

Global Health Council NCD Roundtable

Co-chaired by American Cancer Society, NCD Alliance and Global Health Council

Concept Paper

I. Purpose

Statement of Problem:

Non-communicable diseases are the leading cause of death worldwide, particularly in many developing countries. The U.N. is organizing a High-level meeting on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, or “NCD Summit.” This meeting presents an opportunity to raise the issue of NCDs as a global health and development priority requiring concrete action by Member States and donors.

Objectives:

- 1) Establish a **global** community voice around NCDs to raise the profile of NCDs within the global health agenda
- 2) Create a space for dialogue among interested NCD groups in the U.S. and developing countries
- 3) To work towards a common set of recommendations addressing the four primary NCDs outlined by WHO - cardiovascular disease (CVD), cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases - and major risk factors – tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity - for the High Level Summit on the NCDs that includes reference to other health priorities and opportunities for **integration**
- 4) Support work of the Europe-based NCD Alliance by convening US-based and global stakeholders

Goals:

- a) To produce a consensus document (NCD position paper) by the NCD roundtable
- b) Inclusion of a **civil society** (both NGOs and the private sector) and NCD patient or “survivor” voice at the high-level meeting
- c) To ensure an **accountability mechanism** is launched in connection with the NCD Summit outcomes document
- d) To ensure the NCD Summit outcomes document includes references to WHO NCD strategies, highlighting data collection, capacity-building, locally-relevant interventions, and integrated approaches to prevention, treatment and care

Major goal:

Work with multiple UN agencies to produce a **Global Strategy on NCDs** similar to that of the Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health (October 2010), along with applicable targets and commitments from various stakeholders.

II. Activities

Information and Awareness:

- 1) Series of events in Washington, DC leading up to the NCD Summit
- 2) A major event at the summit in New York that aims to bring together non-communicable disease stakeholders
- 3) A stakeholders side-event at the Global Health Council Annual Conference
- 4) A side event at the World Health Assembly and an increased presence of NCD groups on the GHC delegation to WHA
- 5) Presence at the 2011 G-8/G-20 meetings in France and dialogue with the G77 to promote NCDs on the health development agenda
- 6) Serving as an information clearinghouse for key stakeholders on NCD-related resources
- 7) Bridging NCD issues with other global health issues – garnering support from other global health communities
- 8) Serving as a resource and coordinated constituency for U.N. meetings, USG meetings, Geneva and elsewhere

Develop Recommendations:

- 1) **White paper** that outlines specific recommendations for the NCD Summit coordinated with The NCD Alliance
- 2) Continued focus on NCDs at WHA and, as relevant, the G-8/G-20 and G77
- 3) GHI inclusion of NCDs
- 4) Tailored, evidence-based, cost-effective solutions and indicators to monitor their implementation and progress (These will be based on recent and forthcoming studies and also be included in the White Paper. Country examples will be drawn from regional stakeholders.)

Outreach to key stakeholders:

- 1) Global - Other donor governments, NGOs, and the private sector
- 2) US Government - GHI principals
- 3) Multilateral Institutions - World Bank, PAHO, IOM, and other UN agencies
- 4) Other Coalitions - this roundtable will closely coordinate with the NCD Alliance

III. Structure

Leadership:

The roundtable will be led by the Global Health Council and co-chaired by American Cancer Society and the NCD Alliance. Committees (set up as needed) will rotate leadership roles.

Working Groups:

The Roundtable established 4 sub-working groups to help organize its work:

- (1) **UN process & opportunities** - This workgroup learns or educates RT participants about the UN process for NCD advocacy in 2011 and beyond, and proposes framework or roles for action.
- (2) **Policy recommendations** (with potential subgroups) – This workgroup researches and proposes interventions, resources, integration, country strategies, and implementation or evaluation for global NCD programs.
- (3) **Stakeholder outreach & events** (includes grassroots) – This workgroup plans or leverages activities in the US (especially DC and NY) and in-region, engaging multiple sectors (i.e. NGOs, IGOs, USG, corporate, media).
- (4) **Communications, information, & messaging** - This workgroup develops or disseminates action alerts in coordination with The NCD Alliance, GHC communicators, and other RT participant events and outreach. This working group will also catalogue other advocacy activities by RT participants and other major actors to ensure consistency and coordination of messages.

Participation:

Attendance is open to GHC members interested in NCD advocacy and policy change.

Mechanisms:

The roundtable will meet initially in January 2011 and hold monthly meetings thereafter leading up to the NCD Summit. A series of events and advocacy activities will also be planned throughout the year.