

Communities and Civil Society Communiqué on the draft multi-sectoral framework to accelerate progress to end Tuberculosis

29 June 2018

Noting the commitments made in the Moscow Declaration to End TB (2017)¹ and to support the development of the multi-sectoral accountability framework, the Seventy-first World Health Assembly requested the Director-General to continue to develop, in consultation with Member States, the draft multi-sectoral accountability framework,² working in close collaboration with all relevant international, regional and national partners as recommended in the Moscow Declaration to End TB (2017). The Director-General was further mandated to provide technical support to a range of stakeholders as appropriate to ensure the use of the framework accelerates progress to end tuberculosis.

The global TB community envisages a United Nations high level meeting (UNHLM) TB Political Declaration that is inclusive, ambitious and contains specific targets as described in the UNHLM Key Asks.³ An equally ambitious, transparent, multi-sectoral accountability mechanism, guided by the draft World Health Organization (WHO) Accountability Framework,⁴ must be developed to help ensure achievement of commitments and targets in the Political Declaration by individual Member States, as well as the global community.

Representatives of communities affected by TB and civil society organizations met in Bangkok on 24 June, 2018 to formulate a civil society position on TB accountability, guided by the draft WHO Accountability Framework. The meeting identified challenges, opportunities and gaps in the existing draft accountability framework and developed recommendations on what accountability mechanism(s) are needed to ensure effective implementation of the UNHLM Political Declaration at the international, regional and national levels.

TB affected communities and civil society support an Accountability Framework guided by the following principles:

1. Effectiveness: A high level body with high level expertise and political freedom and weight to carry the work that needs to be done
2. Integrity: Has the ability, and exercises such ability to speak honestly, both positively and negatively, about countries' and other stakeholders' performance
3. Inclusive of TB Community and civil society in all aspects: to framework development, selection of members, representation and others.
4. Accountable and transparent.

The following recommendations were made:

At the International Level:

¹ http://www.who.int/tb/features_archive/Moscow_Declaration_to_End_TB_final_ENGLISH.pdf?ua=1

² http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA71/A71_16-en.pdf

³ http://www.stoptb.org/assets/documents/global/advocacy/unhlm/KEYASKS_WEB.pdf

⁴ http://www.who.int/tb/MultisectoralAccountabilityFramework_Tuberculosis_Draftforpublicreview_20180409.pdf?ua=1

- The creation of an independent accountability panel comprising of no more than nine distinguished panellists from diverse regions and backgrounds to provide an independent and transparent review of progress and challenges on the implementation of the End TB strategy and goals set out in the Political Declaration of the 2018 UN high-level meeting on tuberculosis. The panel shall be led by an eminent individual, include membership from civil society and specifically TB-affected communities, work closely with WHO but to have an administrative arrangement that allows for a degree of separation from the WHO family (ideally, hosted by such a multi-stakeholder platform as the Stop TB Partnership).
- The strengthening and continued use of the already existing reporting mechanisms, including UN mechanisms, such as the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) and treaty bodies, to review global, regional and national progress towards agreed goals related to tuberculosis and status of implementation of the UNHLM Political Declaration.
- A high level meeting to review of progress in 2023.

At the Regional Level:

- The need to strengthen and make continued use of the already existing reporting mechanisms, including reviews during country grouping meetings and regional meetings of heads of state such as the African Union (AU), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) and G20 on regional and national progress towards agreed goals related to tuberculosis in line with the UNHLM Political Declaration.
- Regional high level meetings to review progress and to contribute to the global high level meeting review in 2023.

At the National Level:

- A reporting mechanism ensuring broad participation of all partners, including representatives of all relevant government agencies, private sector, donor community, technical agencies, civil society and affected communities, should be put in place in every country to ensure periodic review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the UNHLM Political Declaration.
- The need to strengthen and make continued use of the already existing reporting mechanisms, including the Cabinet meetings, Parliamentary health committee meetings, Human rights Commissions, Judicial bodies and Country Coordinating Mechanisms, on national progress towards agreed tuberculosis goals in line with the adopted UNHLM Political Declaration.
- Country review processes to contribute to the review and global high level meeting reviews in 2023.

Most importantly, to ensure effective accountability, there is need for investment in the formation and strengthening of networks of people affected by TB at the national, regional and global levels. Towards our joint vision of ending TB, we urge Member States to commit to supporting this, including through reflecting such commitment in the 2018 Political Declaration.

Signatories

1. ACTION Global Health Advocacy Partnership
2. Activists Coalition on TB - Asia-Pacific (ACT! AP)
3. African Youth and Adolescents Network on Population and Development (AfriYAN)
4. Afrihealth Optonet Association
5. Allan Ragi
6. Americas TB Coalition
7. Asia Pacific Council of AIDS Service Organizations
8. Association for supporting MDR TB patients- Romania
9. Baba-Gana Adam
10. BADOIT Guillaume President ABAC ONG Burkina Faso
11. Botswana Network on Ethics Law and HIV/AIDS (BONELA)
12. Burundian Alliance for Against Tuberculosis and Leprosy (ABTL)
13. Catholic Healthcare Association of Southern Africa (CATHCA)
14. Centre for Girls and Interaction (CEGI Malawi)
15. Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP) Malawi
16. Civil Society for the Eradication of Tuberculosis in Nigeria
17. Civil Society Sustainability Network (CSSN)
18. Dean Lewis
19. Diwakar Tejaswi
20. Doris Saldaña Pinedo
21. Dr J Carolyn Gomes
22. Dr Tahir Dahiru
23. Dr. Anima Sharma
24. Dr. Giorgio Franyuti, Medical IMPACT
25. Empower India
26. Faiz Anwar
27. GAT - Grupo de Ativistas em Tratamentos
28. Gerald Ygay

29. Global Coalition of TB Activists (GCTA)
30. Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) Asia-Pacific
31. Gracia Violeta Ross
32. Hanna Misol Henao Vanegas
33. Health GAP
34. Hector Jave C
35. Human Rights and Health Institute
36. International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)
37. Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)
38. International HIV/ AIDS Alliance
39. International Human Rights Clinic at Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
40. Joachim Rüppel, Action against AIDS Germany
41. Jointed Hands Welfare Organisation
42. KANCO
43. Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV & AIDS (KELIN)
44. Kenya NGO Alliance Against Malaria
45. Khmer HIV/ AIDS NGO Alliance
46. Lawyers Collective, India
47. Lean on Me Foundation
48. Lesley Odendal
49. Lesotho Network of People Living with HIV/ AIDS (LENEPWHA)
50. LHL International Tuberculosis Foundation
51. Louie Teng
52. Lourdes Cruzado Castro
53. Ludmila Lucia Mihailescu
54. Lwala Community Alliance
55. Maketekete Alfred Thotolo
56. Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
57. Manuel Bravo Reyes
58. Moxafrica
59. Nabihah Maqbool
60. Nana Gleeson

61. Organización Juntos por la Vida
62. Pan African Positive Women's Coalition-Zimbabwe
63. Paula R. Rhodes
64. Rainbow TB Forum
65. Raj Educational and Social Development Society (READS)
66. RESULTS Australia
67. RESULTS Canada
68. RESULTS UK
69. RISDEV
70. Rosa Herrera
71. SAfAIDS
72. Shaun Mellors
73. Shobha Shukla (Citizen News Service)
74. Sophiiwe Hlophe, Swaziland for Positive Living (SWAPOL)
75. Swaziland Migrant Mineworkers Association (SWAMMIWA)
76. Tariro Kutadza
77. TB Europe Coalition
78. TBpeople
79. Tendo' s world (Arts & health)
80. The International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD)
81. Therese Omari, Fondation Femme Plus, Democratic Republic of Congo
82. Thura Aung
83. Tunisian Center for Public Health
84. Voice of Hope Trust
85. WACI Health
86. Wote Youth Development Projects
87. Yayasan Menara Agung Pengharapan Internasional (MAP Internasional)
88. Yolse, Santé Publique & Innovation
89. Youth LEAD
90. Zimbabwe National Network of PLHIV (ZNNP+)