



***Fourth Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on
the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases***

(Rome, 11-13 February 2015)

INFORMAL SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

1. The Fourth Meeting of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (the Task Force) was co-chaired by WHO and FAO at the FAO premises in Rome from 11-13 February 2015. The meeting was attended by colleagues from: FAO, IARC, IAEA, IDLO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNSCN, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNU, WHO, CSF (WHO FCTC) and WTO. The list of participants and agenda are in Annex 1 and 2, respectively.

2. The main objectives of the meeting were:

- (i) To review progress on the 2014-2015 work plan and agree an approach for developing the 2016-2017 work plan;
- (ii) To agree actions following the Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;
- (iii) To agree next steps in finalising a set of joint programmes;
- (iv) To review the outcomes of joint country missions and plan for missions in 2015;
- (v) To agree additional support for UN countries teams;
- (vi) To engage Members on the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs (WHO GCM/NCD).

PROGRESS TO DATE

3. Task Force members reviewed progress on actions agreed in the Third Task Force meeting (16-17 June 2014). Task Force members were briefed on the key outcomes of the 136th WHO Executive Board (26 January-3 February 2015) in the areas of NCDs, the Sixth Session of the Conference of The Parties of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (13-18 October 2014), and discussions to conclude the work in developing the SDGs.

4. Task Force members were updated on the WHO GCM/NCD, its work plan, including Working Groups and the 2015 dialogue on NCDs, poverty and development.¹

Action:

- *Task Force members to reply to the invitation from WHO to join the WHO GCM/NCD as a participant;*
- *Task Force members to engage with the relevant actions included in the work plan 2014-2015 of the WHO GCM/NCD, including the two working groups and the two dialogues;²*
- *Task Force Members to identify names of experts in specific areas and focal point for the WHO GCM/NCD (who could be common to both the Task Force and the WHO GCM/NCD);*

¹ Available at <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-coordination-mechanism/background/en/>

² The two WHO GCM/NCD Working Groups are: (i) how to realize governments' commitments to engage with the private sector for the prevention and control of NCDs; (ii) how to realize governments' commitment to provide financing for NCDs. The Dialogue is on NCDs and development cooperation and the first dialogue will be held at WHO Geneva, 20-21 April 2015).

- *Regular updates on WHO GCM/NCD activities work plan to be included in future Task Force meetings.*

RESPONDING TO THE WHO GLOBAL STRATEGY TO REDUCE THE HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL

5. The Task Force discussed opportunities for enhanced collaboration within UN system on reducing the harmful use of alcohol.

Action:

- *Establish a Thematic Group on Reducing the Harmful Use of Alcohol that reports to the Task Force. The Thematic Group will be co-chaired by WHO and UNDP and will present a report to the Task Force at the next meeting. The report will describe a global joint programme with a series of actions for 2016 and 2017 along with a plan for mobilizing resources. The joint programme will include:*
 - *Coordinated technical assistance to selected countries;*
 - *Joint products for national governments (e.g. guidance, fact sheets and policy briefs).*

The report will also map alcohol-related activities across the Task Force and set out how the Task Force Members will start to align their engagement with alcohol producers and approaches for due diligence and regulated interaction with alcohol producers in the work of the Task Force.

- *The Thematic Group will provide inputs into the 2016-2017 work plan;*
- *WHO to invite Task Force members to join the Thematic Group. Members to respond with the name of a focal point by 31 March 2015.*

RESPONDING TO THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

6. The Task Force reviewed the outcomes of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) in Rome (19-21 November 2014), including the Framework for Action and agreed that there were opportunities to integration actions into the future work of the Task Force.

Action:

- *FAO, WHO and UNSCN will use the outcomes of ICN2 (Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action) to identify relevant NCD-related actions for consideration in the draft Task Force work plan 2016-2017;*
- *Member of the Task Force to participate in the second meeting of the UN Network on Nutrition (June 2015) on ICN2 follow-up and the development of a global nutrition agenda (UNSCN).*

TASK FORCE SUPPORT FOR THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

7. The Task Force discussed the outcomes of the Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) and reviewed the actions under areas of collaboration in matrix of UN agencies work on tobacco control.

8. The Task Force discussed action regarding human rights, tobacco taxes and illicit trade, economically sustainable options for alternatives to tobacco growing, implementing WHO recommendations for the Prevention and Management of Tobacco Use and Second-Hand Smoke Exposure in Pregnancy and tobacco trade and investment issues.

Action: Tobacco taxes and illicit trade

- *Finalize on the economics of tobacco control in China (UNDP and WHO);*
- *Joint country support work on tobacco taxes between WHO, World Bank, CSF FCTC and IMF;*
- *Support to countries in their efforts to become a party to the Protocol (World Bank, UNCTAD, UNODC).*

Action: Economically sustainable options for alternatives to tobacco growing

- *Consider updating the FAO 2003 study on projections of tobacco production, consumption and trade (FAO);*
- *Explore how to scale up technical assistance in the area of providing alternatives to tobacco growing (FAO);*
- *Analyze policy options and look into responses from Parties on alternative livelihood issues (CSF FCTC will initiate action) and establish a pilot project (FAO);*
- *Explore ways to stop replacing opium poppy and coca bush with tobacco as part of UNODC's alternative development programmes (UNODC).*

Action: Tobacco Free During Pregnancy and Beyond

- *Explore opportunities to integrate into social protection initiatives (possibly in conjunction with WHO Guidelines on Alcohol) (UNDP);*
- *Explore opportunities to disseminate guidelines within existing programmes (UNFPA);*
- *Explore possibilities of collaboration through existing maternal and child health programmes (UNICEF and WHO);*
- *Provide opportunity to WHO Tobacco Team to provide input on the Facts for Life Chapter on NCDs (UNICEF);*
- *Explore possibilities of collaboration within pregnancy issues and tobacco use and the global plan for elimination of new infection among children and keeping their mothers alive (UNAIDS);*
- *Mainstream into broader WHO guidelines (WHO);*
- *Develop WHO integrated "package" consolidating multiple guidelines (for pregnancy) into one for use in the field (WHO).*

Action: Trade and investment

- *Establish a resource person (and organization) database (roster), (CSF FCTC);*
- *Establish a knowledge network (including Universities, and development of curricula), (CSF FCTC);*
- *Support CSF FCTC in efforts to prepare a report and explore ways to strengthen national capacities (UNU);*
- *Conduct capacity building training workshops on trade and tobacco at country level (WHO);*
- *Continue to conduct joint workshops on intersection of trade and NCDs (UNDP and WHO).*

Action: Human Rights and other issues

- *Child and exposure to tobacco advertising: two-pager to be developed (OHCHR);*
- *Follow up on WHO publication on tobacco use and rights of the child (CSF FCTC, OHCHR, UNICEF, WHO);*
- *Publication in relation to Article 5.2(a) of the WHO FCTC on national coordinating mechanisms and its status of implementation in Africa (UNDP);*
- *Work on strengthening Article 5.2(a) implementation under the South/South cooperation demonstration project (UNDP);*
- *Report on progress made on prevention and control of tobacco use under workplace, health promotion and wellbeing programme (ILO);*
- *Joint analysis of Convention on Safety and Health and Work (155) and Health Services Convention (161) and entry points for WHO FCTC implementation and reporting by Parties to the Convention (ILO);*
- *FAO to establish a smoke-free campus (CSF FCTC and WHO to provide support), (FAO).*

Action: World No Tobacco Day

- *Information on World No Tobacco Day 2015 to be sent to all Task Force Members (WHO).*

STRENGTHENING UN COUNTRY TEAMS

9. The Task Force received a summary of joint missions carried out during 2014 and lessons learnt from these missions. The Task Force asked for short written progress reports to be provided by all UN country teams that received missions for future Task Force meetings.

10. The Task Force supported the provisional list of nine countries for joint missions during 2015. The Task Force agreed that the Task Force would require up-front commitment from UNCTs that there will be a resident UN Thematic Group on NCDs (or equivalent), or incorporation of NCDs as a theme within an existing UN Thematic Group on Health, to take forward mission recommendations. Members asked for reports and the timetable for upcoming mission to be made available to them.

11. The Task Force decided to undertake a simple survey among UNCTs to understand resources available and governance arrangements in UNCTs for NCDs.
12. Task Force decided joint country missions to encourage regional task forces/entities, where they exist, to engage in the initial mission in order to provide basis for follow up support.
13. Task Force Members welcomed the draft UNDP/WHO Guidance note on the integration of NCDs into the UNDAF and asked both agencies to lead the implementation of the communication and dissemination plan that they presented.

Action:

- *UNDP and WHO to implement the communication and dissemination plan during 2015 for the UNDP/WHO Guidance Note on how to integrate NCDs into UNDAFs.*
- *Joint Missions:*
 - *Joint country missions to continue. Finalise mission schedule for 2015;*
 - *Wider sharing of information on plans for, and outcomes of, these missions through a secure site for Task Force Members (WHO). UNDAF roll-outs to be included on this site and updated 6-monthly (UNDP);*
 - *Additional Task Force Members consider participating in these missions (All);*
 - *Joint country missions to secure an up-front commitment from UNCTs that there will be a resident UN Thematic Group on NCDs (or equivalent), or incorporate NCDs as a theme within existing resident UN Thematic Groups, to take forward mission recommendations (UNDP and WHO)*
 - *Joint missions to encourage regional task forces/entities, where they exist, to engage in the initial mission in order to provide basis for follow up support. This process should be taken forward through the global architecture paper below (action 6.4), (UNDP and WHO);*
 - *Take into account lessons learned from other joint programming missions and use existing mission reports in the preparation of the Task Force missions as appropriate (e.g. IMPACT cancer programming missions, FCTC needs assessments) (All);*
 - *Request UNCTs through the RC and WR that have received joint missions to provide short (one-pager) summary reports on progress against the recommendations following these missions to the Task Force (WHO and UNDP);*
- *A simple survey to be undertaken among UNCTs to understand resources available and governance arrangements in UNCTs for NCDs (UNDP and WHO).*

NCDs IN GOVERNING BODY POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PLANS

14. The Task Force reviewed the paper, *How NCDs are reflected in governing body policies, strategies and plans*. The Task Force agreed on the importance of raising the priority given to

NCDs on the agenda of their respective governing/high-level bodies during 2016 in the context of the SDGs, and agreed to report thereon to the next meeting of the Task Force.

Action:

- *All Task Force Members are encouraged to raise the priority given to NCDs on the agendas of their respective governing/high-level bodies during 2016 in the context of the SDGs, and report thereon to the next meeting of the Task Force (All);*
- *WHO to provide any technical support required to enable Task Force Members to do this and Task Force Members to identify the support that they require at the next Task Force meeting (All).*

ENGAGEMENT WITH NON-STATE ACTORS

15. Task Force members discussed how conflicts of interest are managed in their organisations, within the context of being members of the Task Force and the increasing number of joint programmes. It was agreed that the Task Force was not in a position to develop its own Task Force guidance in this area.

Action:

- *Task Force members encouraged to provide information about their organizations' management of conflict of interest and provide examples of guidance/framework;*
- *In line with paragraphs 22-24 of the Task Force's Terms of Reference, "engagement with non-state actors" will remain on the agenda of future Task Force meetings (Task Force Secretariat);*
- *Engage in the work of the WHO GCM/NCD with non-State actors (e.g. through Working Groups, Dialogues, Webinars, Communities of Practice, Communication Campaigns), (All).*

REGIONAL UN TASK FORCES/ENTITIES

16. The Task Force was made aware of informal collaborative arrangements between UN agencies at the regional and subregional level that have been established in 2014 (a European Regional UN Thematic Group on NCDs and Pacific Regional UN NCD Task Force). The Task Force considered it important that it shares its plans and activities with these regional entities and that the Task Force should invite regional entities to provide short written updates for future Task Force meetings.

Action:

- *The Task Force to share key updates on its plans and activities with regional taskforces and entities (WHO);*

- *The Task Force to invite regional taskforces and entities to provide short updates on their activities for future Task Force meetings (WHO);*
- *The Task Force to encourage existing and any new regional Task Forces to inform of their activities to the five UN Regional Commissions (WHO);*
- *Add a section to existing web page of the NCD UN Task Force providing information on regional, subregional and national entities. (WHO in collaboration with regional entities).*

JOINT PROGRAMMES AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

17. Members of the Task Force reviewed concept notes and received updates on a series of global joint programme that are being developed. The Task Force encouraged its members working on these to move ahead in finalising details and mobilising resources for their implementation.

- *Global joint programme on cervical cancer*
 - WHO will: (i) lead an exercise to map existing resources/expertise/activities; (ii) set out the process to agreeing a global joint programme; (iii) start developing a logical framework;
 - IARC, IAEA, UNFPA, UNICEF to assess the capacity to engage on the development of a global joint programme, taking into account the concept note discussed at the meeting;
 - WHO to invite UNAIDS, UNODC, UNWOMEN and WB into these discussions;
 - WHO to act as overall coordinator for the above.
- *Global joint programme on cancer control*
 - IAEA, IARC, WHO to finalize the development of a global joint programme on cancer control, in accordance with UNDG Guidelines on Joint Programming.
- *Global joint programme on building the capacity of national governance for NCDs*
 - UNDP, WHO and World Bank to finalize the development of a global joint programme to support governments build their national capacity in governance for NCDs.
- Include a discussion on joint resource mobilization in the first meeting in 2016 following agreement of the SDGs in September 2015.
- UN Task Force members to provide inputs into the work of the WHO GCM/NCD Working Group on financing for NCDs.

WORK PLANNING AND REPORTING

18. The Task Force reviewed progress on the 2014-2015 work plan and discussed plans for the 2016-2017 work plan.

2014-2015 action plan

- *SG's Report to ECOSOC to include achievements of the Task Force for each of the Task Force's six objectives (WHO);*
- *Members to accelerate implementation and scale up actions between now and the end of 2015 across all 43 actions (All);*
- *Members leading on key actions to make even stronger efforts to work in partnership with all partner agencies in delivering actions (All);*
- *Task Force members to provide corrections to the December 2014 progress report (insert weblink) as necessary (factual errors to December 2014 only) by 27 February 2015 (All).*

2016-2017 action plan

- *June 2015: establish a process to develop a new work plan, taking into account the lessons learned from the 2014-2015 work plan (WHO);*
- *September 2015: develop a draft work plan, taking into account the lessons learned from the 2014-2015 work plan (WHO to lead with inputs from all Members);*
- *September 2015: for planning purposes, cross-reference the agreed draft actions with the 6 objectives of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020 and the 4 strategic areas of national commitments included in the 2011 Political Declaration and 2014 Outcome Document (WHO);*
- *October 2015: finalize the work plan, taking into account the lessons learned from the 2014-2015 work plan, with SMART actions organized around the six objectives of Task Force (All).*

FRAMEWORK FOR COUNTRY ACTION ACROSS SECTORS FOR HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY

19. The Task Force was briefed on the development of the WHO Framework for Country Action across Sectors for Health and Health Equity. Task Force members encouraged the framework to include lessons learned from Convention of Right of Disabilities and other global conventions and frameworks.

Action

- *Task Force members' to provide feedback on the second WHO Discussion Paper before 5 March 2015 (published on 16 Feb 2015 at www.who.int/ncd and <http://www.who.int/nmh/events/action-framework/en/>;*
- *Task Force members' to reach out to the Member States' constituencies to encourage feedback;*
- *Task Force members' to participate in Technical Reference Group Meeting (Geneva, 5-6 March 2015).*

RULE OF LAW AND NCDS

20. A paper was tabled by IDLO on recent and planned research and capacity building on NCDs and law. The task Force agreed that thematic day on the rule of law and NCDs should be held to explore this area in more detail.

Action

- *IDLO and WHO to develop a costed plan for multi-stakeholder consultation on healthy diet, physical activity and the law, for presentation to the next meeting of the Task Force;*
- *A thematic day on the rule of law and NCDs to be hosted by IDLO in 2016 in collaboration with UNDP, WHO and other interested Members and invited partners (IDLO);*
- *Report to be prepared for the 5th Task Force meeting by IDLO in collaboration with interested Members on progress in developing the thematic day including:*
 - *a map of existing resources and activities in this area across the Task Force;*
 - *the objectives and expected outcomes of the thematic day, in particular focusing on outcomes at the country level;*
 - *an understanding that the meeting will produce actions to will be incorporated into a revised 2016-2017 Task Force work plan.*

FINALISATION AND LAUNCH OF THE FACTS FOR LIFE CHAPTER ON HEALTHY LIVING FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NCDS IN YOUNG PEOPLE

21. UNICEF provided an update on the development of the Joint UN-NCD Child Chapter on Healthy Living and Prevention of NCDs in Children. The Task Force agreed to support promotion of the Chapter and its roll out as part of the engagement of the Task Force with NCD Pilot

countries and advocacy for greater focus on children and adolescents in the development national plans.

22. Agreement was reached on how the inputs of the Task Force could be credited in this publication and other publications lead by Task Force Members that have had the input of the Task force. An acknowledgment should be as follows. *“The authors (or agency) are/is grateful for the inputs of the United Nations Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases”* with a link to <http://www.who.int/nmh/ncd-task-force/en/> and the Task Force logo.

Action:

- *Inputs on pregnancy guidelines and harmful use of alcohol to be provided asap (WHO);*
- *Follow up with senior government officials in Mexico and Philippines to secure engagement for participation in advocacy event on NCDs and Children and launch of Chapter at the UNGA in September 2015 (Task Force Secretariat and UNICEF);*
- *Undertake a final technical review of Chapter after revisions based on field assessments (June 2015), including a formal endorsement from Task Force Members (All);*
- *Support promotion of the Chapter and its roll out as part of the engagement of the Task Force with NCD Pilot countries and advocacy for greater focus on children and adolescents in the development of national action plans (September - December 2015 and beyond), (All).*

REPORTING TO ECOSOC

23. A draft of the SG’s Report to ECOSOC was discussed. The Task Force agreed that the SG’s Report to ECOSOC to include achievements of the Task Force for each of the Task Force’s six objectives and that members would provide inputs into the draft. The Task Force agreed that it should encourage annual reporting to ECOSOC.

Action:

- *Members to provide inputs into the current draft by 18 February 2015. A further draft would then be circulated for inputs by 27 February 2015.*

DATES AND VENUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING

24. IOC has expressed interest in hosting the next meeting (6-8 October 2015) in Lausanne, Switzerland. UNDP and IDLO said they were interested in hosting meetings in 2016.

Action:

- *Finalise hosting arrangements with above agencies (Task Force Secretariat).*

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Annex 1: List of Participants

FOURTH MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Rome, 11-13 February 2015

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Anna Lartey (PhD),
Director, Nutrition Division
Economic and Social Development Department
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

Tel +39 06 570 55 807
Email: anna.lartey@fao.org
www.fao.org
www.fao.org/ICN2

Warren T K Lee
Senior Nutrition Officer

Tel: +39 06 570 540 77
Email: Warren.Lee@fao.org

Ellen Muehlhoff
Senior Nutrition Officer

Tel: +39 06 5705 4113
Email: Ellen.Muehlhoff@fao.org

Jomo Sundaram
ADG, Economic & Social Development Department

Email: Jomo.Sundaram@fao.org

Brian Thompson
Senior Nutrition Officer

Tel: +39 06 5705 54153
Email: Brian.Thompson@fao.org

International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

Eduardo Seleiro
Scientific Officer, Office of the Director
IARC

Tel: +33 4 727 38 437
Email: seleiroe@iarc.fr

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Jean-Pierre Cayol
Programme Coordinator
Office of the Deputy Director General
Department of Nuclear Sciences and
Applications

Tel. +43 1 2600 21567
Email: J.Cayol@iaea.org

Elena Fidarova
Division of Human Health
Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications

Tel:
Email: e.fidarova@iaea.org

Luca Di Bassi
Office of the Deputy Director General
Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications

Email: L.Li-Bassi@iaea.org

International Development Law Organisation (IDLO)

David Patterson

Senior Legal Expert, Health
Department of Research and Learning

Tel: +31(0) 70 24 00 869
Mob: +31(0)61 605 32 47
Email: dpatterson@idlo.int

Simon Wreford-Howard

Head, Resource Mobilization

Email: Swrefordhoward@idlo.int

International Labor Office (ILO)

Francisco Santos-O'Connor

LABADMIN/OSH branch

Email: santosf@ilo.org

International Organization of Migrations (IOM)

Rosella Celmi

Senior Specialist on Migration Health
Rome, Italy

Email: rcelmi@iom.int

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Luisa Brumana

Regional Health Adviser for
Latin America (LACRO)

Tel: +1 507 301 7403
Email: lbrumana@unicef.org

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Douglas Webb

Cluster Leader, Mainstreaming, Gender and MDGs
HIV, Health and Development Group
Bureau for Development Policy
UNDP, New York, USA

Tel. +1 212 906 6359
Email: Douglas.webb@undp.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Imma Guerras-Delgado

Advisor on Child Rights
Development and Economic and Social
Issues Branch Research
and Right to Development Division

Email: iguerras-delgado@ohchr.org

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Nuriye Ortayli

Senior Advisor, Reproductive Health

Tel: +1 212 297 5001
Email: nortayli@unfpa.org

United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN)

Lina Mahy

Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 791 35 44
Email: mahyl@who.int

United Nations University

Obijiofor Aginam

Senior Research Fellow
Head, Governance for Global Health
United Nations University
-International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)

Tel: +60 3 9171 5372 ext. 124
Mob. +60-19-355-1002
Email: Aginam@unu.edu

World Health Organization

Nicholas Banatvala

Senior Adviser
Office of the Assistant Director-General
Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health

Tel: +41 22 791 18 82
Email: banatvalan@who.int

Douglas Bettcher

Director
Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases

Tel: +41 22 791 42 53
Email: bettcherd@who.int

Lubna Bhatti

Technical Officer (Epidemiologist)
PND/CIC

Tel: +41 22 791 2528
Email: bhattil@who.int

Ashley Bloomfield

Adviser, Global Coordination Mechanism
for NCDs, HQ/NMH/NMA/GCM

Tel: +41 22 791 35 73
Email: bloomfielda@who.int

Oleg Chestnov

Assistant Director-General
Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health

Tel: +41 22 791 23 27
Email: chestnovo@who.int

Alexey Kulikov

Technical Officer
WHO/ODG/WUN

Tel: +1 646 626 60 53
Email: akulikov@whoun.org

Bente Mikkelsen

Head a.i., Secretariat of the WHO
Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs

Tel: +41 22 791 36 55
Email: mikkelsenb@who.int

Werner Obermeyer

External Relations Officer
WHO/ODG/WUN

Tel: +1 646 626 6046
Email: obermeyerw@who.int

Anne-Marie Perucic

Health Economist, National Capacity
HQ/PND

Tel. +41 22 791 23 62
Email: perucica@who.int

Vladimir Poznyak

Coordinator
Management of Substance Abuse
HQ/MSD

Tel: +41 22 791 43 07
Email: poznyakv@who.int

Andreas Ullrich
Medical Officer
Management of NCDs

Tel. +41 22 791 1292
Email: ullricha@who.int

Menno van Hilten
Technical Officer (External Relations)
Office of the Assistant DG

Tel: +41 22 791 26 75
Email: vanhiltenm@who.int

Jonathan Winickoff
Consultant, PND

Email: jwinickoff@mgh.harvard.edu

Convention Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention Tobacco Control (CSF)

Vera Luiza Da Costa E Silva
Head of Convention Secretariat

Tel. +41 22 791 1561
Email: dacostaesilvave@who.int

Vijay Trivedi
Coordinator, CSF Secretariat

Tel. +41 22 791 22 88
Email: trivediv@who.int

World Trade Organization (WTO)

Roger Kampf
Counsellor
Intellectual Property Divisions

Email: roger.kampf@wto.org
Tel: +41 22 739 62 18

Devin McDaniels
Economic Affaires Officer
Trade and Environment Division

Email: Devin.Mcdaniels@wto.org
Tel: +41 22 739 55 59

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Celeste Maria Sandoval
Science Advisor
Office of the UNAIDS Science Panel

Email: sandovalc@unaids.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Heiko Hering
Senior Public Health Officer
Division of Programme Support and Management

Tel : +41 22 739 8975
Mob : +41 79 417 2007
Email: hering@unhcr.org

Annex 2: Agenda

Fourth Meeting of the UN Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs 11-13 February 2015

Held at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome

Agenda

Chairs

Dr Oleg Chestnov, ADG Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Cluster, WHO, Geneva
Jomo Sundaram, ADG Economic and Social Development Department, FAO, Rome

Moderators

Mr Werner Obermeyer, Deputy Executive Director, WHO Office at the UN, New York
Ms Anna Lartey, Director, Nutrition Division, FAO, Rome

DAY 1: Wednesday 11 February 2015

09:00-09:10 **Welcome and introductions**

09:10-10:00 **Update on progress to date**

- Review of summary of the Third UNIATF meeting, 16-17 June 2014
- Outcomes of the 136th WHO Executive Board, 26 Jan – 3 Feb 2015 and other key issues
- Outcomes of board or other high-level meetings from other Members relevant to NCDs
- Update from the Secretariat of the Global Coordination Mechanism
- Towards a stronger contribution of the WHO FCTC Conference of the Parties to achieving the NCD voluntary global target on reduction of tobacco use

10:00-11:00 **Harmful use of alcohol**

- WHO Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol: opportunities for the UNIATF

11:20-12:00 **Unhealthy diet**

- 2014 Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action: Opportunities for the UNIATF

12:00 – 13:00 **UNIATF at the country level: How to support UN Country Teams?**

- Strengthening UNCTs: UNIATF missions, guidance, global baseline and other initiatives – how do we get the message out to UNCTs?

14:00-15:00 **UNIATF: working as one**

- Reflecting NCDs in governing body policies, strategies and plans
- Managing conflict of interest
- Regional Task Forces

15:00- 15:45 **Financing for NCDs**

- Resource mobilization

Progress on joint programming

16:00-17:00 UNIATF work plan, 2014-2015

- Progress report
- Priorities for 2015

17:00-17:30 UNIATF work plan for 2016-2017

- Lessons learnt from 2014-2015 work plan
- 2016-2017 work plan: priorities focus and structure

DAY 2: Thursday 12 February 2015 – TOBACCO

09:00-10:15 Introduction and updates

- Brief update on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) and outcomes of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP6)
- Review of actions under areas of collaboration among agencies according to matrix E/2012/70 and E/2013/61

10:30-12:30 Outcomes of COP6 – highlights

- Supporting the implementations of Article 6 of the WHO FCTC (Price and tax measures to reduce the demand for tobacco) (Ref FCTC/COP6(5))
- Promoting the entering into force of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products (Ref FCTC/COP6(6))
- Discussions

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30-14:30 Outcomes of COP6 – highlights (*continued*)

- Supporting the policy options and recommendations of economically sustainable alternatives to tobacco growing (in relation to Articles 17 and 18 of the WHO FCTC) (Ref FCTC/COP6(11))
- Discussion

14:30-15:30 New challenges in tobacco control

- Update on activities related to trade and investment issues, including international agreements, and legal challenges in relation to implementation of the WHO FCTC
- Discussion

15:30-15:45 Coffee

15:45-16:45 New challenges in tobacco control (*continued*)

- Implementing the WHO Recommendations for the Prevention and Management of Tobacco Use and Second-Hand Smoke Exposure in Pregnancy
- Discussion

16:45-17:30 Actions points on the WHO FCTC implementation into the UNIATF work plan 2016-2017

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DAY 3: Friday 13 February 2015

08:30-09:30 Updates

- WHO Framework for Country Action across Sectors for Health and Health Equity
- Joint UN-NCD Child Chapter on Healthy Living and Prevention of NCDs in Children
- GCM dialogue 2015: NCDs, poverty and development

09:30- 11:15 UNIATF work plan for 2016-2017 (continued)

- 2016-2017 work plan: priorities focus and structure

11:15-11:35 Coffee

11:35-12:15 2015 report to ECOSOC

- 2015 report to ECOSOC (8-10 June 2015)

12:15-13:00 Future meetings

- Dates and venues for future meetings