



World Health
Organization

Report of the second meeting of the
**WHO Technical
Advisory Group
on Diabetes**

**virtual meeting
16–17 December 2021**





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This publication contains the report of the second meeting of the WHO Technical Advisory Group on Diabetes (TAG-D) and does not necessarily represent the decisions or policies of WHO.

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Abbreviations/acronyms

LMICs	low- and middle-income countries
NCD	noncommunicable disease
TAG-D	Technical Advisory Group on Diabetes
TAG-NCD-R&I	Technical Advisory Group on Noncommunicable Diseases-related Research and Innovation
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization

Overview

The World Health Organization (WHO) convened the second meeting of the WHO Technical Advisory Group on Diabetes (TAG-D) on 16 and 17 December 2021.¹ All 12 members² of the TAG-D attended the online meeting. WHO personnel responsible for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) from WHO regional offices were also invited to attend as part of the WHO TAG-D secretariat. The meeting was chaired by the appointed chair, Dr Amanda Adler. Dr Nikhil Tandon acted as rapporteur and the TAG-D secretariat members provided technical support (see Annex 2. Meeting participants).

The agenda and links to supporting documents for the meeting can be found in Annex 1.

All participants provided declarations of interest (DOIs). The WHO TAG-D secretariat assessed the DOIs and noted that five TAG-D members had declared a conflict of interest. One member had a conflict of interest that WHO deemed partially restricted the member's participation. The declared conflicts of interests for the four other members did not influence their participation.

Strategic functions of the TAG-D and workplan for 2021–2022

The Chair summarized the proposed workplan for 2021–2022 from the first TAG-D meeting held in September 2021.³

She drew attention to the **overarching strategic function** of the TAG-D⁴ which is to *identify and describe current and future challenges in relation to WHO's work on diabetes which includes:*

- (i) to identify and describe current and future challenges;
- (ii) to advise WHO on strategic directions to prioritize;
- (iii) to advise WHO on developing global strategic documents; and
- (iv) to propose other strategic interventions and activities for WHO to implement.

1 Report of the first meeting of the WHO Technical Advisory Group on Diabetes: virtual meeting, 29-30 September 2021. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

2 See Annex 2.

3 https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/country-profiles/diabetes/tag-diabetes-meeting.pdf?sfvrsn=48e198ce_5

4 [https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/ncds/tag-diabetes---final-\(1-march-2021\).pdf?sfvrsn=584f0d66_5](https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/ncds/tag-diabetes---final-(1-march-2021).pdf?sfvrsn=584f0d66_5)

Summary of discussions

Session 1: Preparation for the 150th session of WHO Executive Board

Members of the WHO TAG-D secretariat presented the following to the meeting participants:

- (i) the structures and processes of the WHO Governing Body in relation to the TAG-D and the agenda for the 150th session of the Executive Board;
- (ii) the Executive Board would be convened in January 2022⁵ and would review and make recommendations to the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2022, after which the WHA would issue formal guidance to Member States;
- (iii) the contents of the revised submission for items related to diabetes and obesity that the Executive Board would discuss including the targets for obesity and diabetes; and
- (iv) the recommendations for Member States, international partners and WHO.

The TAG-D members supported the targets and recommendations described in the paper for the Executive Board. They discussed the cultural context of diabetes and obesity and how to formalize the interrelationship between obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Session 2: The WHO Global Diabetes Compact

The WHO TAG-D secretariat presented the most recent developments on the workstreams of the Global Diabetes Compact and the lead-up to World Diabetes Day.⁶ The WHO Diabetes Compact is a WHO-led initiative with the vision of reducing the risk of diabetes and ensuring that all people who are diagnosed with diabetes have access to equitable, comprehensive, affordable and quality treatment and care.

Workstream 1, *access to essential diabetes medicines and health technologies*. The TAG-D members were apprised of the updated WHO Model List of Essential Medicines,⁷ which

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