



## WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (GCM/NCD) Principles, Eligibility and Selection Criteria for Participants

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### I. Introduction

1. The formal engagement of WHO Member States<sup>1</sup>, United Nations funds, programmes and organizations<sup>2</sup>, other relevant<sup>3</sup> intergovernmental organizations and non-State actors as Participants of the GCM/NCD<sup>4</sup> is governed by the Terms of Reference for the GCM/NCD and existing WHO policies and rules of engagement expressed in WHO's Framework of engagement with non-State actors.<sup>5</sup>

2. In accordance with paragraph 5 of the endorsed Terms of Reference for the GCM/NCD, the GCM/NCD is led by Member States,<sup>6</sup> and are considered Participants of the GCM/NCD<sup>7</sup>.

3. All United Nations funds, programmes and organizations<sup>8</sup> and other relevant<sup>9</sup> intergovernmental organizations can pre-register to become a Participant of the GCM/NCD and will be eligible providing an area of collaboration with the GCM/NCD, in the form of a pre-commitment, has been identified.

4. All non-State actors can pre-register to become a Participant of the GCM/NCD through a pre-registration form that is aligned with the provisions set in the WHO Framework of engagement with non-State actors<sup>10</sup>. In order to be eligible for acceptance as a Participant of the GCM/NCD the following principles and eligibility criteria will be considered with respect to non-State actors.

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<sup>1</sup> WHO Member States, <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, <http://www.who.int/ncds/un-task-force/en/>.

<sup>3</sup> As per the Paragraph 5 of Document A67/14 Add.1, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA67/A67\\_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67/A67_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1), "other relevant intergovernmental organizations" is defined in this document as those intergovernmental organizations whose activities have a bearing on NCDs, their risk factors and related social determinants of health.

<sup>4</sup> Participants of the GCM/NCD, <http://www.who.int/global-coordination-mechanism/participants/gcm-ncd-participant-list/en/>.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

<sup>7</sup> Document A67/14 Add.1, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA67/A67\\_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67/A67_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1).

<sup>8</sup> United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, <http://www.who.int/ncds/un-task-force/en/>.

<sup>9</sup> As per the Paragraph 5 of Document A67/14 Add.1, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA67/A67\\_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67/A67_14Add1-en.pdf?ua=1), "other relevant intergovernmental organizations" is defined in this document as those intergovernmental organizations whose activities have a bearing on NCDs, their risk factors and related social determinants of health.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf).

## II. Principles and Eligibility Criteria for non-State actors

5. The acceptance of non-State actors as Participants to GCM/NCD is guided by the following principles:

The non-State actor should:

- a. demonstrate a clear benefit to public health;
- b. adhere to WHO's Constitution, rules and procedures including but not limited to the overarching principles contained in the Framework for engagement with non-State actors<sup>11</sup>.
- c. respect the intergovernmental nature of WHO and the decision-making authority of Member States as set out in the WHO's Constitution.
- d. support and enhance, without compromising, the scientific and evidence-based approach that underpins WHO's work;
- e. not compromise WHO's integrity, independence, credibility and reputation;
- f. does not engage with the tobacco industry nor with non-State actors that work to further the interests of the tobacco industry<sup>12</sup>.
- g. does not engage with the arms industry.<sup>13</sup>

6. When considering non-State actors applications, the GCM/NCD Secretariat applies the following eligibility criteria:

- a. The interested non-State actor must be an entity, and not an individual, to be eligible to become a Participant of the GCM/NCD.
- b. The non-State actors are required to provide set of information on their organization including signing the tobacco-arms disclosure statement.
- c. Potential non-State actor Participants of the GCM/NCD should demonstrate commitment to furthering the following agendas:
  - The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 3.4 to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by one third by 2030 3.a to strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, and other NCD and NCD-related targets in the SDGs,
  - The WHO Global NCD Action Plan 2013-2020,
  - The 2011 UN Political Declaration on NCDs,
  - The 2014 UN Outcome Document on NCDs,
  - The 2017 Montevideo Roadmap,
  - The WHO General Programme of Work 2019-2023,

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<sup>11</sup> Paragraph 5, Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> Paragraph 44, Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> Paragraph 44, Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf).

- WHO normative guidance and tools, as appropriate to national circumstances, and
  - The five core functions and related themes of the GCM/NCD, related to the GCM/NCD's Terms of Reference and respective Work Plans.
- d. In the absence of prior knowledge or alignment with the NCDs architecture, the non-State actor should demonstrate a commitment to learn and align itself with the agendas outlined above.
- e. The non-State actor must be able to identify an area of collaboration with the GCM/NCD in the form of a pre-commitment through the process of pre-registering to become a Participant of the GCM/NCD.

### III. Selection process by GCM/NCD Secretariat for non-State actors

7. GCM/NCD will exercise particular caution, especially while performing a screening and risk assessment, when engaging with the private sector and other non-State actors whose policies or activities are negatively affecting human health and are not in line with WHO's policies, norms and standards, in particular those related to noncommunicable diseases and their determinants.

8. GCM/NCD will confirm through its assessment which of the four groups of non-State actor the applicant entity belongs to, and also determine which of the respective specific policies and operational procedures apply<sup>14</sup>:

- Nongovernmental organizations
- Private sector entities
  - International business associations
- Philanthropic foundations
- Academic institutions

9. With respect to applications from private sector entities, priority will be given to international business associations. Where no international or regional associations exist, private sector entities will be considered according to the eligibility criteria listed in Section II, whilst ensuring that no competitive advantage is conferred to any one private sector entity over another. In determining the private sector entity's eligibility as a Participant of the GCM/NCD, particular emphasis will be placed upon the entity's adherence to WHO policies, norms, standards and recommendations above any commercial interests.

10. When selecting non-State actors, GCM/NCD will consider a balanced representation of the four groups of non-State actor entities amongst the Participants.

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<sup>14</sup> Paragraph 13, Resolution WHA69.10, [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA69/A69\\_R10-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_R10-en.pdf).

11. A balanced geographic distribution of non-State actor entities amongst the Participants of the GCM/NCD will also be considered.

12. Coverage of the GCM/NCD Secretariat's thematic areas amongst the Participants of the GCM/NCD, spanning the NCD and SDG agendas, and including partnerships, youth, women, the environment and air pollution, the insurance and financial sectors, generic pharmaceuticals, patients, mental health and emergencies will be considered.

#### IV. Pre-commitments and other responsibilities for Participants

13. The process for United Nations system agencies, funds and programmes, and organizations, other relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-State actors to become Participants of the GCM/NCD will include a pre-commitments form. The purpose of this form is to demonstrate to WHO how the entity's objectives and activities align with the WHO Global NCD Action Plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, 2013-2020<sup>15</sup> to achieve the nine voluntary NCD targets before 2025, the NCD and mental health indicators of the WHO General Programme of Work 2019-2023, and the NCD and NCD-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>16</sup>. This process also enables the entity to identify which functions and objectives of the GCM/NCD their work supports.

14. Pre-commitments do not represent a binding commitment. Rather, they will be used for the GCM/NCD Secretariat to further assess the entity's application to become a Participant of the GCM/NCD. Only once accepted as a Participant of the GCM/NCD are pre-commitments selectively developed and enhanced into formal commitments in collaboration with WHO.

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<sup>15</sup> WHO Global NCD Action Plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), 2013-2020, [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/94384/1/9789241506236\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/94384/1/9789241506236_eng.pdf?ua=1).

<sup>16</sup> UN Sustainable Development Goals, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>.