

Side-event Concept Note:

Securing a Healthy Future: Sustainable Financing for NCDs in the Post-2015 Agenda

Date and Time: Tuesday, 14 July 2015, 1.15 pm – 2.45 pm

Co-hosts: Government of Denmark, Government of Tanzania (TBC) and the NCD Alliance

Realizing the ambitions of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda will require all countries to maintain, and in many countries, dramatically scale up, the financial and other resources allocated for health. A major part of this effort will be increasing resources for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). NCDs are one of the major challenges for sustainable development today, claiming approximately 38 million lives per year worldwide. Immediate actions to reduce the burden caused by NCDs, including reducing exposure to the main risk factors (tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity), can be very cost-effective even for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), with price tags as low as \$.20 USD per capita/year. These interventions are particularly effective when implemented as part of larger efforts to improve national health systems. Yet, many countries lack the necessary resources.

Against the backdrop of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) and related outcomes in Addis Ababa, this side-event will provide an opportunity to examine the challenges and opportunities for sustainable financing for NCDs and health. The discussion will place emphasis on known best practices for raising domestic revenue, including the taxation of tobacco and other unhealthy products, an approach that offers both fiscal and health returns. Strategies for maximizing the efficiency of available resources, including implementing universal health coverage (UHC) to safeguard investments made in health programmes over the last decade, will also be considered.

Emphasis will also be placed on innovative mechanisms for financing for NCDs and health in order to supplement traditional resource flows, and how to best leverage the capacity of partnerships with the private sector to foster healthy environments. Finally, the event will consider the role of international public financing for NCDs, particularly integration of NCDs into multilateral and bilateral development assistance. In short, all means of financing and resources must be closely scrutinized if we are to effectively prevent and control NCDs and improve health outcomes beyond 2015.

The discussion will draw upon recent data and publications focused on financing for health and NCDs, the ongoing work of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism for NCDs (GCM/NCDs), Global Health 2035, the US Council on Foreign Relations, country case studies, and the ongoing discussions on the means of implementation for the post-2015 development agenda.

Date and Time: Tuesday, 14 July 2015, Lunch time (1.15 pm – 2.45 pm)

Location: Elilly Hotel, Board Room Large (50 seats)

Objectives:

- To raise awareness of the need for increased financing and resources for NCDs and health in the post-2015 era, within the context of FfD and related outcomes;
- To explore the challenges and best practices around different levels of financing for NCDs, including domestic and international public financing, including the integration of NCDs into existing global health financing facilities and bilateral funding channels;
- To consider how to strengthen innovative financing mechanisms and maximise the impact of public-private partnerships for NCDs;
- To consider best practices for raising domestic revenue that offer both fiscal and health returns;
- To develop key recommendations to be taken forward for the first phase of post-2015 implementation.

- Audience:** High-level government representatives (Ministers of Development/Foreign Affairs/Finance, bilateral donors)
High-level representatives from multilateral agencies (UNDP, WB, WHO, OECD)
High-level thought leaders on development, health and NCDs
Civil society advocates (development, health, NCDs, maternal health)
Relevant private sector partners
- Format:** Moderated side-event with maximum five people on the panel as speakers, followed by interactive discussion between all attendees.
- Co-hosts:** The Government of Denmark, the Government of Tanzania (TBC), and the NCD Alliance, with financial support from Novo Nordisk.
- Moderator:** TBC
- Panellists:** The speakers and invitees will include a geographic and gender balance, and span different angles of the financing debate. Invited speakers:
- *Opening remarks: Helen Clark, UNDP (tbc)*
 - *Government of Denmark, Minister of Trade and Development Corporation (TBA), or senior official from Danish MFA*
 - *Government of Tanzania, Minister for Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Seif Seleman Rashidi (tbc)*
 - *Dr. Brenda Killen, Deputy-Director OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (tbc)*
 - *Jean-Paul Digy, Corporate Vice President, Africa Region, Novo Nordisk*
 - *Wondu Bekele Woldemariam, Manager of Mathiws Wondu-YeEthiopia Cancer Society, and Focal Person for the Consortium of Ethiopian NCD Associations (CENDA)*