this report and attached draft terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases to the Executive Board at its 134th session for its consideration.
5. The Formal Meeting recommends that the Executive Board considers requesting the Director-General to ensure a follow-up process, including another formal meeting, with a view to completing the work on the development of terms of reference for the global coordination mechanism on noncommunicable diseases before the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly.

## Appendix

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE GLOBAL COORDINATION  
MECHANISM ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF  
NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES****Scope and purpose (AGREED)**

1. The scope and purpose of the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases are to facilitate and enhance coordination of activities, multistakeholder 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, while avoiding duplication of efforts, using resources in an efficient and results-oriented way, and safeguarding WHO and public health from any undue influence by any form of real, perceived or potential conflicts of interest. (AGREED)

**Overarching principles, approaches and parameters (AGREED)**

2. The global coordination mechanism will be guided by the overarching principles and approaches as identified, respectively, in paragraph 18, and parameters in paragraph 15, of the annex to resolution WHA66.10. (AGREED)

3. The global coordination mechanism will build on country needs and will ultimately aim at supporting country efforts across sectors to implement the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)

**Functions of the global coordination mechanism (AGREED)**

4. Guided by, and in line with, the six objectives of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020, the functions of the global coordination mechanism will be as follows: (AGREED)

- **Advocating and raising awareness:** Advocating for and raising awareness of the urgency of implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020; mainstreaming the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the international development agenda; and giving due consideration to the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in discussions on the post-2015 development agenda. (AGREED)
- **Disseminating knowledge and information:** Disseminating knowledge and sharing information based on scientific evidence and/or best practices regarding the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020, including health promotion, prevention, control, monitoring and surveillance of NCDs. (AGREED)
- **Encouraging innovation and identifying barriers:** Provide a forum to identify barriers and share innovative solutions and actions for the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)
- **Advancing multisectoral action:** Advance multisectoral action by identifying and promoting sustained actions across sectors that can contribute to and support the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)

- **Advocating for the mobilization of resources:** Identifying and sharing information on existing and potential sources of finance and cooperation mechanisms at the local, national, regional and global levels for the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)

### **Participants (AGREED)**

5. The global coordination mechanism will be led by Member States.<sup>1</sup> Other participants may include, as appropriate:

- United Nations funds, programmes and organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations;
- Non-State actors.<sup>2</sup> (AGREED)

### **[Responsibilities of participants]**

6. [Participants should follow WHO normative guidance and technical tools, as appropriate to national circumstances, and their responsibilities will be to:

- Support the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020;
- Support national efforts for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, inter alia through exchange of information on best practices and dissemination of research findings and enhanced North–South cooperation, as well as South–South and triangular cooperation, with special attention to technical assistance;
- Demonstrably commit to promoting and protecting public health and willingness to participate in public reporting and accountability frameworks.]

**[EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP] (European Union (EU) and its Member States, Bahamas, India, Japan, Kenya, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey, Zimbabwe)/[ADVISORY GROUP] (South Africa, Zimbabwe)/[RESERVE POSITION] (Brazil, Islamic Republic of Iran)/(DELETE SECTION: Nigeria)**

7. [Governance of the global coordination mechanism will include the World Health Assembly, the Director-General and an International Advisory Group. The World Health Assembly will provide oversight as called for elsewhere in these terms of reference. The Director-General, in particular through the WHO Assistant Director-General for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, will promote the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020.] (United States of America (USA)) (DELETE SENTENCE: Brazil, EU and its Member States, Monaco)

### **AND/OR (Mexico)**

<sup>1</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

<sup>2</sup> Without prejudice to ongoing discussions on WHO's engagement with non-State actors, the engagement with non-State actors will follow the relevant rules currently being negotiated as part of WHO reform and to be considered, through the Executive Board, by the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly.

The [International]/[Expert] (EU and its Member States) Advisory Group will provide [guidance]/[advice] (China, EU and its Member States) to the Secretariat on the development, implementation and monitoring [and promoting/disseminating] (Mexico) of the workplan for the global coordination mechanism.] (EU and its Member States, Mexico, USA) (DELETE SENTENCE: Monaco). [ADD TIME LIMIT] (Brazil) [ADD ADVOCACY ROLE] (Canada)

8. [The [International]/[Expert] (EU and its Member States) Advisory Group will comprise [30]/[18] (EU and its Member States) members drawn [according to the WHO regulations for expert advisory panels and committees] (EU and its Member States) [from Member States in each WHO region [(4 from each region)]/(3 from each region)]/[2 from each region] (Libya, Monaco, Norway), representatives of [international partners] (three seats) and nongovernmental organizations (three seats)] (DELETE SECOND HALF OF SENTENCE: EU and its Member States). [ADD: ESTABLISH A SUBCOMMITTEE AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL] (Malaysia) Members will be appointed by the WHO [Assistant] (DELETE: EU and its Member States, Kenya) Director-General [for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health] (DELETE: EU and its Member States, Kenya) with a skill mix of internationally recognized [policy makers,] (DELETE: EU and its Member States) public health experts and technical experts in the field of noncommunicable diseases, taking into account balanced representation between developed and developing countries and the need to balance expertise from across the four major disease categories [and risk factors] (EU and its Member States).] (USA) [ADD: TRANSPARENCY OF APPOINTING THE MEMBERS] (Mexico)

9. [The [International]/[Expert] (EU and its Member States) Advisory Group will meet in person once a year and virtually other times as needed.] (USA)

10. [At each in person or virtual meeting of the [International]/[Expert] (EU and its Member States) Advisory Group, there will be a consultation segment with selected representatives of the private sector relevant to the agenda being discussed, taking into account any rules established as part of ongoing WHO discussions on engagement with non-State actors and safeguarding WHO and public health from undue influence by any form of real, perceived or potential conflicts of interest.] (USA) [ADD: SHOULD DEPEND ON VIEW OF THE MEMBERS] (Mexico) (DELETE PARAGRAPH: Brazil, Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan)

11. [The terms of reference for the [International] (DELETE: Monaco)/Expert Advisory Group [will be developed by the Secretariat, [in consultation] (Monaco)/[with Member States] (Brazil, China)/[with the full participation of] the members of the International Advisory Group] (DELETE SENTENCE: EU and its Member States, Mexico)). The final terms of reference will [for the approval of] (China, Monaco)/[be approved by] the Sixty-Seventh World Health Assembly.] (USA)

#### **[[Periodicity of] (DELETE: Japan) general meetings]**

12. [The global mechanism will meet [twice per year] (Nigeria)/[periodically, as needed, including virtual meetings] (Mexico, Norway, Switzerland, USA). The meetings will be co-chaired by WHO and a representative from a Member State. Efforts will be made to [[rotate]/[alternate] (Nigeria) meetings between Geneva and other WHO regions]/[hold the meetings in Geneva] (Mexico)], in order to increase the visibility of noncommunicable diseases and the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020 across the world. Additional regional and ad hoc meetings may also be held, as necessary.]

**[Working groups]**

13. [Working groups will provide a way for groups of Participants with similar interests to foster collaborative work under the umbrella of the global coordination mechanism on activities in line with the [functions above]/[six objectives of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020] (Canada, Panama).]

**[WHO's role as the Secretariat for the global coordination mechanism]**

14. WHO shall provide the Secretariat for the global coordination mechanism within WHO's Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Cluster and report to the WHO Director-General. (AGREED)

15. [The main functions of the Secretariat for the global coordination mechanism will be:

- [To [propose and facilitate discussions on the workplans] (Nigeria)/develop [proposals on workplans] (Chair) and [forge]/[facilitate] (Brazil, Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, Norway) consensus on workplans;]
- [To [develop] terms of reference for any working group; ]
- [To convene [and lead] (DELETE: Brazil, Islamic Republic of Iran) meetings of the global coordination mechanism [, including, as appropriate, working groups];]
- [To [encourage and] (DELETE: Norway) facilitate [strategic collaborative arrangements and alliances] among the Partners of a global coordination mechanism in line with the functions above;]
- [To act as a point of enquiries and information regarding the global coordination mechanism;]
- [To develop guidance to encourage Partners to be accountable for implementing a set of actions included in the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020;] (DELETE: Brazil, EU and its Member States, Norway)/[To facilitate accountability for implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020] (Chile, Mexico, USA) (DELETE: Brazil, Finland)/[To facilitate accountability for actions committed through the global coordination mechanism] (Canada)
- [To manage a website and virtual forum of the global coordination mechanism, including an up-to-date list of participants, an inventory of their activities, [a virtual practice community] and opportunities for virtual consultations]] (EU and its Member States).]

**[Workplan]**

16. [A workplan will set out the activities of the global coordination mechanism, including, as appropriate, any working groups. The workplan will be developed by the Secretariat, in collaboration with the [Participants]/[Member States] (India)/[Member States and Participants, following standard practices] (USA), and will cover a two-year period, aligned with the WHO Programme Budget cycle. [The final workplan will be approved by the [WHO Director-General]/[World Health Assembly through the WHO Executive Board] (EU and its Member States, Tanzania, USA).]

**[Administrative arrangements]**

17. [Participants will, in principle, be responsible for meeting their own expenses in relation to activities under a global coordination mechanism (including, but not limited to, travel and subsistence for attending meetings and participating in working groups).]

18. [The WHO Programme Budget 2014–2015 will include budgetary provisions to finance the work of the Secretariat for a global coordination mechanism.]

19. [Activities of the Secretariat for a global coordination mechanism will need to be financed through voluntary contributions to WHO, in accordance with standing WHO practices. Voluntary contributions from international partners and non-State actors to WHO in support of the activities of the Secretariat for a global coordination mechanism will be subject to standing WHO practices.]

**Lifespan of a global coordinating mechanism and evaluation**

20. The lifespan of the global coordination mechanism is planned to be from 2014 to 2020 in line with the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. A preliminary evaluation by the World Health Assembly will take place in 2017 to assess results and the added value of the global coordination mechanism, taking into account the progress report of the Global Action Plan and the post-2015 development agenda. A final evaluation will be presented for consideration of Member States to the World Health Assembly in 2021 to assess the effectiveness of the global coordination mechanism, its added value and its continued relevance to the achievement of the 2025 voluntary global targets, including its possible extension. The global coordination mechanism will evolve through the phases outlined below. (AGREED)

Year	Phase (TABLE AGREED)
2014	• Establishment of the global coordination mechanism, following the approval of terms of reference by the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly
2015–2017	• Work phase I
2017	• Preliminary evaluation
2018–2020	• Work phase II
2021	• Final evaluation

21. [The [Secretariat] (EU and its Member States, USA)/[for the global coordination mechanism]/[World Health Assembly] (Brazil, China, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico, Pakistan) will convene [an independent expert group] (Brazil, EU and its Member States, Norway, Sudan, USA)/[a representative group of Participants] in order to evaluate progress of a global coordination mechanism. [and will provide a report to the World Health Assembly] (USA)

**[Accountability]**

22. [Reports on the [progress achieved in implementing]/[achievements by] (EU and its Member States, USA) a global coordination mechanism for noncommunicable diseases, will be included in reports on progress made in implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020 in 2016, 2018 and 2021.] **AND** [The authority of WHO governing bodies over the activities under a global

coordination mechanism will be guaranteed in all instances, as well as WHO Governing Bodies' independence in definition of policies.] [CHANGE ORDER OF SENTENCES] (USA)

23. [For transparency and accountability purposes, international partners and non-State actors will report their work and results in implementing the activities included in the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020 to a global coordination mechanism.]

### [Conflict of interest]

24. [Participation in the global coordination mechanism will be determined by the WHO Secretariat in accordance with existing and future operational procedures.]

### [Links with the United Nations Inter-Agency Taskforce on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and alignment across WHO]

25. [United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations will be partners in a global coordination mechanism. WHO will convene a formal meeting of Member States on 13 and 14 November 2013 to complete work on the development of terms of reference for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases.]

26. [The areas of work of the WHO Secretariat detailed in resolution WHA66.10, the functions of a global coordination mechanism, and the objectives of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases are summarized in Table 1 below.]

[Table 1]

<b>Areas of work of the WHO Secretariat (resolution WHA66.10)</b>	<b>Functions of a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs</b>	<b>Objectives of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs</b>
<p>Provide technical support to Member States, as required, to support the implementation of the WHO global action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases 2013–2020.</p> <p>Provide technical support to Member States, as required, to establish or strengthen national surveillance and monitoring systems for noncommunicable diseases to support reporting under the global monitoring framework</p>	<p><b>Advocating and raising awareness:</b> Advocating for and raising awareness of the urgency of implementing the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020; mainstreaming the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the international development agenda; and giving due consideration to the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in discussions on the post–2015 development agenda. (AGREED)</p> <p><b>Disseminating knowledge and information:</b> Disseminating knowledge and sharing information based on scientific evidence and/or best practices regarding the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020, including health promotion, prevention, control, monitoring and surveillance of NCDs. (AGREED)</p>	<p>To enhance and coordinate systematic support to Member States, upon request, at the national level, in efforts to support responses to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases and mitigate their impacts.</p> <p>To facilitate systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases and mitigate their impacts, at</p>



<b>Areas of work of the WHO Secretariat (resolution WHA66.10)</b>	<b>Functions of a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs</b>	<b>Objectives of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs</b>
<p>for noncommunicable diseases.</p> <p>Provide technical support to Member States, as required, to engage/cooperate with non-health government sectors and, in accordance with principles for engagement, with non-State actors, in the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.</p>	<p><b>Encouraging innovation and identifying barriers:</b> Provide a forum to identify barriers and share innovative solutions and actions for the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)</p> <p><b>Advancing multisectoral action:</b> Advance multisectoral action by identifying and promoting sustained actions across sectors that can contribute to and support the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)</p> <p><b>Advocating for the mobilization of resources:</b> Identifying and sharing information on existing and potential sources of finance and cooperation mechanisms at the local, national, regional and global levels for implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020. (AGREED)</p>	<p>global, regional and national levels, including through the establishment of a virtual practice community for Members of the Task Force, with updates regularly circulated to subscribers, and the preparation and regular updating of an inventory of United Nations system activities on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.</p> <p>To facilitate information on available resources to support national efforts to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases and mitigate their impacts, and to undertake resource mobilization for the implementation of agreed activities, including for joint programmes in accordance with guidelines of the United Nations Development Group.</p> <p>To strengthen advocacy in order to raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases on the international development agenda, including the post–2015 development agenda, and sustain the interest of Heads of State and Government in realizing their commitments through statements, reports and participation in panels by high-level United Nations officials.</p> <p>To incorporate the work of the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, including by utilizing the matrix of</p>

<b>Areas of work of the WHO Secretariat (resolution WHA66.10)</b>	<b>Functions of a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs</b>	<b>Objectives of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs</b>
		<p>work of the Members of the United Nations Task Force on the implementation of the WHO FCTC, and to ensure that tobacco control continues to be duly addressed and prioritized in the new task force mandate.</p> <p>To strengthen international cooperation in support of national, regional and global plans for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health promotion, legislation, regulation and health systems strengthening, training of health personnel, 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 and the production of affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines and vaccines.</p>

[The key activities of the (i) WHO Secretariat in implementing the areas of work outlined in resolution WHA66.10; (ii) a Secretariat for a global coordination mechanism; and (iii) the Secretariat for the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, are included in WHO's Programme Budget 2014–2015.<sup>1</sup> Key activities are set out in Table 2 below.]

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<sup>1</sup> WHO core functions are: (i) providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed; (ii) shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge; (iii) setting norms and standards, and promoting and monitoring their implementation; (iv) articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options; (v) providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and (vi) monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

[Table 2]

Key activities of the WHO Secretariat in implementing the areas of work outlined in resolution WHA66.10.	Key activities of the WHO Secretariat within a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs	Key activities of the WHO Secretariat within the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs
<p>The specific products and services which the WHO Secretariat will deliver are currently under development. Work will be completed on 11 November 2013.</p>	<p><b>Enable health systems to respond:</b> Taking into account paragraph 45(b) of resolution A/RES/66/2, Heads of State and Government have committed to pursue, as appropriate, comprehensive strengthening of health systems that support primary health care. Taking into account resolution WHA66.10, Member States are urged to implement the WHO Global Action Plan 2013–2020, which includes cost-effective interventions and policy options to enable health systems to respond more effectively and equitably to the health-care needs of people with noncommunicable diseases.</p>	<p>Convene and lead meetings of the Task Force.</p> <p>Encourage and facilitate strategic collaborative arrangements and alliances among the Members of the Task Force to enhance support to national-level efforts to realize the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs, in particular through the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020.</p> <p>Create and manage a virtual practice community for Members of the Task Force.</p> <p>Create and update an online inventory of commitments and activities of the Members of the Task Force on the prevention and control of NCDs.</p> <p>Act as a point of enquiries and information regarding activities being undertaken by Members of the Task Force.</p> <p>Prepare summary reports of the meetings of the Task Force and publish these at <a href="http://www.who.int/ncd">www.who.int/ncd</a>, as well as progress reports on achieving the objectives of the Task Force, which will serve as an input into a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs.</p> <p>Coordinate the preparation of the report to ECOSOC through the United Nations Secretary-General and incorporate the work of the former United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, including the work to support the accelerated implementation by parties to the WHO FCTC.</p>

<b>Key activities of the WHO Secretariat in implementing the areas of work outlined in resolution WHA66.10.</b>	<b>Key activities of the WHO Secretariat within a global coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of NCDs</b>	<b>Key activities of the WHO Secretariat within the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs</b>
		Without prejudice to the accountability obligations of the Task Force, inform ECOSOC and the World Health Assembly on a regular basis of the progress made by the Task Force on the implementation of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013–2020, including an evaluation assessing its contribution as part of the final report foreseen for 2021.

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