

Flash Report

First meeting of the Sub-group on the “Healthier together, the EU Non-communicable Diseases Initiative”, 28 January 2022

On 28 January 2022, the sub-group on the “Healthier together, the EU Non-communicable Diseases Initiative” under the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases held a virtual meeting, chaired by DG SANTE. The representatives of 18 Member States, plus Norway, attended the meeting together with a number of Commission Departments.

The objective of sub-group is to advise the Commission about the implementation of the “Healthier together: EU Non-communicable Diseases Initiative”. It will provide feedback and input, help to identify best and innovative practices, guidelines and research results to be transferred to the ground, and highlight complementarities and synergies with other related policies and sectors, namely with the Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan.

Rules of Procedure and Working Methods

The proposed rules of procedure were outlined by the Commission and then accepted by the Member States. To facilitate efficient working, the Commission set up a dedicated space on the EU health policy platform for hosting working documents and a collaborative platform for joint editing of documents. The subgroup may also establish, if needed, thematic groups under the sub-group.

Discussion of the first draft of the EU NCD Initiative document

DG SANTE presented the draft EU NCD Initiative document to help identify and spark the discussion of the priorities of the Member State for the strands. Priorities for horizontal aspects concerning all strands were also mentioned (e.g. health inequalities, integrated care, health literacy).

Member States reacted very positively to the aim, structure and approach of the initiative and some of them proposed initial areas for priority and focus. Further detailed comments will be provided by Member States in the next two weeks.

Conclusion

The Chair thanked participants for their engagement and valuable contributions. The next meeting will take place on 3 March 2022 and contributions can be submitted in writing by 13 February using the collaborative platform.