



INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND THE SDGs



Government
of Norway



World Health
Organization



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

GOALS



NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE GHANA ARMED FORCES



Government
of Norway



World Health
Organization



Jonas Gahr Støre

Prime Minister of Norway



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director-General WHO



NCDs PRESIDENTIAL GROUP

The (informal) International Group of Heads of State and Government on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (NCD Presidential Group)

To accelerate the implementation of the commitments included in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, and to provide strategic leadership for the prevention and control of NCDs, by promoting greater policy coherence and coordination through whole-of-government and health-in-all-policies approaches, and by engaging stakeholders in an appropriate, coordinated, comprehensive and integrated, bold whole-of-society action and response.

The International Group of Heads of State and Government will meet annually on the occasion of the high-level General Debate of the UN General Assembly. The President of Ghana will chair the first meeting of the Group, which will take place in September 2022 in New York on the occasion of the high-level General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly, and annually thereafter.





INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON NCDs AND THE SDGs

KEMPINSKI HOTEL GOLD COAST CITY, ACCRA - GHANA | 12th April, 2022

09:00	Introduction and overview	Dr Asamoah Baah
	Opening Remarks	
	Chairman for the Ceremony	Nana Prah Agyensaim IV
	Recorded videos: 2-minute	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Ladies - Ghana, Zambia, Niger, Croatia (TBC)• Heads of UN Agencies• Regional directors of WHO• WHO Global Ambassador for NCDs and injuries:	Michael R. Bloomberg
	Cultural display	
	Patient Journey TBC	
	Amplifying the voice of PLWNCDs - 2-minute recorded videos (Ghana & other country)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer, Diabetes, Hypertension, Mental health, Sickle cell disease	
	Cultural display - to Usher President	Dr. Asamoah Baah



11:00

President Arrival & National Anthem

Welcome remarks by the Minister of Health Ghana - 2min

Short remarks by RD of WHO AFrica region - 2min

Recorded Statements (total of 12)

Keynotes: What would it take globally for low- and middle-income countries to achieve target between SDG 3.4 (NCDs) and SDG 3.8 (UHC)

- Recorded video statements from Heads of State (2 min)

 - Skit by Ghana Dance Ensemble (5min)

- Recorded videos from Heads of State (2 min)

Main Speakers: How to place countries on a path to reach the SDGs targets 3.4 and 3.8?

- **WHO Director General - 5 mins**

- **HE Markki Sall, President of AU/Senegal - 5 mins (TBC)**

- **Prime Minister of Norway - 5 mins**

- **President of Ghana - 6 mins**

Ceremony:

Launch of International NCD Presidential Council and International NCD Compact 2022-30

PHOTO SHOOT



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The historic obligation

Over the past 10 years, Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) have changed the world. NCDs have become the leading cause of death in most countries, resulting in 150 million premature deaths among people aged between 30 and 70 years, with most living in developing countries. The global share of NCD deaths among all deaths increased from 61% in 2000 to 74% in 2019 . At the global level, seven of the ten leading causes of death in 2019 were NCDs. During the next ten years, another 150 million people will die from NCDs between the ages of 30 and 70 years unless action is taken. Most premature deaths can be avoided or delayed.

COVID-19 has disclosed the lack of sufficient inclusion of NCDs and investments in primary health care (PHC) and universal health coverage (UHC), leading to 50-60% disruption for all major NCDs and mental health services in more than 70% of countries. Hence, in September 2020, the United Nations General Assembly called upon Member States “to further strengthen efforts to address NCDs as part of universal health coverage (UHC), recognizing that people living with NCDs are at a higher risk of developing severe COVID-19 symptoms and are among the most impacted by the pandemic”. NCDs need to be part of the resilience and preparedness agenda to ensure health security.

Just 14 countries are on track to meet SDG target 3.4 for 2030, as measured by indicator 3.4.1 . WHO has provided cost-effective and affordable solutions to curb NCDs (the ‘best-buys’). Pathway analyses in the NCD Countdown 2030 report show that, in 2021, every country still has options today for achieving SDG target 3.4 by 2030. No country could achieve the target by addressing only prevention or only counselling, screening, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of NCDs. A combination of approaches is needed to significantly impact NCD outcomes, and to further make progress towards achieving UHC as set by SDG 3.8.1.

To accelerate the response to NCDs, the World Health Assembly has extended the NCD Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs to 2030, and requested an implementation roadmap for NCDs for the period 2023-2030 . The three strategic directions in the roadmap are to: 1) accelerate national response, 2) prioritize and scale up the implementation of most impactful and feasible interventions and 3) ensure timely, reliable and sustained national data on NCD risk factors, diseases and mortality for data driven actions and to strengthen accountability.

Realizing that NCDs remain the largest, most internationally underfunded public health issue globally, where most lives could be saved or improved, and that addressing NCDs must be an integral part of the immediate response to COVID-19 and of the recovery at national levels, as well as part of the strategies to build back better, Norway launched its “Better Health, Better Lives” strategy (2020-2024) to combat NCDs as part of its international development assistance. The updated global investment case shows that seven million lives can be saved each year for an additional investment of US\$ 0.84 per person per year in LICs



and LMICs, that in addition will bring US\$ 230 billion in economic gains. With the political commitments made and the fact that NCDs is the most important developmental public health issue, it is time to act now.

The ambition

The WHO and the Government of Norway have launched the NCD Flagship initiative, the first of its kind and specifically aiming to provide better support and solutions to economic, social, and development aspects of NCDs in five selected countries (Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Nepal, and Myanmar). The Government of Ghana has shown strong commitment in the implementation of the overall SDG Agenda 2030, with the appointment of the President of Ghana, to serve as co-chair of the UN Secretary-General's SDG Advocates.

As such, it was proposed that the office of the President of Ghana together with the Government of Norway and WHO will co-organize an international strategic dialogue on NCDs and the SDGs. The Dialogue aims to raise the profile of the NCD agenda within the SDGs internationally and bring together national and international actors and partners to share knowledge and ideas with key stakeholders from the public and private sectors, the academic and business world, and international development experts.

The Dialogue will be organized to foster the emergence of additional ideas to “progressively cover all people by 2030 with quality essential health services and quality, safe, effective, affordable and essential medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and health technologies for the prevention, screening, early diagnosis and treatment of NCDs” , within the framework of the SDGs.

Purpose

The International Strategic Dialogue Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) co-organized by the Government of Ghana, Government of Norway and the World Health Organization taking place on Tuesday, 12 April 2022 in Accra, Ghana.

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of NCDs within the national SDG response in low- and middle-income countries;
- Bring together national and international actors and partners to share knowledge and ideas with key stakeholders from the public and private sectors, the academic and business world, and international development experts on what would it take globally for low- and middle-income countries to achieve SDG 3 on health, with a particular focus on SDG 3.4 (NCDs) and SDG 3.8 (UHC) targets;
- Raise the political visibility of Heads and State and Government who are providing a strategic leadership role in the prevention and control of NCDs to a global level.



Outputs

1. The launch of The (informal) International Group of Heads of State and Government on the Prevention and Control of NCDs (NCD Presidential Group) to accelerate the implementation of the commitments included in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and to provide strategic leadership for the prevention and control of NCDs by promoting greater policy coherence and coordination through whole-of-government and health-in-all-policies approaches and by engaging stakeholders in an appropriate, coordinated, comprehensive and integrated, bold whole-of-society action and response. The International Group of Heads of State and Government will meet annually on the occasion of the high-level General Debate of the UN General Assembly. The President of Ghana will chair the first meeting of the Group, which will take place in September 2022 in New York on the occasion of the high-level General Debate of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly and annually thereafter.

2. The launch of an International NCD Compact 2022-2030 to accelerate the progress towards the NCD and SDG targets, taking into account the commitments included in the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the guidance provided by the relevant resolutions adopted by the World Health Assembly, in line with the UNGA and WHA resolutions launched. The multi-year aim of the Compact is to drive awareness and action towards achieving SDG 3.4 and 3.8.

Organisational arrangements and agenda

Date: 12 April 2022, from 9:00 to 12:30 (GMT).

Language: The dialogue will be conducted in English and simultaneous interpretation in the 6 UN languages be made available.

International and National Participation

- Heads of State and Government
- Director-General of WHO and WHO Regional Directors
- UN Agencies
- Heads of Embassies and High Commission in Ghana
- Development Partners
- Civil Society



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