



VOICES OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)

It is inspiring to meet with TB civil society representatives at WHO. We all need to work as one if we are to end TB. I am solidly committed to this cause with my strong leadership team and in collaboration with the Stop TB Partnership.



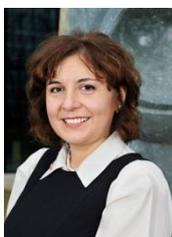
Dr Ren Minghui, Assistant Director General, WHO Cluster for Communicable Diseases

We - WHO, Stop TB Partnership, and civil society, all have a common goal to end TB. We must work together through one plan, towards the 2018 UN General Assembly High Level Meeting (UNHLM) on TB, and beyond. We are accountable for the commitments we make to the people we serve.



Dr Tereza Kasaeva, Director, WHO Global TB Programme

Civil Society engagement is invaluable to efforts to end TB and reach the Sustainable Development Goals as a whole. Their voice and actions will enable no one to be left behind. Together we are stronger.



Dr Lucica Ditiu, Executive Director, Stop TB Partnership

We have 12 years to end TB and only together can we achieve this. At Stop TB Partnership, we are thrilled with the new WHO leadership's strategic vision to work together, hand in hand, with us and civil society and communities to end TB. We are committed to work as ONE team to achieve our objective and this is an inspirational way to start the new year!



Austin Arinze Obiefuna, Afro Global Alliance, Ghana

Meeting with the WHO leadership and team has been a great motivation and an important one for that matter, in pushing forward the TB agenda. Let's end TB together now.



Thokozile Beatrex Phiri, Facilitators of Community Transformation (FACT), Malawi

This is an important year with the UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on TB which will turn the tide and accelerate efforts to end TB in countries. This WHO meeting with civil society is timely and crucial. I felt empowered to sit with the WHO Director-General Dr Tedros and top WHO leaders like Tereza to have my inputs and views heard.



Alexander Chuykov, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), Russian Federation

This meeting was very successful in defining roles of civil society in the fight against TB. The civil society representatives who were brought together had diverse knowledge and expertise which was very useful in discussions. This is how we can ensure voices from the ground will be heard globally at WHO headquarters as well as nationally by governments.



Yulia Chorna, TB Advocacy ICF "Alliance for Public Health", Ukraine

It is a welcome sign that the WHO DG Dr Tedros and TB Director Dr Tereza are open to dialogue with civil society. It is now our joint responsibility to follow up and take forward the workplan developed at this meeting, and ensure community voices can reach and influence policy dialogue and programmatic responses in countries.



Meaghan Derynck, International Civil Society Support, Canada

It was incredibly heartening to see the high level of commitment to engaging with civil society in the fight to end TB from both Tereza and Dr Tedros. It's truly unprecedented and I'm very excited and optimistic about what we can achieve with this type of collaboration and partnership.



Jamilya Ismoilova, Project Hope, Tajikistan

We have historical momentum with the participation of Dr Tedros and colleagues at the highest levels of WHO leadership at this meeting with civil society. This gave us the opportunity and ownership to share our views on how to improve engagement and communication with WHO. We are very grateful for this trust, and in turn feel a sense of big responsibility and accountability to efforts to end TB. I would like to add that I was amazed with the commitment Tereza to meaningful engagement with civil society, and her openness to listen to our ideas, this will be crucial in moving forward in our relationship to end TB.



Blessi Kumar, Global Coalition of TB Activists, India

Never before in the history of WHO has meaningful engagement with civil society and communities been taken so seriously. I feel a lot of hope for the End TB Response moving forward and would like to thank Dr Tedros and Tereza for their openness to listen and engage. This will be critical not only in the lead up to the UNHLM on TB, but also beyond.



Suraj Madoori, Treatment Action Group, USA

I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of attention and prioritization given to engaging civil society in end TB efforts, by both WHO DG Dr Tedros and Tereza. We look forward to implementing what might be the new civil society plan to end TB.



Zied Mhirs, Tunisian Center for Public Health, Tunisia

This meeting sends a strong signal to civil society around the world that their engagement in the fight against TB is crucial, and that WHO is taking partnership with civil society seriously. It has been good to engage with Tereza, Director of the Global TB Programme, she is embracing civil society inputs from the start of her appointment at WHO, and has been open to our ideas and suggestions. This is the sign of a good leader for the TB response.



Sameer Sah, TB Alert, United Kingdom

This meeting has been a very unique opportunity to bring together a wide range of players from diverse civil society organizations and the WHO leadership, to build a platform that ensures meaningful civil society engagement to end TB.

