



WHO consultation on the Discussion Paper (Version 26 July 2012) on

“An updated 2013-2020 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases”

Submission of the German Obesity Association, Member of the German NCD Alliance

The German Obesity Association is highly appreciating the open WHO consultation process on an updated 2013-2020 Global NCD Action Plan, involving both experts, patients and other stakeholders all over the world.

As WHO outlined in the Discussion Paper (July 2012), we agree that a key issue of the updated 2013 to 2020 Action Plan is how it can maintain, and advance the momentum of the High-level Meeting on NCDs and its Political Declaration of 2011, both at global and, crucially, at a national level. Its goal is to provide a roadmap so that the overarching global target of 25% reduction in premature mortality from NCDs by 2025, adopted at the WHO General Assembly in May 2012, can be achieved.

The German Obesity Association and our National NCD Alliance comprising 11 German health organisations is advocating the German Government to fully engage in this process not only on global and on European, but also on national level.

Based on the outlined progresses and impediments in implementing the 2008-2013 Action Plan, and to have a maximum impact over the period 2013-2020, The German Obesity Association is supporting a **Global Action Plan 2013-2020 on NCDs** meeting the following **four criteria**:

- a.** Builds on the progress and momentum achieved by the previous WHO Action Plan on NCDs, and through other vehicles during the same period such as WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Global Strategy on Diet and Physical Activity, Global Strategy on Alcohol, UN Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, etc;
- b.** Reflects the changed global political landscape, including the adoption of the UN NCD Political Declaration;
- c.** Responds to the emerging challenges and opportunities in this coming period (2013-2020), including the end date of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- d.** Sets the world on track to reach the recently adopted global target of a 25% reduction in premature NCD mortality by 2025.

The German Obesity Association is supporting the following key points and emphasises the following key areas to be strengthened in the WHO Discussion Paper:

1. Purpose, scope and roles

Support:

- The purpose of the plan is to define a “roadmap for implementation of the commitments in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs”.

- The overarching goal is to achieve the global target to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by 25% by 2025; and the plan must identify specific actions and interventions to achieve that goal.
- The scope must be relevant to all regions and countries, reflect existing political commitments and strategies on NCDs, and be integrated into global development processes, including sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development framework.

Strengthen:

- The lead UN agency for the plan is WHO, but the plan should be endorsed and implemented by all relevant UN agencies and international partners to harness the resources and expertise of the entire UN system.
- The plan should propose mechanisms to engage and mobilise stakeholders, including UN, Member States, civil society and the private sector to deliver and drive progress on the plan.

2. Principles, objectives and approaches

Support:

- The principles of equity and sustainability to guide the objectives of the plan are articulated.
- The focus on a multisectoral approach to strengthening health systems; to integrating NCDs in all relevant programs and services, especially at primary health care level; to increasing human resources for health; and to adopting a life-course perspective in order to achieve universal access to healthcare.
- The need to increase efficiencies in health systems to tackle NCDs.

Strengthen:

- The plan should embrace the principles of patient empowerment, the alleviation of inequality and an end to discrimination for all people with NCDs.
- The objectives should be concise, and more cross-cutting issues identified to support implementation, including leadership, resources, partnerships, integration, evaluation and accountability.
- The commitment to health literacy – not only for individuals but also for society at large.

3. Implementation

Support:

- The leadership of Heads of Government/State in delivering whole-of-government commitment to the plan.
- The plan to be costed and adequately resourced, identifying actions to secure sustainable financing for the prevention and control of NCDs at the global, regional and national levels.
- The national capacity of Member States to be strengthened, including through external technical and financial support.
- The importance of collaborative partnerships and public-private partnerships to be promoted, with the appropriate safeguards in place.
- The prioritised research agenda, with a focus on operational research and support for innovation.

Strengthen:

- The resolve to develop a plan that can be adapted for use at national level to increase shared responsibility with Member States.
- The commitment to incorporate the global monitoring framework, targets and indicators currently being developed; and a biennial reporting cycle to the General Assembly (in addition to WHA) starting with a UN High-Level Meeting in 2014 called for in the Political Declaration.

Structure of the Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020

The WHO Discussion Paper includes ten possible objectives for the Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020. The NCD Alliance supports these objectives as a starting point for discussion, but has

identified areas of overlap and repetition. The German Obesity Association is supporting the NCD Alliance recommendation for the structure of the Global NCD Plan 2013-2020 below, including a concise set of objectives and a set of cross-cutting issues to support implementation.

| GOAL | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| 25% reduction in premature mortality from NCDs by 2025 | | | | |
| OBJECTIVES | | | | |
| 1. | Reinforce political commitment to NCDs as a health and development priority and increase public awareness | | | |
| 2. | Improve international cooperation to mobilise resources and strengthen national capacity | | | |
| 3. | Promote and accelerate whole-of-government, multisectoral NCD plans, policies and programs | | | |
| 4. | Reduce NCD risk factors and create sustainable and health-promoting environments | | | |
| 5. | Improve care for people with NCDs through strengthened health systems and universal health coverage | | | |
| 6. | Implement the prioritized NCD research agenda and improve NCD surveillance and reporting systems | | | |
| CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES TO DELIVER RESULTS | | | | |
| Leadership | Resources | Partnerships | Integration | Accountability |