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Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 7 June 2019

[on a proposal considered in plenary meeting ([E/2019/L.16](#))]

2019/9. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions [2013/12](#) of 22 July 2013, [2014/10](#) of 13 June 2014, [2015/8](#) of 9 June 2015, [2016/5](#) of 2 June 2016, [2017/8](#) of 7 June 2017 and [2018/13](#) of 2 July 2018 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Recalling also the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,¹ the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases² and the 2018 political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,³ and recalling further the proposed actions set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020,⁴

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which includes non-communicable disease-related targets, including reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2030 through prevention and treatment, and promoting mental health and well-being, as well as support for research and development for vaccines and medicines, and recalling the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁵

¹ General Assembly resolution [66/2](#), annex.

² General Assembly resolution [68/300](#).

³ General Assembly resolution [73/2](#).

⁴ World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.

⁵ General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.



which noted the enormous burden that non-communicable diseases place on developed and developing countries, and that these costs are particularly challenging for developing countries,

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to one or more of the modifiable risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as air pollution, as the largest environmental risk factor contributing to non-communicable diseases, but also the considerable burden of mental health conditions and neurological disorders, constitutes one of the major challenges for development in the twenty-first century, which undermines social and economic development throughout the world and threatens the achievement of internationally agreed development goals,

Noting that the non-communicable disease-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are linked to the impact of social, economic and environmental determinants, including air, soil and water pollution, efforts to ensure road safety, promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition, as well as to broader determinants of health,

Recalling the World Health Organization global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030, and acknowledging that increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviour can contribute to broader efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and improve mental health,

Noting the progress made by the Task Force in the execution of its mandate, including joint programming missions to an increasing number of countries and global joint programmes and thematic working groups that contribute to 30 targets of 12 Sustainable Development Goals, and that its work has a significant positive impact on national multisectoral non-communicable disease responses and development plans and policies, strengthening health systems and the empowerment of individuals, including for better health literacy,

Welcoming the progress that the Task Force makes through joint inter-agency efforts and partnerships, when applicable, to promote public health and foster the achievement of non-communicable disease-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming also the financial and in-kind support provided by Member States and international development partners for the work of the Task Force,

Noting with concern the continued shortage of resources available for the Task Force and, in particular, the global joint programmes developed by the Task Force that remain mostly unfunded to date, and the need for a significant increase in financing in order for the Task Force to reach its full potential in providing timely and effective specialized technical assistance to Member States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases⁶ and the recommendations contained therein, including to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2020 on progress made in implementing Council resolution [2013/12](#);

2. *Commends* the Task Force for its activities aimed at supporting Member States in the achievement of the non-communicable disease-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;⁷

⁶ [E/2019/55](#).

⁷ General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

3. *Calls upon* bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as other stakeholders, including philanthropic foundations, civil society and the private sector, as appropriate, to mobilize human and financial resources for the programmatic work of the Task Force, inter alia, in order to deliver activities under its strategy for 2019–2021;

4. *Encourages* bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to mobilize resources to support Member States, upon their request, to catalyse sustainable domestic responses to non-communicable diseases and mental health conditions, considering various voluntary funding mechanisms, including a dedicated multi-donor trust fund;

5. *Calls upon* the members of the Task Force to continue to work together to identify additional technical resources to enhance their support to Member States in line with the Task Force strategy for 2019–2021;

6. *Requests* the Task Force to continue strengthening the inter-agency work, including by engaging with relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to achieve public health goals;

7. *Also requests* the Task Force to further support Member States in the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases, as well as support for research and development of vaccines and medicines and the provision of access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all, as well as strengthening regulatory systems, pursuing good supply-chain management and strengthening health systems for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

8. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members to strengthen its capacity to provide technical and policy advice to Governments in order to implement multisectoral strategies and enhance multi-stakeholder action, including with the private sector, with a view to strengthening their contribution to the implementation of national responses to non-communicable diseases;

9. *Also calls upon* the Task Force and its members, within its mandate, to support, upon request, the capacity of Member States for improved regulatory and legal frameworks that promote favourable health outcomes for non-communicable diseases;

10. *Encourages* members of the Task Force, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, to continue to develop and implement their own policies on preventing tobacco industry interference, including those related to novel and emerging tobacco products, bearing in mind the model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference, in order to ensure consistent and effective separation between the activities of the United Nations system and those of the tobacco industry;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2020 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution [2013/12](#), under the sub-item entitled “Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases” of the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”.

*22nd plenary meeting
7 June 2019*