



Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases

WHO's role in the preparation, implementation and follow-up to the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (September 2011)

Draft resolution proposed by Barbados, cosponsored by New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation and Trinidad and Tobago

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases,¹

RECOMMENDS to the Sixty-fourth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Sixty-fourth World Health Assembly,

PP1 Having considered the report on WHO's role in the preparation, implementation and follow-up to the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;

PP2 Recalling and reaffirming resolution WHA61.14 on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases: implementation of the global strategy;

PP3 Further recalling and reaffirming resolution WHA62.12 on primary health care, including health system strengthening, and its broad policy directions of dealing with inequalities by moving towards universal coverage; putting people at the centre of service delivery; multisectoral action and health in all policies; and inclusive leadership and effective governance for health;

PP4 Recalling also resolution WHA62.14 on reducing health inequalities through action on the social determinants of health;

¹ Document EB128/17.

PP5 Recalling the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa (2008);

PP6 Noting the inclusion of noncommunicable diseases by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community in the outcome declaration of the Fifth Summit of the Americas (Port of Spain, 2009), including the call for a high-level meeting on noncommunicable diseases of the United Nations General Assembly in 2011;

PP7 Further noting the Statement on Commonwealth Action to Combat Non-Communicable Diseases issued by the Heads of Government of the Commonwealth in 2009;

PP8 Recalling the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the 2009 high-level segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which called for urgent action to implement the global strategy for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and its related action plan;

PP9 Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/265 in which the General Assembly decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in September 2011, with the participation of Heads of State and Government, on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, as well as resolution 65/238 on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;

PP10 Underlining that conditions such as mental and neurological disorders require specific attention, as noted in United Nations General Assembly resolution 65/95 on global health and policy;

PP10bis Underscoring the need to ensure access to affordable diagnostic tools and medical products including medicines and other equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of people suffering from noncommunicable diseases [Bangladesh];

PP11 Noting the regional consultations being held in collaboration with Member States with the support of United Nations Regional Commissions, United Nations agencies and entities in providing input to the preparations for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly;

PP12 Noting the importance of the forthcoming First Global Ministerial Conference on Noncommunicable Diseases and Healthy Lifestyles (Moscow, 28–29 April 2011);

PP13 Underscoring the importance for countries to understand the need for concerted action and a coordinated response at the national, regional and global levels in order to adequately address the developmental and other challenges posed by noncommunicable diseases;

PP14 Recognizing the important role of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control as a strong instrument in the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, and noting the decision by the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control at its fourth session in November 2010, in which the Convention Secretariat was requested to actively engage in and contribute to the holding of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;

PP15 Aware that policies in sectors other than health have a major bearing on the risk factors and social determinants of noncommunicable disease and recognizing the pressing need to strengthen multisectoral collaboration at the highest level;

PP16 Recognizing the need for the development and wide use of a set of standardized indicators to monitor trends in respect of noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors at the global, regional and national levels, drawing on relevant existing frameworks, targets and indicators;

PP17 Mindful of the strong links between noncommunicable diseases and poverty; the possibility that the costs of treatment and care can lead to impoverishment; and the fact that noncommunicable diseases are a threat to the economies of many Member States;

PP18 Recognizing the leadership of WHO as the specialized agency for health and welcoming its role and efforts in promoting public health, and in promoting efficacious, accessible and cost-effective prevention treatment and care;

PP19 Recognizing the critical importance of health promotion in the fight against noncommunicable diseases,

I. URGES Member States:¹

(1) to identify the challenges, opportunities, and actions for health promotion and integration of the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors and health determinants into the development agenda, as appropriate, at national, regional and international levels;

(2) to strengthen political commitment to health promotion, including recognition of risk factors and health determinants, and to integrated prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, including early detection, as part of the health and development agenda;

OP1(2)bis to develop and implement legal and policy tools, as appropriate, to ensure access to affordable care and treatment by ensuring availability of necessary diagnostic tools and medical products including medicines and other equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of noncommunicable diseases [Bangladesh];

(3) to use the opportunities provided by the First Global Ministerial Conference on Noncommunicable Diseases and Healthy Lifestyles to be held in Moscow in April 2011, and the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting in New York in September 2011, to further advance the noncommunicable disease agenda in order to enable a more effective response to the burden placed on health systems by chronic diseases;

(4) to implement the WHO action plan for the global strategy for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, and to seek the active engagement and support of all relevant non-health sectors;

¹ And regional economic integration organizations, as appropriate.

(5) to support the preparations at national, regional and international levels for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases;

(6) to raise awareness about the importance of attendance of the Heads of State and Government at the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting in September 2011, and, as appropriate, inclusion of parliamentary representatives of health and non-health sectors and others from civil society and academia on national delegations;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to work closely with Member States and partner agencies on appropriate measures that address the global burden of noncommunicable diseases and advocate for the integration of this topic into the global development agenda as appropriate;

(2) to reflect the outcome from the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting into the preparations of the forthcoming WHO global conference on social determinants to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2011 and the 8th Global Conference on Health Promotion to be held in Helsinki in 2013;

(2)bis to prepare a publicly available database containing information on various diagnostic tools and medical products including medicines and equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of noncommunicable diseases [Bangladesh];

(3) to develop standardized indicators to monitor noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors, including physical inactivity, unhealthy diet, tobacco use and the harmful use of alcohol, in order to assess the progress that countries are making to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases, drawing on relevant existing frameworks, targets and indicators;

OP2(3)bis to conduct a survey among WHO Member States regarding the availability and cost of diagnosis and treatment of noncommunicable diseases, especially cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes [Bangladesh];

(4) to review and disseminate the evidence on the global status and trends of noncommunicable diseases and their social and economic impacts, emphasizing the relevance of this information to other sectors;

(5) to promote research on the prevalence, magnitude, risk factors, and long-term management of noncommunicable diseases, including alternative systems of medicine as appropriate, with special emphasis on the challenges in developing countries;

(6) to review international experience and disseminate lessons learnt on effective mechanisms to promote intersectoral action for noncommunicable disease interventions;

(7) to review WHO's current capacity at all levels vis-à-vis Member States' needs for technical assistance and normative advice concerning the prevention, control and management of noncommunicable diseases, in the context of health system strengthening

and making available access to affordable diagnosis and treatment of noncommunicable diseases [Bangladesh];

(8) to continue dialogue and consultation with all relevant stakeholders in order to strengthen the preparations for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2011;

(9) to report to the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly, through the Executive Board, on the outcomes of the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, and on progress in implementing this resolution at all levels, including administrative and financial considerations.

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