

# Stop TB Partnership

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## Implementation of Blueprint to control TB in Africa: Action plan for the CB

### Progress as of April 3rd 2006

The Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board (CB) meeting that was held in Assisi, Italy 10-11 November 2005 discussed the six-month progress in implementation of the Blueprint to intensify action to reach the TB MDGs in Africa. The Board endorsed the next steps suggested by the Secretariat with some modifications. At Assisi, the Board also requested the development of an action plan to implement the steps. Progress in implementation of the Action Plan is assessed here.

*1. Continue working with the Africa Union Social Commission and the WHO Regional Office to sustain momentum and to continue to place TB high on the regional political agenda with a view to including TB in the annual Heads of State Summit.*

**Action point 1.1.** The Secretariat of Stop TB Partnership to organize a teleconference with the Chair of the CB, H.E. Minister of Health of Ethiopia (as representative of the Africa Region to the CB), the Regional Director of WHO/AFRO, Director ATM of WHO/AFRO, the Social Commissioner of AU to explore the possibility of bringing TB on to the agenda of annual Heads of State Summit of the Africa Union and to encourage more engagement of the African Union. (Deadline: April 2006)

**Pending. To be discussed with AU at upcoming Heads of State Summit (Abuja 2-4 May 2006)**

*2. Support efforts to establish a Regional Stop TB Partnership which will serve as a forum to solicit unprecedented levels of political commitment, multisectoral involvement and effective coordination among donors, technical agencies and NGOs.*

**Action point 2.1.** WHO/AFRO in close collaboration with the Secretariat of Stop TB Partnership to prepare a detailed action plan to establish the Stop TB Partnership-Africa. The action plan should include mapping of partners and potential stakeholders (e.g. NGOs working on HIV/AIDS) and an assessment for host organizations A&C strategy. (Deadline: March 2006)

**Secretariat/WHO staff visited Harare to discuss planning for this activity and regional ACSM with the AFRO Regional Office. Funding has been identified (see point 8)**

*3. Develop a framework that gives guidance on how African countries can best include TB control in national development strategies such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks (MTEFs), Poverty Reduction Support Credits (PRSCs), Sector Wide Approaches (SWAs) and Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative strategy. The framework should also guide Ministries of*

*Health of particularly of those countries yet to develop PRSPs and those in revision stages to conduct sustained national advocacy campaigns and to pursue strategic discussions targeted at inclusion of TB control along with other public health priorities in their PRSPs and other development strategies.*

**Action point 3.1.** The Health, Nutrition and Population team at the World Bank to continue preparing the toolkit on inclusion of TB in PRSPs and to report the progress in the next CB meeting. The toolkit should be applied in one or two African countries that are yet to develop PRSPs (and other development strategies) or in countries that are in the revision of their PRSPs. (Deadline: April 2006)

**The draft PRSP toolkit has been prepared and is now under review.**

**Action point 3.2.** WHO, World Bank, DFID/UK, CIDA/Canada and DGIS/The Netherlands to coordinate the process of assisting the mainstreaming TB control in PRSPs and other development strategies of selected African countries and examining successes and /or promote further effectiveness of SWAp financing through conducting joint missions in selected African countries and report the progress during the next CB meeting. (Deadline: April 2006)

**To be planned in line with the health system strengthening strategies.**

*4. Organize an effective Africa TB Conference of Ministers of Health and Finance of selected African countries. Link the summit with high international and national media coverage and advocacy activities.*

**Action point 4.1.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership to continue consultation with the Minister of Health of Nigeria to conduct the ministerial conference in conjunction with the proposed Heads of State Summit on HIV, TB and malaria will indeed take place in Abuja, Nigeria in May 2006. (Deadline: May 2006)

**TB will be discussed at the Heads of State summit in Abuja 2-4 May 2006. Kenneth Kaunda has agreed to deliver Partnership messages. With the recent involvement of the AU in Summit preparations, it is understood the agenda for the meeting will be widened. The TB specific ministerial meeting will take place at a later date.**

**Action point 4.2.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership and WHO in close consultation with the World Bank (for the planned inclusion of Ministers of Finance) develop a detailed plan for the Ministerial Summit and submits it for the Task force of the CB (**I. Koek, T. Adhanom, J. Chakaya, M. Bilenge, M. Raviglione, A. Kabore/W. Nkhoma and J. Broekmans**) which is guiding the implementation of the Blueprint for further discussion within the CB. (Deadline: April 2006)

**Discussions with WHO AFRO appear to favour arranging the Ministerial meeting one day prior to the AFRO Regional Committee (29 August 2006). Draft planning documents are attached for comment by the CB (1.06 Abuja - 24/25<sup>th</sup> April 2006).**

*5. Assist African countries to develop emergency medium (2-5 years) and long term (2006-2015) TB plans in close collaboration with WHO and other partner organizations*

*and technical agencies. Select first wave of African countries, coordinate and support the technical assistance needed to prepare these plans.*

**Action point 5.1.** WHO, KNCV, CDC and the UNION (as lead technical agencies in TB control) to establish a task force (by appointing focal points) and develop a plan (with budget) to specifically assist African countries requesting support to develop emergency medium and long term TB control plans and present it to the next CB meeting.(Deadline: June 2006)

**Pending. Feedback from WHO AFRO at the CB meeting (1.06 - Abuja 24/25<sup>th</sup> April 2006). Additional needs to support technical partners in scale up should be identified.**

**Action point 5.2.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership and STB/THD in close collaboration with WHO/AFRO to design a short-term regional advocacy strategy to assist the development of country specific emergency medium term and long term plans.(Deadline: April 2006)

**Tied to action point 2.1.**

*6. Participate in a high level mission to donor agencies and high burden countries with the aim of increasing political and financial commitment. (World Bank, African Development Bank, the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator of the US Government, European Union, and bilateral agencies)*

**Action point 6.1.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership to organize missions of a delegation of the CB (including the Minister of Health of Ethiopia and vice-Minister of Health of DRC-as members of the CB) to visit the President of the World Bank, the Global AIDS Coordinator of the US Government, the Development Commissioner of EU and other selected bilateral agencies (January-May 2006)

**High Level Missions for Washington and Brussels planned for late 2006. Proposed dates and volunteers from Board requested.**

*7. Work with partners and agencies involved in health systems strengthening and human resources development for Africa in order to assist countries train a substantial number of middle level health workers and develop a country specific health worker retaining and remuneration strategies.*

**Action point 7.1.** The Coordinating Board to create a mechanism to work with the Global Health Workforce Alliance. To that end, the Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership to arrange a presentation from the Alliance during the next CB meeting to explore and discuss the mechanisms. (Deadline: April 2006)

**Health Systems Strengthening on Board agenda. Stop TB Partners attended the meeting of the Global Health Workforce Alliance to prepare a strategic plan. TB is part of the plan.**

**Action point 7.2.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership in close collaboration with the lead technical agencies (WHO, KNCV, CDC and the UNION) to design an advocacy strategy to encourage the training of middle level health workers and country specific

health worker retaining and remuneration strategies in African countries. The technical agencies will mainstream this advocacy activity in their routine TB technical assistance work to countries. (Deadline: May 2006 )

**No action yet - not advocacy - technical support required.**

*8. Commit and generate finances, and coordinate technical assistance that are needed to carry out the aforementioned activities for the next six months.*

**Action point 8.1.** The Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership to identify the budget to carry out the aforementioned activities and submit to the Task force of the CB that oversees the implementation of the Blueprint (Deadline: January 2006)

**USD 200K allocated for WHO/AFRO for the establishment of Regional Stop TB Partnership. A&C and mapping of stakeholders etc.. Additional needs to support technical partners in scale up should be identified.**

**Action point 8.2.** The Task force to review the budget request and call for a teleconference discussion among the Executive Committee of the CB to develop a plan for generating the resources (Deadline: February 2006).

**Resource Mobilization Strategy on the Board agenda. A specific RM plan for individual countries or Africa could be developed.**