



COMPACT FOR STOPPING PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV DYING OF TB

UNAIDS & STOP TB PARTNERSHIP

Background and Context

UNAIDS, the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, is an innovative joint venture of the United Nations family bringing together the efforts and resources of ten UN agencies¹ in the AIDS response to prevent new HIV infections, care for people with HIV and mitigate the impact of the epidemic. The UNAIDS secretariat helps mount and support an expanded response to AIDS engaging many sectors and partners from government and civil society.

The Stop TB Partnership is a leading public-private global health partnership, established in 2001, with the aim of eliminating tuberculosis (TB) as a public health problem and, ultimately, to obtain a world free of TB. It comprises a network of more than 900 international organizations, countries, donors from the public and private sectors, governmental and nongovernmental organizations and individuals that have expressed an interest in working together to achieve this goal.

Every three minutes a person living with HIV dies of TB. Mortality rates have escalated to an estimated 500 000 a year, one in four AIDS deaths, over the past ten years despite TB being a preventable and curable disease. Drug resistant strains of TB are a particularly lethal threat in populations with high rates of HIV infection. HIV and TB are major constraints for socio-economic development and investing in joint TB and HIV interventions, will contribute positively to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals on poverty reduction by keeping people healthy and productive.

Universal access and MDG targets for HIV and TB will be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve without greater attention to marginalized and vulnerable groups, such as prisoners, drug users, women, and migrants, and the strengthening of a human rights approach to ensure equitable access and risk-reduction.

Through this compact the UNAIDS Secretariat and the Stop TB Partnership intend to collaborate to strengthen the global response to HIV/TB co-infection, to accelerate progress towards Universal Access and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. This compact commits UNAIDS and the Stop TB Partnership to take action in line with their comparative advantage to strategically address the intolerable burden of people living with HIV who needlessly die of TB.

The compact recalls the UN General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (60/262, 2006) emphasizing the need for accelerated scale-up of collaborative activities on TB and HIV, the Millennium Development Goal targets for TB, and the World Health Assembly Resolution (WHA60.19, 2007), requesting countries to immediately address extensively drug-resistant TB

¹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); World Food Programme (WFP); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); International Labour Organization (ILO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); World Bank.

and HIV-related TB as the highest health priorities, in line with the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006–2015 and the Call for Action of the HIV/TB Global Leaders Forum (2008). The compact also recognizes that stopping people living with HIV from dying of TB is one of ten priority areas in the UNAIDS Outcome Framework 2009-2011.

Principles

No person living with HIV should die of TB, a curable and preventable disease.

The UNAIDS Secretariat and the Stop TB Partnership commit to achieving the goal of halving the number of people living with HIV who die from TB by 2015, compared to a baseline of 2004.

This compact will support the implementation of the WHO-led UNAIDS cosponsors' HIV/TB outcome framework business plan. This is aligned with the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015) and aims to contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Compact

The UNAIDS Secretariat and the Stop TB Partnership commit to work together to achieve the following objectives during 2010-2011:

Objective 1- Increased political commitment and resource mobilization for HIV and TB service integration to achieve universal access and reach the MDG targets.

Global Activities

Set and work towards achieving a global impact target for reducing TB deaths among people living with HIV.

UNAIDS Executive Director, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to Stop TB, Executive Secretary of the Stop TB Partnership, Stop TB Coordinating Board members and other high level TB partners to participate jointly in high-level events to promote TB/HIV collaboration, e.g. IAS conference, World TB Day, World AIDS Day.

Raise awareness of the urgent need for new and improved drugs, diagnostics and vaccines that are proven to be effective for people with or at risk of HIV/TB co-infection.

Support, develop and strengthen global and regional mechanisms to ensure access of all patients to a consistent supply of high-quality, competitively priced commodities for HIV & TB diagnostics and first- and second-line treatments.

Endemic Country Activities

Support most-affected countries² to develop specific plans to reduce the burden of TB in people living with HIV through TB and HIV programme collaboration

Promote the inclusion of TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment in the mandates of National AIDS Commissions/Councils.

² South Africa, India, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, Côte d'Ivoire, Myanmar, China, DR Congo, Brazil, Thailand, Cameroon, Rwanda, Swaziland, Indonesia.

Organize joint high-level missions to promote TB/HIV collaboration between UNAIDS Executive Director, UNAIDS cosponsor heads of agency, the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to Stop TB, members of the Stop TB Coordinating Board, and other high level TB partners.

Targets and milestones by end 2011

Global target to reduce TB deaths in people living with HIV widely adopted by key partners.

Country plans to reduce TB deaths by half in people living with HIV established in at least 10 of the most affected HIV/TB burden countries.

The number of people living with HIV who die of TB reduced by 20% in at least 10 of the most affected HIV/TB burden countries by 2011.

The number of Global Fund proposals that include HIV/TB collaborative activities increased by at least 20%.

At least 2 joint high-level country missions and 1 joint high-level advocacy event per year.

Increased research investment in new tools to improve TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment in people living with HIV.

Objective 2- Strengthened knowledge, capacity and engagement of civil society organizations, affected communities and the private sector in jointly addressing TB/HIV through a human rights based approach.

Global Activities

Mainstream HIV and TB awareness into respective advocacy, communication and social mobilization and behavioural change communication strategies and programmes.

Mobilize communities and the wider civil society, affected by HIV and empower them to become active partners in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of TB.

- Develop tools that will build capacity and enable the HIV civil society community to scale up the prevention, early diagnosis and effective treatment of TB cases.

Document and support the development of specific responses to the HIV/TB co-epidemic in most at risk and vulnerable populations, such as prisoners, drug users, migrants and women.

- Ensure equitable access dimension of HIV and TB is mainstreamed into all programmes, projects and action plans.

Establish and provide Secretariat support to a Task Force on HIV, TB and Human Rights

Endemic Country Activities

Regional/country workshops to disseminate tools and increase civil society capacity to operationalize the implementation of collaborative TB/HIV activities.

Organize joint business sector events in endemic countries where best practices and collective action opportunities can be identified to increase the engagement of the business sector in both TB and HIV workplace programmes as well as advocacy and raising awareness.

Develop and disseminate best practices of examples where at risk, marginalized and vulnerable populations have been able to access care and prevention services.

Targets and milestones by end 2011

The number of civil society organizations that are implementing plans to halve the number of TB deaths in people living with HIV increased.

At least one business sector event co-sponsored per year in an emerging economy endemic country (BRIC+2)

M&E, Reporting and Accountability

The UNAIDS Secretariat and the Stop TB Partnership will monitor adherence to the principles of the compact and will measure success against achievement of the objectives outlined above.

- Harmonized TB/HIV indicators and recording and reporting systems will be implemented.
- UNAIDS and the Stop TB Partnership will be mutually accountable and hold each other responsible for implementation of the compact.
- The elements of the compact will be reviewed regularly and may be supplemented by specific work plans on detailed activity areas.
- Annually, the UNAIDS Secretariat and the Stop TB Partnership will report on progress towards implementing this compact with each others Board (Coordinating Board for Stop TB Partnership, Programme Coordinating Board for UNAIDS).
- The organizations will share information of relevance to each other and appoint global focal points to facilitate communication related to implementation of the compact.
- The UNAIDS Secretariat and Stop TB Partnership secretariat will establish a collaborative consultation process while revising the Global Plan to Stop TB due to be released in September 2010.

The compact will be valid from the date of signature by both parties until the end of 2011 and will be reviewed biannually at which point the compact may be revised by mutual agreement of both parties.

Michel Sidibé
Executive Director
UNAIDS

Marcos Espinal
Executive Secretary
Stop TB Partnership