



The Global Roundtable Series April 2012 – Geneva, Switzerland Global Targets, Indicators and Expectations for the 2012 World Health Assembly

In September 2011, the United Nations held a historic High-level Meeting (HLM) to agree upon a global approach to address the cancer and the other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) epidemic.

The resulting Political Declaration committed all 193 Member States to implement significant programmes of change in their own countries to prevent, detect, treat and manage NCDs. Member States committed to develop better health systems responses, invest in population-wide initiatives to reduce the NCD burden and work more actively in partnership with civil society and the private sector. Despite the Political Declaration having much breadth, it notably lacked specific targets and indicators to allow for the measurement of progress in addressing NCDs in the coming years. The World Health Organisation (WHO) was given responsibility to establish a set of voluntary targets and indicators in 2012 in consultation with Member States, civil society and the private sector. A recommendation on targets and indicators will be proposed to the United Nations by the end of this year.

As part of its global advocacy campaign to deliver a set of meaningful targets and indicators, UICC arranged a multi-sector meeting in Geneva, co-hosted by the United States and Republic of Kenya Missions. A disparate group of people drawn from the Country Missions, NGOs, WHO and the private sector met to discuss the current proposals from WHO – a somewhat limited set of risk factor targets supplemented by a longer list of NCD indicators.

During the two-hour meeting, views were freely exchanged between the 40 attendees. The UICC team was lead by Dr John Seffrin, CEO of the American Cancer Society, HRH Princess Dina Mired of Jordan and Dr Eduardo Cazap, President of UICC. The meeting achieved its objectives – all parties became significantly more sensitised to the consensus view that the UN should adopt a larger number of targets and indicators to measure progress in implementing the full range of commitments contained in the Political Declaration.



Images by Eric Bridiers



“ UICC welcomes this opportunity for close exchange with governments that recognise the social and economic impact of continued inaction on cancer and other NCDs. 2012 is about agreeing robust targets and indicators as part of a strong global monitoring and reporting framework. We are asking Member States to be bold and set aspirational targets that will drive progress in the prevention and control of Cancer and NCDs for the next fifteen years. ”

Dr Eduardo Cazap, President, UICC



“ It is imperative to work collectively to reduce the burden of NCDs, but at the same time ensure they remain on the global health agenda. ”

H.E. Anthony Andanje, Deputy Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya

Global Impact

Views from governments, civil society and private sector appear surprisingly aligned in their call for a broader range of targets than the current five proposed by WHO, including at least one to address the health system response to NCDs. A target on access to essential medicines and technologies debated at this event was also echoed in consultations with Member States and UN agencies the following day and was considered to be aligned with the WHO mid-term strategic plan.

UICC is particularly pleased to hear of wide Member State support for the palliative care indicator proposed by UICC and partners such as Human Rights Watch and Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance - recognising that health promotion alone will not serve those currently living and coping with cancer and other NCDs.



Speakers

- **Mr Douglas Griffiths**, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of the United States (Moderator)
- **Mr Jimmy Kolker**, Deputy Director Ambassador, United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Global Affairs
- **H.E. Anthony Andanje**, Deputy Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the UN
- **HRH Princess Dina Mired**, Director General, King Hussein Cancer Foundation (KHCF)
- **Dr John Seffrin**, Chief Executive Officer, American Cancer Society (ACS)
- **Dr Tim Armstrong**, Coordinator, Surveillance and Population-based Prevention Unit, World Health Organization (WHO)
- **Dr Eduardo Cazap**, President, Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)

Key Advocacy Messages

UICC MEMBERS CONVEYED STRONG SUPPORT FOR:

- New target on physical inactivity is a major step forward
- Collection of data on cancer incidence and type (including staging where appropriate)
- Vaccination against cancer-causing infections: Human Papillomavirus Virus (HPV) and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)
- Monitoring the prevalence of women between ages 30 – 49 screened for cervical cancer at least once
- Access to palliative care and pain relief medications

AND ALSO MADE A STRONG PLEA TO MEMBER STATES TO:

1. Recognise prior commitments made in the UN Political Declaration

The ability to measure simple outcomes for breast cancer – the most common cancer in women in all resource settings – should not be overlooked.

2. Stand up for the rights of people currently living with cancer and other NCDs

Include a target to achieve a minimum of 80% availability of affordable, quality-assured essential NCD medicines and technologies in public and private sectors.

3. Demonstrate leadership at the World Health Assembly in May

Resolve to adopt the target to reduce preventable deaths from NCDs by 25% by 2025 as the central goal of the next global plan on NCDs.

4. Ensure coherence with other global initiatives on NCDs and frame NCDs in the larger context of global development

The revised WHO Action Plan on NCDs (2013–2020) should be consistent and coherent with the global voluntary targets and monitoring framework.



“[On comparing NCDs to natural disasters] If we today, in this room around this table, knew where and when the next major tsunami would hit and we knew how to mitigate it, would it not be a moral imperative and responsibility to act?”

Dr John R. Seffrin, CEO, ACS



“Global health challenges posed by NCDs require sustained efforts, commitment and cooperation by the international community.”

Jimmy Kolker, Deputy Director Ambassador, United States Department of Health and Human Services



“[On NCD targets] If you want achievables, ask for deliverables.”

Her Royal Highness Princess Dina Mired of Jordan, Director General, KHCF



“ Do not underestimate your [civil society] power...I have been astounded at the power of civil society groups. ”

*Douglas Griffiths, Chargé d'Affaires,
United States Mission to the UN*



“ Three targets is a good start, but more will be needed to drive the action required. The private sector wants to be part of the solution. We have to open a balanced discussion; we need to be partners to build effective strategies. ”

*Martin Bernhardt, Vice President
Relations with International Institutions,
Sanofi Group*

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Participants

Organised by Affiliation

- **Ms Ann McMikel**, Managing Director, African Cancer Control and Global Health Planning, ACS *
- **Ms Cath Patterson**, Minister of Health, Permanent Mission of Australia
- **Mr Bruno Henrique Neves Silva**, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil
- **Ms Joanne Hamilton**, Health Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Canada
- **His Excellency Mr Rajab M. Sukayri**, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Jordan
- **Magaly Traverso Zegarra**, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Peru
- **Dr Alexey Kulikov**, Third Secretary Health Affairs, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation
- **Dr Lindiwe Makubalo**, Minister, Health Department Permanent Mission of South Africa
- **Mr Samson Lungu**, First Secretary – Political, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia
- **Ms Cora Honing**, International Relations Officer, Dutch Cancer Society *
- **Mr Yannick Lucas**, Director General, French Cancer Society
- **Ms Helen Evans**, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, GAVI Alliance
- **Dr Ulrike Helbig**, Coordinating Director of Section A, German Cancer Society *
- **Dr Jeffrey Bloss**, Vice President Global Medical Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline Oncology (GSK) *
- **Ms Shu-Shu Tekle-Haimanot**, Senior Program Officer, The Global Fund
- **Ms Katherine Hagen**, Executive Director, Global Social Observatory
- **Mr Massoud Samiei**, Head, Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy Programme Office (PACT), Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- **Dr Rolando Camacho**, PACT Senior Cancer Control Coordinator, IAEA
- **Dr David Forman**, Head, Section of Cancer Information, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)
- **Dr Lena El-Malak**, Senior Manager, International Development Department, KHCf
- **Mr Herb Riband**, Vice President External Affairs International, Medtronic
- **Ms Anne-Lise Ryel**, Chief Executive Officer, Norwegian Cancer Society *
- **Professor Franco Cavalli**, President, Oncology Institute of Southern Switzerland
- **Professor Vivien Tsu**, Director, HPV Vaccines Project Associate Director, Reproductive Health, PATH
- **Dr Maria Pia Ruffilli**, Senior Director, Public Affairs for Oncology, Pfizer *
- **Mr Stephen Sands**, Director Oncology Strategy, Roche *
- **Mr Martin Bernhardt**, Vice President International Institutions, Sanofi Group *
- **Mr Cary Adams**, Chief Executive Officer, UICC
- **Dr Julie Torode**, Deputy CEO, UICC
- **Mr John McCarthy**, UICC Ambassador, UICC
- **Ms Marilyn Gentry**, Chief Executive Officer, World Cancer Research Fund *
- **Professor Richard Laing**, Coordinator, Medicine Information and Evidence for Policy, WHO