



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
9 October 2013

Substantive session of 2013  
Agenda item 7 (g)

## Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 22 July 2013

[on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2013/L.23)]

### 2013/12. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011,<sup>1</sup> which reaffirmed the leadership and coordination role of the World Health Organization in promoting and monitoring global action against non-communicable diseases in relation to the work of other United Nations agencies, development banks and other regional and international organizations and which also called upon United Nations system agencies, funds and programmes, the international institutions, development banks and other key international organizations to work together in a coordinated manner to support national efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases, and recalling the first Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and Non-communicable Disease Control, organized by the Russian Federation and the World Health Organization, held in Moscow on 28 and 29 April 2011,

*Acknowledging* that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, an unhealthy diet and lack of physical activity, constitute one of the major challenges for the economic and social development of many Member States and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

*Reaffirming* the importance of strengthened international cooperation for enhancing the capacities of developing countries for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,

<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.



*Reaffirming* also the leading role of the World Health Organization as the primary specialized agency for health, including its roles and functions with regard to health policy, in accordance with its mandate,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the sixty-sixth World Health Assembly of resolution 66.10 of 27 May 2013<sup>2</sup> endorsing the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020, which provides a road map and a menu of policy options for all Member States and other stakeholders to take coordinated and coherent action, at all levels, from the local to the global, to attain the nine voluntary global targets, including that of a 25 per cent relative reduction in premature mortality from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases by 2025,

*Recalling* that, in resolution 66.10, the World Health Assembly urged Member States to recommend that the Economic and Social Council, before the end of 2013, consider the proposal for a United Nations task force on non-communicable diseases, which would coordinate the activities of the United Nations organizations in the implementation of the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020, would be convened and led by the World Health Organization and would report to the Council, incorporating the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, while ensuring that tobacco control continues to be duly addressed and prioritized in the new task force mandate,

*Recognizing* that the current work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, constituted upon the request of the Council in 1999, is aimed at supporting accelerated implementation by parties to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control,<sup>3</sup> including through adopted technical guidelines, and further integrating the aims of the Convention within the actions undertaken in the context of the implementation of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control,<sup>4</sup>

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases by expanding the mandate<sup>5</sup> of the existing Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, with this Task Force to be convened and led by the World Health Organization, to report to the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General and to incorporate the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, including the work to support the accelerated implementation by parties to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;<sup>3</sup>

2. *Decides* that the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases will coordinate the activities of the relevant United Nations funds, programmes and specialized

---

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2302, No. 41032.

<sup>4</sup> E/2013/61.

<sup>5</sup> See resolutions 1993/79, 1994/47, 1995/62, 1999/56, 2004/62, 2010/8 and 2012/4.

agencies and other intergovernmental organizations to support the realization of the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>1</sup> in particular through the implementation of the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020;

3. *Urges* all members of the existing Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control<sup>6</sup> and other United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to contribute, within their respective mandates, as appropriate, to the activities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization, and in full consultation with Member States through the World Health Organization, to develop the terms of reference for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, incorporating, but not limited to, the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control and the current work of the secretariat of the World Health Organization to develop a division of tasks and responsibilities, as exemplified in appendix 4 to the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020, and also requests the Secretary-General to include the terms of reference in his report on the implementation of the present resolution for the consideration of the Council at its substantive session of 2014.

*41st plenary meeting  
22 July 2013*

---

<sup>6</sup> World Health Organization, secretariat of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Civil Aviation Organization, International Labour Organization, International Monetary Fund, International Telecommunication Union, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Population Fund, World Bank, World Customs Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization and World Trade Organization.