COUNTRY COMMITMENTS MADE AT THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES, 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2011
(Incomplete - Draft at 10 October)

Compiled from comments made during the plenaries and round tables of the UN High Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non Communicable Diseases

- **Round Table 1:** The rising incidence, developmental and other challenges and the social and economic impact of non-communicable diseases and their risk factors
- **Round Table 2:** Strengthening National Capacities, as well as Appropriate Policies, to Address the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases
- **Round Table 3:** Fostering International Cooperation, as well as Coordination, to Address Noncommunicable Diseases

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3. Association of Southeastern Asian Nations (ASEAN)
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10. Canada
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56. Papua New Guinea
57. Philippines
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60. Russian Federation
61. Samoa
62. Serbia
63. Solomon Islands
64. South Africa
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73. Ukraine
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75. United States
76. Vanuatu
77. Vietnam

1. Algeria

Minister for Health Abbes:

- Preparing to launch a strategy over the next two years to control NCDs, opening cancer treatment centres and providing free treatments for all cancer patients, including chemotherapy

2. Argentina

Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Health:

- Aim to be transfat free by 2014
- Commission for reducing salt in cooperation with industry – working to reduce salt in bread by 25%
- Promoting consumption of fruit and vegetables with producers

3. ASEAN

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia Natalegawa:

- Developing referral systems and improving surveillance systems
- Working toward universal health coverage; providing services for people with chronic NCDs
- Accelerating tobacco control programmes and promoting a smoke-free environment
- Aligning national policies to improve diets, encourage physical exercise and reduce harmful alcohol use
- Implementing community-based intervention for early detection of NCD factors
- Extensive review of progress in 2014

4. Australia

Minister of Health Roxon:

- $AU 4 million provided towards implementation of WHO's Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs
- Providing 700,000 USD to WHO Secretariat to support global implementation of FCTC
- 2012 legislation demanding that all tobacco products packaged in the same unattractive brown wrapper and covered almost entirely with graphic warnings

5. Austria

President Fischer:

- Nutrition Action Plan: horizontal "health in all policies" strategy, including measures targeting nurseries, kindergartens and schools
- Sports Minister is developing an action plan for physical activity

6. Bahrain

Minister for Health Boloshi:

- 3 major initiatives: committee on the prevention of NCDs; early screening programme for 2015 with specialized clinics; a national strategy on diet and exercise.

7. Botswana

Minister of Health Seakgosing:

- Implementing legislation to control excessive alcohol use, and evaluating levels of sodium in the food supply
- Developing stronger tobacco control policy, in line with WHO
- Intends to conduct nationwide NCD prevalence survey which will complement collected risk factor data, and integrate results into a 5 year survey.

8. Brazil

President Dilma Rousseff:

- Increased access to medication for patients with hypertension and diabetes
- Reformulating public spaces for healthy lifestyles
- Better eating habits through promoting breastfeeding, healthy eating in schools and food labeling
- Voluntary agreements with food industry to eliminate transfats and reduce sodium in products
- Raised tobacco taxes with national pricing legislation
- Zero tolerance on drink driving
- Access to preventative tests, mammograms and better treatment for breast and cervical cancer

9. Bulgaria

Minister of Health:

- Strengthening primary health care – test for NCD risk factors, physical examinations
- Increased taxation of tobacco, aim to ban smoking in public places in 2012

10. Canada

- 'Global Challenges Canada' – international funding for NCDs, for research organisations in developing countries
- Cancer strategy - new partnerships between agencies, charities, governments

11. Cambodia

UN Ambassador Kosal Sea:

- Committed to: developing and strengthening multisectoral public policies; promoting access to comprehensive and cost-effective prevention; and promoting, translating and disseminating research to identify root causes and effective strategies

12. CARICOM

Desire Delano Bouterse – President of Suriname:

- Developed strategic plan of action including standard setting for tobacco, salt, as well as nutritional labeling
- Committed to a new primary-care policy, an annual "Caribbean Wellness Day" and a Regional Sports Academy in Suriname

13. Central African Republic

Minister of Foreign Affairs Gambi:

- Strategies to reduce NCDs into national development plans – objectives to: reduce levels of death/ early incapacity; diminish risk factors e.g. alcohol consumption and obesity; improve screening; promote healthier lifestyles
- Strengthening partnerships with WHO and IDF

14. Chad

- Plans to establish screening centers for NCDs and laboratories to test for cancer
- Increase public awareness of tobacco and alcohol risks, importance of exercise
- create conducive conditions for preventing NCDs
- Ensure health services engage stakeholders

15. Chile

First Lady Morel:

- "Choose to live healthy" campaign - motivate citizens to make four commitments to improve their quality of life: eat healthily, engage in physical exercise, and enjoy family and outdoor activities
- Targets adopted to control diabetes and high blood pressure, reduce smoking, obesity, sedentary lifestyles, and excessive alcohol consumption

16. Colombia

Deputy Minister for Health London-Soto:

- Government aimed to: promote healthy lifestyles from infancy; improve access to health services for those with NCDs; place further emphasis on physical activity
- Regulations to gradually reduce sodium levels in processed foods over five years would become effective in 2012

17. Comoros

- Initiatives: national survey on NCDs and risk factors for adults

18. Cote d'Ivoire

Minister for Health N'Diri Yoman:

- Adopted a 2011-2014 integrated strategy and action plan on prevention and treatment of NCDs
- Want to set up a national coordination unit

19. Cuba

Vice Minister for Public Health Rancano:

- Government seeking alliances with the food industry to reduce sugar and salt content in foods and adoption of a 2011-2015 programme to improve intersectoral health strategies

20. Equatorial Guinea

Deputy Prime Minister Owono:

- Specific objectives to reduce morbidity and mortality rates, aim to reduce inequalities in care and to increase the availability of potable water in urban areas

21. European Union

Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy John Dalli:

- Action on common risk factors
- Coordinating NCD approach with other policies (agriculture, transport, environment etc)
- Strategies on tobacco, nutrition, physical activity and alcohol – combining regulatory measures with EU partnerships
- 27 member states agree to reduce salt by 16%, working on strategies to reduce sugars and fats

22. Fiji

Prime Minister Bainimarama:

- NCD Strategic Plan for 2010-2014" – multisectoral plan using "3M model" targeting "mouth, muscle and medicine"
- Ensuring women and children have access to quality health services
- Policies on physical environment, lifestyle, clinical services and monitoring and evaluation

23. Finland

Minister for International Development:

- Target year for smoke free society: 2040, not through prohibition but very strong set of tools

24. Gabon

- Screening for diabetes/CVD/cervical and prostate cancer
- SMS project to inform Gabonese people about how they can control diabetes
- New cancer institute to open in 2012

25. Gambia

Minister for Health Badjie:

- Finalizing five-year policy and action plan for preventing and controlling NCDs
- Establishing a Health Promotion Directorate to oversee NCD initiatives

26. Ghana

Minister of Health Chireh:

- National NCD policy
- Public health bill with tobacco control
- National strategy for cancer control
- National sickle-cell strategic plan
- Regenerative health and nutrition strategic plan

27. Greece

UN Ambassador Anastassis Mitsialis:

- Health reform programme prioritized prevention of main risk factors through education, media and regulation
- Stressed importance of physical activity and proper nutrition — principally through discouraging foods high in sugar, fat and salt, and promoting the Mediterranean diet

- 23 September inauguration of a new WHO office in Athens dedicated to prevention and control of NCDs

28. Grenada

Minister of Health Peters:

- Established national chronic disease group to advise on curbing NCDs, a healthy lifestyle programme for chronic care patients, implementing a programme to foster healthy communities
- Launching national surveillance on heart/cardiovascular disease
- International partnership with New York University on dental health

29. Guinea

Minister of Health Naman Keita:

- Working alongside WHO to implement a national programme for combatting NCDs - including to mobilize national resources

30. India

Minister for Health Azad:

- 2011 pilot project covering 150 million people in 100 of its least accessible districts - establishment of clinics providing life-saving drugs, cancer diagnostic and chemotherapy services, and screening for diabetes and hypertension
- Target to screen 150 million people by March 2012 and roll out programme nationally in April 2012
- Through Planning Commission on NCDs (chaired by PM) - will increase recognition of NCDs, enhance resources of NCDs from 2012-2017
- Regulations - control of drinks and specifications on virgin olive oil
- Cooperation in capacity development
- Mapping exercise and capacity building in rural areas, 300% increase for national needs, committed to train professionals in developing countries

31. Iran

Acting Minister for Health Kikman

- Established a working group (including ministries of finance, labour, social welfare) to determine taxes on all unhealthy products/services including tobacco and food
- Aim to ban all advertising for unhealthy products – e.g. working group has banned advertisement of chips
- National committee task force to encourage physical activity
- Screening for high blood pressure and glucosemia
- Insurance bodies have agreed to sponsor screening for cancer

32. Ireland

Minister of Health:

- Considering banning smoking in cars with children inside and plain packaging (as Australia), but face challenge of tobacco industry

33. Israel

- 2020 programme to bridge inequality of healthcare that includes: education and prevention; ensure high quality of medicines and services; adjust infrastructure to combat NCDs; programmes to prevent obesity, excessive alcohol consumption, increase physical activity and reduce salt intake
- Will set indicators to monitor implementation of these strategies
- Will introduce a vaccine for HPV – even though low HPV rates
- Government smoking bill is being developed

34. Japan

- Health system strengthening at core of Japan's new health policy
- Will co-host a high level meeting on addressing NCDs in October 2012

35. Kazakhstan

Minister of Foreign Affairs Kazykhanov:

- Unified national health-care system would be introduced in 2013

36. Korea

Deputy Minister for Health and Welfare Yool:

- Working to provide health management services for those who could not afford them

37. League of Arab States

Assistant Secretary General for Social Affairs Bahous:

- A Pan-Arab conference to be held in 2012 in Saudi Arabia, and a 'health conference of mothers' set to take place – both aimed to combating NCDs in the Arab world
- Strategy to coordinate and strengthen medical care in Arab countries (particularly at primary level)
- Improving information/prevention campaigns

38. Madagascar

- Launching appeal for increased technical and financial support for developing counties – to re-launch projects which have become obsolete through lack of funding

39. Malawi

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

- Healthcare Strategic Plan – 2011-2016; finalising National Action Plan

40. Malaysia

Director General of Health:

- Strengthen NCD prevention and control programme 2011-2016 – including Cabinet Committee

41. Maldives

Vice President Waheed:

- Redesigning urban areas to create national recreation areas
- Introducing social health insurance scheme to ensure universal coverage

42. Mali

Prime Minister Sidibe:

- By end of 2011 - Government would adopt a national prevention strategy to fight NCDs

43. Malta

Superintendent of Public Health:

- Finalizing NCD action plan which addresses:
    - 4 lifestyle risk factors – diet/physical activity/smoking/alcohol
    - 4 biological risk factors – obesity/high blood pressure/ hyperlipidemia/diabetes
    - 3 social determinants - poverty, unequal access to educational opportunities and employment
- Drafting strategy - involvement of government (all ministries) and non-governmental organisations

44. Mauritania

Ambassador Ould Hadrami:

- Establishing NCD treatment centres, anti-tobacco programmes; a mental health programme; a centre for chemotherapy and a national health insurance fund

45. Mexico

- 'A New Life' campaign to reduce tobacco consumption in young people, changes to school lunches, promoting healthy food
- Working with FIFA to develop a model to reduce breast cancer through physical activity

46. Monaco

UN Ambassador Isabelle Pico:

- Spending 300 euros per person on development – half to social and public health sector providing:
    - training for health-care personnel
    - programmes to combat malnutrition
    - programmes to treat children suffering from leukemia
    - strategies to build rehabilitation centres and health-care infrastructure
- In partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency, developed action programmes to improve the lives of cancer patients

47. Montenegro

UN Ambassador Milorad Ščepanovic:

- Aim to ban smoking in public places and enforce strict advertising regulations

48. Morocco

Minister of Health Baddou:

- Implementing WHO's strategic directions through a national plan based on the integration of prevention and control
- National plans set up for prevention of diabetes, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases

49. Myanmar

Establishment of: a high-level, multisectoral national mechanism to coordinate action among all stakeholders; a national policy for the prevention and control of NCDs

50. Nauru

President Marcus Stephen:

- Introduction of sugar tax and launch of exercise and nutrition programmes

51. Nepal

Deputy Prime Minister Prakash:

- Working to implement legislation addressing risk factors - Alcohol Control Act, Tobacco Control and Regulation Act, and Food Act
- Trying to establish surveillance system for NCDs - by incorporating NCD data in the Health Management Information Systems
- Treatments for cancer so expensive that Nepal would provide free treatment for children – but unsustainable

52. New Zealand

Minister of Justice Power:

- Target to be smoke free by 2025
- New, inclusive and culture-centered approach to provide opportunities, services and a whole-family strategy to indigenous people

53. Niger

Minister of Health Sanda:

- Created 'national instrument' and national action plan to counter NCDs, provided free treatment of cancer in women, and aimed to form a public institute to fight cancer

54. Nigeria

- Nutrition policy – encourage companies to fortify food with vitamins/micronutrients.

55. Pakistan

Additional Foreign Secretary Bhatti:

- Involving communities and health-care providers in efforts to create awareness of, and prevent NCDs
- Assessing existing health facilities and their capacity to treat NCDs
- Incorporating prevention and control into poverty-reduction strategies
- Promoting research into such diseases and strengthening human resource capacity

56. Papua New Guinea

Minister for Health Maxtone-Graham:

- Included NCDs into national plans for 2011-2020, 30-Year Strategic Plan and other long-term strategies

57. Philippines

- Created Country Action Plan 2008-13 to reduce NCD deaths by 2% annually
- Includes:
    - comprehensive and community based response to combat 'lifestyle NCDs'
    - intensified health promotion strategies and reduction of risk factors
    - multi-stakeholder approach to strengthen systems to enable healthy lifestyles

58. Poland

- During their EU Presidency plan to identify factors leading to health gap within EU, and establish initiatives regarding early diagnosis
- Establishing international network to monitor/diagnosis and prevention

59. Portugal

- Strategic Plan for Health with the community of Portuguese-Speaking countries for 2009-2012, establishing concerted action, in accordance with EU and WHO guidelines

60. Russian Federation

Deputy Minister for Health Skvortsova:

- Pledges to develop primary health care in hospitals; provide assistance in the workplace; assistance in clinics to those over 35
- Promises to provide real assistance for those who want to quit smoking, lose weight, and increase physical activity
- Implementing nation-wide anti-tobacco and anti-alcohol abuse programmes
- Active involvement in international cooperation on NCD control - key role of Moscow Declaration
- Allocate more than 60 million USD to NCDs – to monitor NCDs and determinants in African and Asian and Eastern European countries, create partnerships of international cooperation, and facilitate intersectoral action
- Allocate 75 million USD five year programme to decrease child & infant/maternal mortality – part of the Musoka Agreement
- Allocate 275 million USD to Global Fund - due to linkages with infectious diseases, it will help reduce NCDs

61. Samoa

Minister of Health Tuitama:

- Legislature to minimize risk factors - Food Bill 2011 aimed at controlling the inflow of cheap and non-nutritious "junk" food; reviewing policies on lifestyle issues
- Bilateral initiative launched a month ago between Samoa and American Samoa - joint NCD Prevention and Control Agreement to address the situation on both nations islands

62. Serbia

- Establishing a screening programme for 3 most common cancers in Serbia: cervical, breast, colorectal

63. Solomon Islands

Minister of Health Sigoto:

- NCD Strategic Plan 2011-2015 - largely focused on prevention
- Developing new strategy of moving health resources and services to rural areas – where 85% of population reside
- Will enforce 2010 Tobacco Act in January 2012

64. South Africa

Minister of Health Motsoaledi:

- SA Declaration on prevention and control with "ambitious" commitments and targets
- Reforming legislation alcohol and salty/sugary food
- Currently working to regulate salt content in processed food

65. Spain

Vice Minister for Health Sabrino:

- National health system strategy on health and gender to combat gender inequality
- Promoting healthy environments with voluntary and regulatory methods– prohibiting smoking in some public places, fighting youth alcohol abuse, policies on nutrition and obesity

66. Sri Lanka

Minister of Health Sirisena:

- Formulating national NCD policy and programme, and creating a control unit within the Ministry of Health
- Will reduce premature mortality due to chronic NCDs by 2% annually over the next decade

67. Swaziland

Prime Minister Dlamini:

- Developing a NCDs national policy and national strategic plan - key pillars; surveillance, public awareness, targeted interventions, early detection, better case management, palliative care and research

68. Sweden

Secretary of State:

- New Swedish Education Act placing focus on NCD prevention in the school environment

69. Tanzania

- Tanzania has mobilized resources for raising NCD awareness - allocating 2.5 million USD for this purpose
- Piloting a NCD surveillance programme

70. Thailand

Manager of Thai NCD Network:

- Thai Healthy Lifestyle Strategy (next 20 years) includes: supporting healthy public policy, public communications, supporting public participation in changing lifestyles and strengthening surveillance systems to provide NCD statistics

71. Tunisia

Minister of Health Sellami:

- Implemented national food and sports strategies aimed at combating cancer and diabetes
- Looking to promote a multilateral network for prevention and control of NCDs

72. Turkey

Head of Department of Cancer Control Tencer:

- National cancer control programmes and strategies focused on prevention, early screening and raising public awareness
- Target to establish 54 cancer treatment centres by 2023

73. Ukraine

President Yanukovych:

- Large scale reform programme aimed to create healthy living conditions
- In 2012 priority to modernize the primary health-care system; revitalize rural health care
- Fighting tobacco and smoking
- Working to decrease traffic accidents through improved roads and increased penalties for traffic violations
- National project to open specialized prenatal facilities in areas with insufficient maternity care
- Stimulating production of ecologically clean food
- As a Euro-2012 football championship host, Ukraine is committed to promoting sports as one of the key elements of a healthy lifestyle

74. United Arab Emirates

Undersecretary for Health Public Affairs Fikri:

- Adopting a policy initiated in Bahrain to combat NCDs for whole region, and a comprehensive policy to combat diabetes within the guidelines of the WHO and the international forum on diabetes

75. United States of America

Secretary of State for Health Sebelius:

- Clinton Global Initiative to promote a smoke-free workplace around the world

Assistant Secretary for Health:

- Initiatives:
    - ‘healthy people 2020’ prevention strategy, targets and goals for prevention and public health with funding
    - 2009 legislation giving government regulatory authority over tobacco products – e.g. 2012 have graphic warning in tobacco packs

    - Strategic tobacco strategy
    - ‘Let’s Move Campaign’ – health in all policies approach
    - Aim to introduce healthy food into schools and childcare settings
    - Funding community efforts to combat tobacco and obesity – community transformation grants

76. Vanuatu

Prime Minister Sato Kilman:

- National NCD step survey – first in 2011

77. Vietnam

UN Ambassador Le Hoai Trung:

- Viet Nam’s draft law on tobacco control would be examined by its National Assembly in November and likely adopted in May 2012
- 2011-2015 national programme to prevent NCDs = budget of 700 billion
- Aim to:
    - increase the number of diabetes detections by 36-50%
    - reduce cerebral vascular accidents by 15-20% and rheumatic heart valve disease by 5-10%
    - decrease number of patients with cancer at later stages from 80% to 40% and patients with depression to 15%.