

## Second Annual Gathering for the Global NCD Compact

21 September 2023, 7:30 – 8:30, UN premises

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### Background

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) account for 74% of all deaths globally. Each year, 17 million people die from a NCD before age 70 and 86% of these premature deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Only a few countries are on track to meet the sustainable development goal (SDG) target 3.4 to reduce premature mortality from NCDs by one-third by 2030. The WHO “Best-buys” provide a set of cost-effective and effective interventions which can be adapted to country contexts, and a combination of these approaches can significantly impact NCD outcomes to help countries achieve SDG target 3.4 on NCDs, and SDG target 3.8 towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

To raise ambitions on the global NCD agenda, the Government of Ghana, Government of Norway, and the World Health Organization co-hosted an International Strategic Dialogue on NCDs and the SDGs, held in Accra, Ghana on 12 April 2022. The objectives of the meeting were to: raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of NCDs within the national SDG response in LMICs; bring together key stakeholders and partners to share knowledge and ideas on what it would take for LMICs to achieve SDG 3 on health, with a particular focus on SDG 3.4 and SDG 3.8 targets; and to raise the political visibility of Heads of State and Government in the prevention and control of NCDs at a global level. The co-chairs launched the Global NCD Compact 2020-2030 and the Global Group of Heads of State and Government on Prevention and Control of NCDs.

The multi-year aim of the Global NCD Compact and the Global Group of Heads of State and Government is to accelerate the progress towards SDG 3.4 and 3.8 by 2030 by calling on countries to align strategies and operations with universal commitments to accelerate and scale up the prevention and control of NCDs toward achieving UHC. The initiative builds on the three UN High-level political declarations for the prevention and control of NCDs and will galvanize momentum in the second UN High-level meeting on UHC in 2023, and towards the fourth UN High-level meeting on the prevention and control of NCDs in 2025.

High-level engagement and advocacy for NCDs is being garnered through a series of global meetings and initiatives, including:

- The SIDS Ministerial Conference on NCDs and mental health held on 14-16 June 2023 in Barbados, during which the 2023 Bridgetown Declaration on NCDs and mental health was launched, putting forth strategic commitments for SIDS Member States to operationalize at national level and with the support of global partners.
- A global high-level meeting on NCDs in emergencies scheduled for 2024 aims to further build political momentum towards a comprehensive approach to better include NCDs into emergency preparedness and response plans.
- In addition, a global meeting on NCDs in health financing planned in 2024 will aim to define strategic pathways to improve the fiscal sustainability of health systems by addressing financing of NCDs. These efforts constitute critical and timely inputs for consideration by the Global Group of Heads of State and Government.

In accordance with the terms of reference, the Global Group will meet annually on the occasion of the UN General Assembly to further build momentum and engage global leaders to take ownership of the NCD agenda on the road to the 4<sup>th</sup> High-level Meeting on NCDs in 2025. In advance of the Second Gathering of the Global Group, a virtual multistakeholder dialogue will be convened in early September 2023 to raise the priority of the role of diverse stakeholders in the prevention and control of NCDs and to showcase alignment, coherence and collaborative actions on NCDs, UHC and the SDGs.

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## Objective

The objective of the second gathering is to convene members of the Global Group of Heads of State and Government to:

- Raise the priority accorded to the prevention and control of NCDs within the national and international SDG response
- Deliberate on the Global NCD Compact 2020-2030 and showcase national and international actions on NCD and the SDGs
- Discuss on how to leverage the collective to inspire and support global action on NCDs and the SDGs
- How to accelerate national action as part of the Implementation Roadmap 2023-2025

**Date:** 21 September 2023; 7:30-8:30

**Location:** UN premises, Room TBD

**Language:** The event will be conducted in English

## Provisional Programme

7:30 – 7:35	<b>Welcome</b>
7:35 – 7:40	<b>Opening Remarks by Chairperson:</b> President of Ghana, H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo
7:40 – 7:45	<b>Address by WHO Director General:</b> Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
7:45 – 8:20	<b>Fireside chat:</b> Heads of State and Government on the Global NCD Compact
8:20 – 8:25	<b>Photocall</b>
8:25 – 8:30	<b>Closing remarks</b>