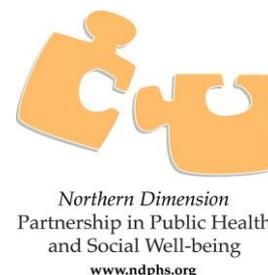


**NCD EG
15th (5) Meeting
13th of April, 2018
Moscow, Russian Federation**



Title	Minutes from the 15th (5) NCD EG Meeting
Submitted by	NCD EG Secretariat
Summary / Note	This document outlines the main discussion points and decisions made during the 15th (5) NCD EG Meeting
Requested action	Adopted

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened and chaired by Prof. Rafael Oganov, the NCD EG Chair, who welcomed the participants and thanked them for coming to take part in the 15th (5) NCD EG Meeting to express and approve suggestions and additions for NCD EG Work Plan for 2018.

2. Introduction of participants

The participants introduced themselves (List of Participants is placed on the Meeting webpage http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow). One participant – the expert from Sweden – Ms. Anna Jansson, the Swedish WHO NCD focal point and the head of unit Health-promoting Lifestyles and Gambling Prevention, Department of Living Conditions and Lifestyles was introduced by Chair. She joined the meeting later at 15.00 via Skype.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The participants of the meeting adopted the Provisional Agenda with the timetable (submitted as event document -13-04-2018-15(5)-02).

4. Welcome address

The Chair invited prof. Oxana Drapkina, the Director of the National Medical Research Centre for Preventive Medicine under the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation to welcome the meeting.

Prof. Oxana Drapkina welcomed the participants on behalf of the hosting country. She considered the work of the NCD EG to be very important for the specialists of the Centre, working in the field of NCD prevention.

The Chair expressed the importance of the National Medical Research Centre for Preventive Medicine support in the NCD EG activity within the country and ND Region.

The Chair invited Ms. Ulla-Karin Nurm, the Director of the NDPHS Secretariat for the welcome address.

Ms. Ulla-Karin Nurm, in her welcome speech, greeted the participants of the meeting. She sent greetings from HIV, TB&AI EG and EG on Prison Health, that she had just participated in their meetings. She noticed that the Agenda was very busy and three projects were submitted for discussion.

The Chair noticed the significance of the participation of the NDPHS Secretariat in the work of NCD EG and expressed his hope for future collaboration with them.

5. WHO NCD Activities in European Region (focus on the Baltic-Sea Region Countries)

The Chair invited Mr. João Breda, NCD EG co-chair and the Head of the WHO geographically distant office on NCD Prevention, to present the WHO NCD Activities in European Region with focus on the Baltic-Sea Region Countries.

Mr. João Breda reflected programs and events conducted in the European Region related to NCD prevention. The full presentation is placed on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair noticed that the presentation was very comprehensive and useful for participants and invited Mr. João Breda to participate in the next NCD EG.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion.

Discussion:

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm raised a question about cancer and alcohol activities in the European Region.

Mr. João Breda informed that the results of the work devoted to the alcohol and cancer would be presented at the end of this year. There were discussions about the relation between alcohol and CVD. He mentioned that high amount of alcohol consumption had relationship with cancer. Mr. João Breda reported that the team of WHO developed the program on alcohol and one of their members made the presentation during the ASA EG meeting in March 2018.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm noticed that alcohol and cancer might be one of the priority topics for future cooperation within NDPHS since there was a lack of information devoted to this problem.

Mr. João Breda noticed that having a more focused approach on this problem was very interesting in collaboration and working with other groups. WHO was interested in collaboration in the field of research, review or elaboration a joint project on effect of alcohol consumption on cancer development.

Mr. Pekka Jousilahti, Finland, commented that the golden standard for evaluation of salt consumption was 24-hours urine collection. He underlined that it seemed too difficult for people to collect urine and then to bring it to the laboratory. First studies with using of that method of research had been performed in 1970 with the 70% participants' response, while now the response in such studies – about 30%.

Mr. João Breda remarked that for such studies we needed to have at least 50% response and should work on the quality of the research. Mr. João Breda concluded that we had the challenges, recently we had two WHO collaborating centers – in UK and Australia.

Ms. Iveta Pudule, Latvia, informed that such survey would start in Latvia next month.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli, ASA EG ITA, remarked that one of the meetings of the ASA EG in 2018 would be held at WHO office in Moscow and thanked for collaboration with WHO.

Mr. João Breda on behalf of NCD EG Co-chair invited to organize the NCD EG meeting at WHO office next year in Moscow.

6. Main results achieved by the NCD EG in 2017.

The Chair invited the secretariat of NCD EG to give a short overview of the NCD EG work for 2017.

Ms. Galina Maslennikova, the NCD EG Vice-Chair, in the presentation showed the NCD EG achievements during the 2017 as comprehensive and practical: by learning more and more from each other, sharing with personal experience on what to do and, the most important, how to do to reduce the NCD burden in each country and the ND Region as a whole. She briefly highlighted the significant issues of the past, current and future activities. The detailed report is available on the meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at: http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

7. The invited speakers presentations. Problem Tree example and process of development the NDPHS EG Joint Program on Elderly.

The Chair invited the participants to discuss the development of the Joint Project devoted to the aging problems. He noticed that changing in the lifestyle-related NCD risk factors (tobacco, alcohol consumption, nutrition and physical activity) as well as in preventive measures (activities) during the last decades worldwide contributed to increase of the life expectancy and number of elderly people. The Chair also added that many of elderly suffered from NCDs, their combinations or comorbidity. Therefore, the health of elderly was the very important for NCD EG activity. He invited Mr Zaza Tsereteli to present the preliminary view on the joint project “Problem Tree”.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli on behalf of ASA EG told about the Joint Program on Elderly, future steps and proposed NCD as well as other EGs for the project to find the institution that would practically implement it in the country. The detailed presentation is placed on the meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at: http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion.

Discussion:

Iveta Pudule raised a question about the age of the target group in the project.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli answered that the age would be 65 and older.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm commented that at the HIV, TB and AI EG meeting the participants proposed to choose the age of 55 years and older. She noticed that the age depended on the particular country, working age, demographic situation, and etc.

Ms. Iveta Pudule explained the reason for her question – there were studies in Latvia: “Health behavior in elderly population” with target group aged 65 years and older, and “Health behavior survey of elderly population” that had held since 1980th. She noticed that all aging groups in those studies were different. Therefore the age of target groups were considered on what the researches would like to achieve.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm asked whether the study in Latvia was National wide or the within specific network.

Ms. Iveta Pudule confirmed that at the beginning it had developed within the network led by Finland, but since 2008 it became as the National wide survey. In those studies different questionnaires prepared for population aged 65-74 years and for older than 75 years were used. So, she expressed the doubts about possibilities to conduct that proposed project for population aged 65 years and older, because of the different methodology should be used.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli noticed that all EGs would take into account the capability of all organizations and institutions who would participate and implement that project. Everything would be discussed later.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm remarked that this project would be the umbrella project and each EG had to be flexible to find their own funding. The project could consist of different elements. She noticed that each of the participants could develop the reports and policy on the defined areas.

Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz noticed that it might be difficult to bring all together in one project since the available EU-fundings are limited at this moment. She said that the new programs will be announced only after 2020.

Mr. Pekka Jousilahti noticed that each EG would be responsible for its own part for that project.

Mr. Asija Imaeva, ITA NCD EG, raised a question whether each EG should propose the institution for implementation of one specific goal or it might be one institution for all goals as a coordinating centre within the particular country.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli answered that it would depend on suggestions of each group, or we could chose one institution as coordinating centre within the particular country.

Ms. Iveta Pudule noticed that it would be difficult to compare some specific target groups, for example prisoners, with general population, because of their specific life style.

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli remarked that other EGs worked with the specific target groups could participate in the project as well.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm marked that all organizations and institutions would be focused on their specific topics.

8. The invited speakers presentations (continued). Aging and NCDs

The Chair invited another speaker Prof. Yulia Kotovskaya, the Deputy Director of the Russian Clinical Research Center for Gerontology of the Pirogov Russian National Research Medical University under the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation to make presentation “Aging and NCDs”.

Prof. Yulia Kotovskaya reflected the studies that conducted in the Russian Clinical Research Center for Gerontology. The full presentation is placed on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion.

Discussion:

Prof. Svetlana Shalnova, the head of the Department of Epidemiology of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases from the National Medical Research Center for Preventive Medicine under the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation commented that the presented portrait of elderly persons was different with that received by the National Medical Research Center for Preventive Medicine. Prof.

Yulia Kotovskaya, agreed that aging populations in our studies were different and difficult to compare.

Prof. Svetlana Shalnova informed that our Centers had collaborated successfully for many years and we would continue our collaboration in this area in the future also.

The Chair concluded that NCD EG Secretariat strongly supported the Joint Program on Elderly under the umbrella of NDPHS.

9. Discussion of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018. ND-PYLLs Project. The possible publication in the International Journal.

The Chair followed the agenda and opened the discussions of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018. At the beginning, the participants discussed the project that had already finished in 2016. For that, the Chair invited Mr. Pekka Jousilahti to introduce visions on “ND-PYLLs Project” and present plans for publication of the project results in the International Journal.

Mr. Pekka Jousilahti informed that the publication had already been written in collaboration with all the participants of the project. At the present moment, the authors would like to submit the article to the European Journal of Public Health before the summer season started.

10. Discussion of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018 (continued). For better health – Practical implementation of HiAP in the municipalities for better health for all in the Baltic Sea Region.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion of the next project elaborated by the Finnish experts and invited Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz to present the project “For better health – Practical implementation of HiAP in the municipalities for better health for all in the Baltic Sea Region”.

Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz reflected on the main ongoing achievements of the project that would finish in the August 2018. The full presentation is placed on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion.

Discussion:

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm made a proposal to Karolina and the Finnish team to think about the possibility to organize the side-event within the next PAC and introduce the main results achieved.

Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz welcomed the idea and answered that they would think about that possibility. She mentioned that the cross-sectoral cooperation for health and wellbeing is a broad and interesting topic relevant for all EGs.

The Chair concluded that NCD EG Secretariat supported that idea.

Lunch.

11. Discussion of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018 (continued). A Healthy Boost – Urban Labs for Better Health for All in the Baltic Sea Region - boosting cross-sectoral cooperation for health and wellbeing in the cities.

The Chair invited the participants to continue the discussion of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018 and invited Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz to make the presentation of the project “A Healthy Boost – Urban Labs for Better Health for All in the Baltic Sea Region - boosting cross-sectoral cooperation for health and wellbeing in the cities” that was a continuation of the previous project. The full presentation is placed on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair invited the participants to take a floor for the discussion.

Discussion:

Mr. Zaza Tsereteli raised a question about the role of associated partners and asked why the NCD EG was not among the associated partners.

Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz explained that the main reason was the possible conflict of interest (NCD EG consults and approves the project). Also, the NCD EG does not have the legal entity to be the partner of the project. But NCD EG could and encouraged the project by issuing the letter of support.

Ms. Ülla-Karin Nurm agreed with the answer of Ms. Karolina Mackiewicz.

12. Discussion of the NCD EG Work Plan for 2018 (continue). Toolkit to strengthen Health Literacy in the Baltic Sea Region

The Chair invited the participants to the next project – “Toolkit to strengthen Health Literacy in the Baltic Sea Region”. The project was presented by Ms. Marita Friberg, Sweden, through the video presentation.

Ms. Marita Friberg in her report reflected the main statements of the project. The full presentation is placed on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

The Chair invited the participants for the discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair welcomed Ms. Anna Jansson to join the meeting via skype for the discussion.

Ms. Maria Lopatina, Russian Federation, raised the questions about the technical procedure and steps of the project: whether it would be evaluated before the start.

Ms. Anna Jansson explained that the evaluation of the project is a matter of discussion within the group of member states participating in the project. The main evaluation would be after completing the project, but if necessary also during the project.

Ms. Maria Lopatina asked about the using of the questionnaire for the evaluation.

Ms. Anna Jansson explained that the evaluation process, in detail, will be put forward together in the project group. The methodology used for the evaluation will however be the same in all participating countries: questionnaire or interview.

13. The 13th PAC. Main Statements.

The Chair informed that due to the lack of time the presentation of the main statements of the 13th PAC the participants could find on the Meeting webpage in the post-event documentation at http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,ncd_eg_15_moscow.

14. Next NCD EG meeting, proposals of dates and place.

The Chair invited the participants for discussion of dates and places for future NCD EG meetings. He reminded that during the previous meeting it was decided

to have one meeting in Moscow and another one – in the other Partner country. Next meeting had been proposed to be in Helsinki, Finland, in October 2018.

Mr. Pekka Jousilahti took a floor and confirmed that the hosting country and city of the next meeting would be Finland, Helsinki and informed that the dates would be announced later.

15. Closure, Rafael Oganov, NCD EG Chair.

The Chair thanked all participants of the meeting for the fruitful work and expressed the hope for the effective long collaboration in the future. He reflected that the discussions and suggestions made during the Meeting would help to strengthen the actions to reduce the NCD burden in ND Partner countries. He invited to keep in touch between the meetings to discuss activities, achievements, and obstacles that were possible to overcome in working together.