

**WHO-ECA Side Event on High Level Advocacy and Engagement for Health Financing In  
Africa  
25<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Dakar SENEGAL  
Concept note:  
DRAFT AS OF 18 JANUARY**

## **1 Introduction**

WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. The organization's objective is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. In line with its core functions, it provides normative guidance and policy advice, shares information on the health situation, contributes to institutional capacity building and provides technical support to member States. The current work of WHO is guided by its 12th General Programme of Work 2014 – 2019, which outlines priorities for the next six years.

United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA), hereafter referred to as ECA, is mandated to promote the economic and social development of its member States through notably strengthening the capacity of member States to formulate policies and programmes for inclusive growth, poverty reduction, equitable delivery of social services and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals.

On 30 April 2013, WHO and ECA, on the basis of mutual understanding of regional health challenges and strategic priorities identified concrete areas of collaboration. These include joint work on health financing in the context of Universal Health coverage and monitoring socio-economic trends in Africa, addressing key determinants of health to promote and protect the health of the population, and using the wide network of the World Health Organization and ECA to advance the health agenda on the continent.

On 27 March 2015, the new WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Matshidiso Rebecca Moeti met with the ECA Executive Secretary, Dr. Carlos Lopes, to discuss further strengthening of the WHO-ECA partnership. The discussions focused on issues for further collaboration such as in-depth analysis of progress in health-related MDGs including country case studies; strengthening countries' capacity in data and knowledge management; working together on the African Social Development Index (ASDI) and country profiles; joint high level advocacy and messaging on Financing for Health and ongoing Cost of Hunger studies .

Following a joint planning meeting in June 2015, WHO and ECA are implementing a joint work-plan 2015-2017 in a bid to operationalize the MoU signed between WHO and UNECA in 2014. A key activity of this work plan is to hold a meeting for Ministers of Health and Finance to promote dialogue on health financing and social protection for UHC.

As per their long established tradition, the African Union (AU) and ECA will hold Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in the first semester of 2017. The meetings will take place in Dakar, Senegal, on 23-29 March 2017. A meeting for the Committee of Experts will be held on the 23-25 March to synthesize technical issues pertinent for the Ministerial Session which will be held on 28-29 March 2017. All side events will be held on 25-26 March 2017.

A WHO-ECA side event on health financing has been tentatively planned for the 25th of March 2017. The meeting will convene a range of technical stakeholders and policymakers to debate and synthesize issues on health financing for Resilient Health systems and improved service coverage. The sections below describe the objectives, method of work, logistical requirements and proposed agenda for this meeting.

## 2 Objectives

- To share evidence on the direct and indirect costs of common diseases and the expected economic return of investment in the African Region.
- To identify a set of key actions for health financing in the African region to be presented at the Ministerial session.

## 3 Expected Outcomes

- A better understanding of the impact of illhealth on the economic growth of the African region. .
- A proposed plan of action for advocacy and action for health financing in the African region.

## 4 Method of work

- A Working group (TWG) will be set up to refine the conceptualization and the planning for the meeting. Proposed participants include:
  1. HSS: Dr. Dovo Delanyo
  2. HSG Dr. Ekeke Monono
  3. Dr. Innocent Ntaganira
  4. Ms. Pamela Drameh (EPG)
  5. Dr. Alice Soumare Ntamwishimiro
  6. Dr. Ahmed Omar (NCD)
  7. Dr. Kibuga Daniel (CDS)
  8. Dr. Grace Kabaniha
  9. Mr. Jack Zulu (ECA)
  10. Ms. Laura Paez (ECA)
  11. Mr. Mataria Awad (EMRO)

## Terms of Reference of the TWG

- To oversee the planning of the side event including the identification of potential participants.
- To draft and recruit a group of consultants who will be hired to conduct the analysis for the productivity costs of illness. This will help to highlight the need for increased financing as well as the potential dividends in health expenditure. Scenarios will be generated to investigate the impact of burden of disease on economic growth by epidemiological profile and by economic bloc. This will be done for a status quo scenario and for a second scenario in which action based on globally agreed targets and aspirations to reduce morbidity and mortality is taken into account.
- To oversee action for the identification of one or two champions for health financing in the region.

- To develop an action plan for joint advocacy and action and health financing by Ministries of Health and Financing in Africa.

The side event will consequently include presentation and discussion of the technical report by WHO-ECA, panel discussions by selected ministers of Health and financing and key development partners in the region; as well as presentations by different experts on key issues for financing for health systems and for programmes.

Following plenary sessions and discussions on the presentations, the meeting will then focus on group work for determining key actions for health financing for Ministers of Finance in the region.

## 5 Dates and venues

The meeting will be held on 25th March 2016, in xxxxx, in Dakar Senegal.

## 6 Participants

The meeting will be attended by 50 participants including:

- (a) WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) and (HQ):
  1. Dr Moeti Tshidi , Regional Director, WHO/AFRO
  2. Dr. Dovlo Delanyo, Director Health Systems and Services Cluster,WHO AFRO
  3. Dr Alice Ntamwishimiro, Partnership and Resource Mobilization, WHO/AFRO
  4. Dr. Ekeke Monono Martin, Health Systems Governance Unit, HSS Cluster WHO-AFRO
  5. Dr. Grace Kabaniha Tp-Health Economics, HSS WHO AFRO.
  6. Dr. Robalo Correia E Silva Magda, Director CDS, WHO AFRO.
  7. Dr Daniel Kibuga, Regional Advisor for Tuberculeosis, , WHO/AFRO
  8. Dr. Francis Lule, Regional Advisor HIV/AIDS, WHO-AFRO
  9. Dr. xxxxxx, Regional Advisor IVD, WHO- WFRO
  10. Dr Innocent Ntaganira, Head, WHO Liaison Office to the AU and ECA
  11. Dr. Ahmed Omar ; Non-communicable diseases
- (b) WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) to indicate who the participants shall be
  1. Dr. Awad Mataria, WHO/EMRO
  2. Dr. Mohamed Ali, WHO/EMRO
- (c) ECA delegation (tentative list):
  1. ECA Executive Secretary
  2. Director, Social Development Policy Division (Professor Takyiwaa Manuh)
  3. Saurabh Sinha ( Chief, Employment and Social Protection Section)
  4. Jack Jones Zulu (Social Affairs Officer)
- (d) Representative from the AU Commission
- (e) Harmonization for Health Partners

- a. UNFPA representative
- b. UNICEF representative
- c. UNAIDS Representative
- d. AfDB representative
- e. World Bank representative
- f. GFATM representative
- g. GAVI representative
- h. France Representative
- i. USAID representative
- j. Norway Representative
- k. JICA representative
- (f) Health Agencies of Region Economic Committees
  - a. West African Health Organization
  - b. East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community
  - c. ? North Africa
- (g) AfHEA 1 representative
- (h) Academia 3 representatives
- (i) AMREF (CSP Representative)
- (j) Members of the Committee of Experts
- (k) Ministers of Finance (ECA to advise)
- (l) Ministers of Health (3-4 to be determined.)

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## Annex: Draft programme

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
<b>22 MARCH 2017</b>		
08.00-08.30	Registration (alternatively a paper can be passed around during the meeting for the participants to provide their details)	Secretariat
<b>SESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY</b>		
08:30-9:30	Welcome remarks by ECA (15 mins)	ECA Director of Social Development Policy Division
	Opening remarks by WHO Regional Director (15mins)	Regional Director WHO AFRO or high level delegate for WHO
	Introduction of participants (10 Mins)	WHO Liaison Office to the AUC and ECA
	Objectives, expected results and method of work (10)	WHO Liaison Office to the AUC and ECA
	Administrative and Security briefing (10)	UNDSS
9:30-10:00	Presentation on the costs of illness report	TBD
<b>10.00-10.30</b>	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>	
10.30-11.00	Follow-up on action for Resource mobilization of HIV/AIDS and lessons learnt (30mins)	UNAIDS
11:00-11:45	Presentation on funding issues for Communicable diseases including (HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria, Vaccine Preventable Diseases 45 mins (30 presentation, 15 discussion)	TBD
11:45-12:30	Presentation on funding issues for Non-communicable Diseases 45 mins (30 presentation, 15 discussion)	TBD
12:30-13:00	Presentation of best-buys for Health system strengthening	TBD
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	

<b>TIME</b>	<b>SESSION</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>
14:00-15:30	Group work on key action areas for the Ministries of Finance	
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16.00-17.00	Plenary session to agree on the key actions)	
17.00-17 :30	Closing remarks	TBD

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