

WHO SIDS Ministerial Conference on NCDs and Mental Health

SIDS commitments for NCDs and mental health

Background

The small island developing states (SIDS) ministerial conference on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health, co-hosted by the Government of Barbados on 14–16 June 2023, has set out an ambitious agenda to transform the capability of SIDS countries to proactively respond and effectively deliver health outcomes in relation to NCDs and mental health. This represents a critical step towards building and pursuing a collective vision and course of action for accelerating progress towards SDG target 3.4 on NCDs and mental health and SDG target 3.8 on universal health coverage (UHC) in preparation for the second High-level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage in 2023 and the fourth High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2025.

SIDS have identified the issues and drivers at the heart of the twin challenge posted by NCDs and mental health, and climate change, and are committing to action, mobilizing resources, showcasing successes, and collaborating with non-traditional partners, across many of the current frameworks and actions plans that guide these interconnecting agendas and vulnerabilities. SIDS will continue to call for solutions to these challenges through an integrated, global and coherent “climate change and health approach”, implemented by contextual whole-of-government and whole-of-society responses that are grounded in local culture and traditional knowledge and address the interconnected social, environmental, economic and commercial determinants.

Objective

The SIDS commitment page for NCDs and mental health invites all representatives of SIDS Member States and associated territories make commitments around central themes linked to the SIDS ministerial conference. Countries are asked to submit specific actions for implementation of cost-effective interventions to accelerate progress on NCDs, mental health and environmental action in the face of climate change, and unique vulnerabilities to achieve NCD voluntary targets in the NCD Global Action Plan, as well as SDG target 3.4 and related goals.

Scope of commitments

Submissions should encompass actions that countries have recently committed to, or forthcoming commitments for the near future (e.g. by the end of 2023) where there is a high likelihood to achieve set targets before 2025. An example of commitment and action statements is provided below. Please note that countries may submit commitments across a wide scope of interventions which should be informed by evidence-based guidance.

1	Commitment	To reduce tobacco use by 30% by 2025.
	Action	Issue regulation to implement plain packaging on tobacco products by [date].
2	Commitment	To stop the rise of obesity by 2025.
	Action	Implement tax on sugar-sweetened beverages by [date].
3	Commitment	To reduce prevalence of raised blood pressure by 25% by 2025.
	Action	Implement evidence-based national guidelines in X% PHC facilities for hypertension management by [date].
4	Commitment	To limit climate induced NCD morbidity and mortality by X% by [date].
	Action	Establish or strengthen national early warning and response systems (EWS) for extreme weather events by [date] to inform how governments, communities and individuals should act to minimize impacts of extreme weather events, including on NCDs and mental health.
5	Commitment	To enhance access to mental health and psychosocial support services.
	Action	Build capacity of PHC providers in the identification and management of priority mental health conditions (x% of facilities or providers) by [date].

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Submission template

Instructions

Please complete the following table, including a commitment with tangible and measurable actions across priority areas for NCDs, mental health and the environment, and target date to complete the action.

Kindly note that:

- Information provided in the below template will be reviewed by the WHO/PAHO Secretariat for inclusion in a public, online webpage featuring a table of country commitments and actions.
- The WHO Secretariat will facilitate periodic dialogues every six months to discuss successes and challenges, trigger funding opportunities and exchange learnings on best practices.

Please submit this completed template by email to Martyna Hogendorf (hogendorfm@who.int).

Country name	
Contact person (WHO)	
Contact person (Ministry of Health)	
Commitment	Problem statement and proposed solution.
Specific action(s)	Proposed action and expected impact, including target population/beneficiaries
Specific target, including date for completion	
Alignment with national priorities for NCDs and mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please summarize the current top 3 national priorities for the prevention, control, and surveillance of NCDs and mental health conditions. • Why is the proposed commitment important to the country? • How would the suggested action(s) complement/build on existing efforts?
Responsible bodies (government sector, institution, etc.)	Please state who will have the primary responsibility for executing the proposed agenda
Partnerships	Please state which stakeholders and partners will be engaged to support the successful realization of the commitment

Thank you for your submission.

Country commitments and actions will be displayed on the online page linked here:

<https://www.who.int/teams/noncommunicable-diseases/sids-commitment-for-ncds--and-mental-health>

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