



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

11 June 2018

Excellency,

In accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 72/274 on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, I will convene an interactive hearing as part of the preparatory process on 5 July 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The interactive hearing will provide representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, parliamentarians, representatives of local government, relevant United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, philanthropic foundations, academia, medical associations, the private sector and broader communities, with an opportunity to share experiences and contribute constructively to the preparations of the high-level meeting.

I am pleased to enclose herewith the concept note and provisional agenda of the hearing. An updated programme will be provided in due course. I encourage representatives of Member States to participate in the hearing.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miroslav Lajčák

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

CONCEPT NOTE AND PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Interactive Hearing as part of the preparatory process toward the third High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on NCDs

5 July 2018
Trusteeship Council Chamber
United Nations Headquarters, New York

Context

In accordance with resolution RES/72/274, the third High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) will be convened on 27 September 2018 to undertake a comprehensive review of the prevention and control of NCDs and approve a concise and action-oriented outcome document which builds on the opportunities and challenges in the implementation of previous commitments.

The theme of high-level meeting will be “Scaling up multi-stakeholder and multisectoral responses for the prevention and control of NCDs in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

Pursuant to resolution RES/72/274, the President of the General Assembly, with the support of WHO, will organize an Interactive Hearing on 5 July 2018 with all relevant stakeholders as part of the preparatory process for the third High-level Meeting.

Objective

The Hearing will provide all relevant stakeholders with an opportunity to contribute to the ongoing preparatory process for the High-level Meeting. The Hearing will bring together representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, parliamentarians, representatives of local government, relevant United Nations entities, NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC, invited civil society organizations, private sector entities, philanthropic foundations, academic institutions, medical associations and broader communities.

The Hearing will focus on the opportunity provided by the third High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly in 2018 for all stakeholders to share their priorities with Member States for action at the national and international level to accelerate the NCD response

and to encourage implementation and scaling up of investments in NCDs and mental health that cost only an additional US\$1.27 per person annually¹. Such actions would save more than 8 million lives, contribute US\$350 billion in economic growth in the world's poorest countries between 2018 and 2030², and support countries in reaching Sustainable Development Goal target 3.4.

Format

The one-day Hearing will be divided into an opening segment, four interactive panel discussions, and a closing segment. The four panels will feature multi-stakeholder panellists taking into account diverse backgrounds.

Outcome

The outcome will be a summary prepared by the President of the General Assembly. It will be circulated to all Member States and to all stakeholders.

¹ See WHO report "Saving lives, spending less: a strategic response to NCD" available at <http://www.who.int/ncds/management/ncds-strategic-response/en/>

² Idem

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Interactive Hearing
as part of the preparatory process toward the
third High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on NCDs

5 July 2018
Trusteeship Council Chamber
United Nations Headquarters, New York

10:00-10:30	<p>Opening segment by H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the General Assembly</p> <p>Speakers (tbc)</p>
10:30-11:45	<p>Panel 1 Scaling up action for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases</p> <p>This panel will focus on the role of identifying and implementing a specific set of priorities within the overall NCD agenda with a view to implementing effective national responses for the prevention and control of NCDs, including by achieving universal health coverage. According to WHO, prioritization of best buy interventions is key to achieving quick results to help scale up approaches that countries need to implement to achieve SDG target 3.4. The session will also explore good practices to protect vulnerable people from NCDs.</p> <p>Moderator (tbc) Stakeholder panellists (tbc)</p> <p>Interactive Q&A</p>
11:45-13:00	<p>Panel 2 Financing for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases</p> <p>NCDs threaten progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Developing countries bear a disproportionate burden, and in particular, low- and middle-income countries are increasingly affected with over 80% of premature deaths from NCDs occurring in those countries³. Greater investment in NCD responses is required. This panel will explore opportunities to attract innovative and traditional funding sources in all countries through domestic, bilateral and multilateral channels.</p>

³ <http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>

	<p>Moderator (tbc) Stakeholder panellists (tbc)</p> <p>Interactive Q&A</p>
15:00-16:20	<p>Panel 3 Promotion of multisectoral partnerships for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases</p> <p>The panel will explore the opportunities and challenges of engagement with the private sector, academia, civil society, and communities for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, taking into account the importance of a whole-of-society approach. Speakers will share experiences, good practices and challenges to reach SDG target 3.4.</p> <p>Moderator (tbc) Stakeholder panellists (tbc)</p> <p>Interactive Q&A</p>
16:20-17:40	<p>Panel 4 Political leadership and accountability</p> <p>This panel will focus on creating ownership at national level for developing and implementing national NCDs policies to reach SDG target 3.4 by 2030. This panel will also address the role of a whole-of-government approach towards the prevention and control of NCDs. This session will further seek to explore how to promote accountability at the national level as well as the potential role of a global accountability framework, including the role of relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Moderator (tbc) Stakeholder panellists (tbc)</p> <p>Interactive Q&A</p>
17:40-18:00	<p>Closing segment by H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the General Assembly</p> <p>Speakers (tbc)</p>