

## CONCEPT NOTE

### WHO GLOBAL FORUM: ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES, MOSCOW, 27 APRIL 2011

#### I. BACKGROUND TO THE GLOBAL FORUM

Noncommunicable diseases are increasingly recognized as a major global health challenge that requires a response by all sectors of society. The decision by the United Nations General Assembly to convene a high level meeting (HLM) on noncommunicable diseases in September 2011, with the participation of Heads of State and Government, presents a unique opportunity for the full range of stakeholders to shape that response.

The WHO Global Forum: Addressing the Challenge of Noncommunicable Diseases will bring together a wide group of stakeholders to share views and experiences to date on the challenges and opportunities in noncommunicable disease prevention, treatment and control. Forum participants will identify and commit to priority actions to strengthen global action to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases prior to and beyond the HLM.

The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of the September 2011 HLM on noncommunicable diseases, and to provide input into the preparation for the HLM as well as discussions on noncommunicable diseases at the sixty-fourth World Health Assembly in May 2011.

The Global Forum will take place in Moscow on 27 April 2011. This also provides an opportunity for the outcomes of the Forum to inform the First Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and Noncommunicable Diseases in Moscow on 28 and 29 April 2011.

#### II. OBJECTIVES FOR THE GLOBAL FORUM

The Forum will:

- Provide an opportunity for a wide range of stakeholders to discuss and share perspectives on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)
- Understand expectations, roles and contributions of the different stakeholders in support of the September 2011 UN High-level Meeting (HLM) on NCDs and its expected outcomes, as well as activities post the HLM.
- Update knowledge and share experience on progress in addressing NCDs including through implementing the Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs.
- Promote ways of accelerating the implementation of actions for international and national partners under each objective of the Action Plan.
- Mobilize a broader base of stakeholders in support of NCD prevention and control, in particular in developing countries.

### **III. DELIVERABLES OF THE GLOBAL FORUM**

It is proposed that the Global Forum will yield three deliverables:

- A short report that could be presented by one or more of the stakeholder groups during the World Health Assembly in May 2011 to support Member States' preparation for the HLM.
- Lessons learnt in organizing multi-stakeholder discussion forums.
- A statement to be delivered to the Moscow Ministerial Meeting representing key perspectives from the stakeholders.

### **IV. PROGRAMME FOR THE GLOBAL FORUM**

The proposed programme provides a range of opportunities for participants to engage and contribute actively to the Forum. It includes a plenary session with invited speakers, concurrent sessions to identify outcomes sought from the HLM on noncommunicable diseases, a plenary report back on the concurrent sessions, and a plenary panel discussion to consolidate the key messages and findings from the day.

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