



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY


7 March 2018

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 5 March 2018, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from H.E. Mr. Sebastiano Cardi, Permanent Representative of Italy, and H.E. Mr. Elbio Rosselli, Permanent Representative of Uruguay, co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations in preparation for a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

The letter of the co-facilitators transmits the zero draft of the modalities resolution which will form the basis of discussion during the first informal consultations on 9 March 2018.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miroslav Lajčák

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



Permanent Mission of Italy
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of Uruguay
to the United Nations

7 March 2018

Excellency

We are honored to write you in our capacity as co-facilitators to lead the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations in preparation of the comprehensive review in 2018 of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases as contained in document 68/300.

In line with the letter of the President of the General Assembly dated 26 January 2018, we are committed to ensuring that the process of consultations on a draft modalities resolution and outcome document to be adopted by the General Assembly is inclusive, transparent and Member States-driven.

In this regard, as mentioned in our letter of 5 March, the first informal consultations will be held on 9 March 2018, from 10 am to 1 p.m. in the ECOSOC Chamber. Interpretation services are not expected.

In preparation for the first informal consultations, please find attached proposed elements of the modalities resolution.

H.E Mr. Sebastiano Cardi

Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Italy to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Elbio Rosselli

Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Uruguay to the United Nations

H.E. Miroslav Lajčák

President of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly

ZERO DRAFT resolution

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non Communicable Diseases

The General Assembly,

Recalling the General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/2 containing the “Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases”;

Also recalling General Assembly resolution A/RES/68/300 by which it decided to hold a comprehensive review, in 2018, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, **(technical update from A/RES/68/271 on modalities NCDs)**

Welcoming the WHO Global Conference on Non-Communicable Diseases, held in Montevideo in October 2017 and *recalling* the “Montevideo Roadmap 2018-2030 on non-communicable diseases as a sustainable development priority”, **(update, new para)**

Recognizing that through the adoption of the Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, in September 2015, Heads of States and Heads of Government made a bold commitment to reduce by 2030 by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well being, **(based on PP3 on TB modalities resolution)**

Taking note of the Secretary General’s 2018 report on the Progress on the prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases; ¹**(update, based on PP4 from A/RES/68/271 on modalities NCDs)**

Mindful of the need to maintain strong national, regional and international political commitment towards the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, **(PP 3 A/RES/68/271 on modalities NCDs)**

1. *Decides* that the one day high-level meeting to undertake the comprehensive review and assessment convened by the President of the General Assembly shall be held in New York [on the third day of the general debate of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session], from 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6:00 p.m., consisting of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment; **(based on OP1 of TB modalities resolution)**

¹ A/72/662

2. *Also decides* that the overall theme of the high-level meeting will be “Taking stock of progress in implementing the commitments adopted in resolutions A/RES/66/2 and A/RES/68/300 on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and scaling up multi-stakeholder and national multisectoral responses to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”; (OP4 A/RES/68/271 on modalities NCDs)

3. *Further decides* that:
 - a. The opening segment held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the World Health Organization; (based on OP2 of TB modalities resolution)
 - b. The plenary segment held from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. will hear statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly. A list of speakers will be established in accordance with established practices of the General Assembly and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States; (based on OP2 of TB modalities resolution)

4. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the two multi-stakeholder panels will be as follows:
 - a. Two consecutive multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary, one from 11:00-a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
 - b. The multi-stakeholder panels will address two themes²:

Sharing best practices and lessons learned on financing and strengthening health systems for the prevention and control on NCDs

Sharing best practices and lessons learned on opportunities and challenges in the engagement between governments and the private sector in promoting healthy lifestyles.

Financing of NCDs prevention and control

Synergies and partnerships between governments and the private sector

Strengthen health systems to tackle and deliver on NCDs response

² The co-facilitators are presenting several ideas to discuss with the membership with the aim of deciding over two themes, one for each panel.

Preventing NCDs by promoting healthy lifestyles

Sharing best practices and lessons learned on progress towards NCDs prevention and control

Addressing challenges to development: achieving SDG 3.4, what does it take?

- c. Each of the two multi-stakeholder panels will be co-chaired by two representatives, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with the regional groups; **(based on OP3 of TB modalities resolution)**
 - d. The President of the General Assembly may invite parliamentarians, local governments, the heads or senior representatives of relevant UN entities, civil society, private sector, academia, medical associations, indigenous leadership, and community organizations to serve as speakers on the panels, taking into account gender equity, level of development and geographical representation; **(based on OP3 of TB modalities resolution)**
5. *Decides* that the closing segment by the President of the General Assembly will comprise of summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly; **(based on OP5 of TB modalities resolution)**
 6. *Also decides* that the high-level meeting shall approve a concise and action-oriented outcome document which builds on the opportunities and challenges on the implementation of previous commitments, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the General Assembly; **(OP6 of TB modalities resolution)**
 7. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the World Health Organization, to organize and preside over an interactive civil society hearing, before the end of July 2018, with active participation of appropriate senior level representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly; parliamentarians, local government representatives, relevant United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; invited civil society organizations; academia, **medical associations**; and the private sector, broader communities and ensuring the participation and voices of women, girls and indigenous leadership, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, and further requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing prior to the high-level meeting; **(based on OP7 of TB modalities resolution)**

8. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the high-level meeting, including the multi-stakeholder panels, at the highest level possible; **(OP8 of TB modalities resolution)**
9. *Invites* all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level; **(OP9 of TB modalities resolution)**
10. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies including the World Health Organization, regional commissions, relevant Envoys of the Secretary-General, to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and urges them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing good practices, challenges and lessons learnt from NCDs-related responses; **(based on OP10 of TB modalities resolution)**
11. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to contribute to the high level meeting **(OP12 A/RES/65/238 on NCDs modalities);**
12. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the ECOSOC with relevant expertise to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting; **(OP11 of TB modalities resolution)**
13. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting and participate in the interactive civil society hearing and the multi-stakeholder panels, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;³ **(based on OP12 of TB modalities resolution)**
14. *Encourages* Member States to consider, including in their national delegation representatives, such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, indigenous leadership community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia; philanthropic foundations; the private sector, with due regard to gender equity; **(based on OP14 of TB modalities resolution and OP11 of 68/271)**

³ The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting. **(based on OP15 of TB modalities resolution)**