

ANNEX 1: URGENT ACTIONS NEEDED TO PREVENT AND MANAGE M/XDR-TB

Addressing the gaps in TB control

1. Strengthening involvement of hospitals in TB control

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Recognize the importance of hospitals in TB control and especially in preventing MDR-TB and commit adequate resources, human and financial, for the purpose.	National TB Programme, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance
Set up a national mechanism to ensure coordination at the highest levels among departments responsible for health centres, general hospitals and specialist hospitals/medical colleges.	National TB Programme, Directorates responsible for health centres, hospitals, and academic institutions
Prepare an inventory of all hospitals and designate hospitals responsible for provision of TB services through certification / accreditation schemes.	National TB Programme, Directorates responsible for hospitals and medical colleges
Develop, disseminate and implement guidelines on establishing linkages between hospitals and health centres as well as measures to be implemented within hospitals to ensure seamless care provision for TB suspects and cases, in line with the ISTC.	National TB Programme along with the directorates responsible for hospitals and medical colleges
In order to make the collaboration sustainable, ensure adequate compensation to hospitals for their input to TB control.	National TB Programme with relevant authorities

2. Scaling up Public-Private Mix for TB care and control

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Intensify efforts to identify TB service providers outside the scope of National TB Programmes and engage them to ensure that all TB patients receive care in line with the ISTC.	National TB Programme
Formulate/modify policies to enable securing and providing human and financial resources, support and supervision for scaling up PPM programmes.	Ministry of Health
Make professional associations close partners in TB care and control investing in strengthening their capacity if required.	National TB Programme
Engage private laboratories to improve access to diagnosis, providing them with support, training and quality assurance services.	National TB Programme
Measure contribution of diverse care providers to TB control and adapt policies and strategies to optimize it.	National TB Programme
Ensure quality and enforce rational use of TB drugs available in the private market.	Ministry of Health, National Drug Authority

3. Increasing involvement and empowerment of patients and communities

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Ensure that health sector plans include active steps to increase the involvement of affected communities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health promotion, preventive and curative services.	Ministry of Health supported by National TB Programme
Support efforts to improve the health workforce, and engage all available partners to help address TB and other public health priorities through primary health care.	National TB Programme
Identify and remove barriers to care for poor and other vulnerable communities.	National TB Programme with Ministry of Health and other relevant stakeholders
Mobilize resources to support community-level partnerships and local initiatives.	National TB Programme with Ministry of Health
Ensure communications that increase awareness of how to prevent the spread of tuberculosis, including its drug-resistant forms, through early detection of those who are ill and through quality care.	National TB Programme

Providing M/XDR-TB management and care

1. Hospital-based versus outpatient care

Actions needed	Actors responsible
To select models of M/XDR-TB management and care after a thorough analysis that takes into account social, ethical and health systems elements.	National TB Programme, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance
To assist NTPs in conducting the analysis required for selecting models of care.	WHO, Stop TB Partnership and technical agencies
To make use of the tools and resources available for piloting and scaling up MDR-TB management, including the GLC, GDF, and the Global Laboratory Initiative.	Donors, Ministry of Health, National TB Programme

2. Ensuring that TB treatment and care are consistent with ethics and human rights norms and promote social justice

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Explicit consideration of the ethical issues related to policy and service provision in management of M/XDR-TB and TB in general	Ministry of Health, National TB Programme, technical partners
Production, distribution and training on guidelines for ethical based management of M/XDR-TB	WHO
Establishing task forces as necessary to support an ethical-based management of TB and M/XDR-TB.	Ministry of Health and other sectors as relevant

3. Involving all health care providers, including public hospitals

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Assessment of the current role of all public, private, corporate and voluntary sectors in M/XDR-TB diagnosis, treatment and care in the country.	National TB Programme
Phased involvement of institutions that outside the NTP are delivering diagnostic, treatment and care services to patients with M/XDR-TB to harness their capacity to deliver	National TB Programme

4. Collaborating with HIV programmes to strengthen both TB and HIV control

Actions needed	Actors responsible
To map extent of the problem by including HIV testing as a standard in national TB drug resistance surveys.	National TB and AIDS Programmes, Ministry of Health, technical partner agencies, HIV implementers
Nationwide scale up of collaborative TB/HIV activities.	National TB and AIDS Programmes, HIV implementers
Scale up the access for better TB diagnostic capacity in people living with HIV including culture technologies and molecular tests.	National TB Programme, Ministry of Health, National Laboratory services, HIV implementers
Increased engagement of community groups.	National TB and AIDS programmes, Ministry of Health, civil society, community leaders, HIV implementers
Improved collaboration between TB and HIV stakeholders and political commitment.	NTP and NAP, Ministry of Health, bilateral multilateral and NGO stakeholders and donors
Basic and operational research on optimal models of care in HIV related M/XDR-TB	Researchers, research organizations and funding agencies

Addressing the health workforce crisis

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Ensure that HRD needs for basic TB control and needs for scale up of M/XDR-TB control are included in overall health workforce development.	Ministry of Health, National TB Programme HRH departments, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning
Revise/update strategic HRD plans (including private health care providers) to improve basic TB control and to scale up of M/XDR-TB control.	National TB Programme, HRH, partners; internal stakeholders
Collaborate and coordinate with other public health programmes, with other departments and services in the ministry of health (especially hospital and diagnostic services administration) and with other units in the provincial/district health services.	National TB Programme, HRH, relevant units and departments at all levels
Develop medium-term implementation plans to enable alignment with general HRD strategies and plans.	National TB Programme, HRH, partners, internal stakeholders
Collaborate with HRH planning units/departments of Ministry of Health, donors and technical support agencies in long term HRD within health system development for staffing and retention.	National TB Programme, HRH, financial and technical support agencies
Include resources for technical assistance for revision/updating of the HRD in proposals to Global Fund and other donors.	National TB Programme

Responding to the laboratory bottleneck

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Recognize and acknowledge the importance of laboratory systems in TB control and commit adequate human and financial resources.	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance
Set up a national mechanism to ensure coordination at all levels among departments responsible for laboratory services, disease-specific programmes, human resource development, and training.	Directorate responsible for Laboratory Services, National TB and AIDS Programmes, training and academic institutions
Ensure that health sector plans include adequately conceptualized and budgeted components for comprehensive laboratory capacity development.	Ministry of Health, supported by National TB Programme and Directorate of Laboratory Services
Identify and remove barriers to laboratory staff career development, remuneration, staff retention, and sustainability of technical competency.	Ministry of Health, supported by National TB Programme and Directorate of Laboratory Services
Prepare a national inventory of donor and technical partner efforts in laboratory strengthening and identify synergies and opportunities for optimization of resources.	National TB Programme, Directorate for Laboratory Services
Formulate/modify policies and screening algorithms to facilitate scale-up of rapid diagnostics for MDR- and XDR-TB control.	National TB Programme, Directorate for Laboratory Services
Engage private laboratories to improve access to TB diagnostic capacity, ensuring adequate support, training and quality assurance.	National TB Programme, Directorate responsible for Laboratory Services, training and academic institutions.

Ensuring access to quality-assured anti-TB medicines

Actions needed	Actors responsible
National commitment to increasingly (and in a phased manner if needed) buy quality assured FDCs.	Governments
Willingness to accept targets for 1 and willingness to monitor and report on progress against targets.	Governments
Provision of specific technical support and mechanisms to support WHO Prequalification of FDC suppliers in key priority countries (medium term) and/or to strengthen the capacity of NMRAs* (long term).	WHO, SMRAs,** donors, governments
Commitment to expand the market for international sources of quality assured FDCs and maintain low cost benchmark prices.	WHO/GDF and UNITAID
National commitment to rapidly enroll MDR-TB patients under proper programmatic conditions (as per realistic targets).	Governments
National commitment to increasingly (and in a phased manner if needed) buy quality assured SLDs.	Governments
National commitment to conditional approval of waivers or fast-track mechanisms for importation of quality assured SLDs, even if only for an interim period, while, where applicable, national capacities for production and/or procurement of quality assured SLDs are developed.	Governments
Willingness to accept targets for 5, 6 and 7 and willingness to monitor and report on progress against targets.	Governments
Provision of specific technical support and mechanisms to support the Prequalification of SLD suppliers in key priority countries (medium term) and/or to strengthen the capacity of NDRAs (long term)	WHO, SMRAs, donors, governments
Commitment to expand the market for international sources of quality assured SLDs and establish benchmark prices.	WHO/GDF and UNITAID

* Stringent National Medicine Regulatory Authorities

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Restricting the availability of anti-TB medicines

Actions needed	Actors responsible
Put in place and enforce regulation that prohibits the dispensing of TB drugs without a prescription, and which prohibits physicians to sell TB drugs directly to patients.	Ministry of Health, drug regulatory body, National TB Programme
Explore regulatory approaches to restrict prescription and dispensing rights of all or selected TB drugs to quality-assured facilities only.	Ministry of Health, drug regulatory body, National TB Programme
Develop recommendations / guidelines for all health care providers, including pharmacies, stating that TB drugs should be prescribed and dispensed only in quality-assured facilities.	Ministry of Health, National TB Programme, partner organizations, drug regulatory body professional associations, pharmaceutical companies

Prioritizing TB infection control

Action needed	Actors responsible
Disseminate the 2009 WHO policy on TB infection control.	WHO and partners
Define roles and responsibilities within the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Infrastructure, and civil society to facilitate the implementation of the WHO Policy.	Ministry of Health in collaboration with other ministries and civil society
Identify building infrastructure requirements and associated costs for the implementation of TB infection control.	Ministry of Health and other relevant ministries within government
Assess needs and provide technical assistance required for initiation and scale-up of the TB infection control at the national level.	Ministry of Health in collaboration with technical partners
Define and assess costs of human resource requirements (including need for engineers, building maintenance personnel, development of infection control staff) at country level.	Ministry of Health and Ministry of Finance
Develop and implement a research agenda to determine the effectiveness of the individual control on the impact of reduction of TB transmission. More operational research is needed on the operationalization of the individual controls described in the policy.	Ministry of Health and technical partners

Maximizing research opportunities to address M/XDR-TB

Action needed	Actors responsible
To facilitate field-testing of available molecular resistance assays.	Governments, development agencies, and technical agencies
To work towards the development of rapid methods for detection of resistance to second-line and other first-line drugs.	Researchers and research funding agencies
To consider investing in phase 4 clinical trials aiming at shortening, simplifying and improving efficacy of treatment regimens for drug-resistant TB.	Research funding agencies.
To consider investing in preventive therapy trials to define optimal treatment combinations and duration for preventive treatment of infected persons exposed to patients with drug-resistant TB.	Research funding agencies
To work in partnership to incorporate operations research on drug-resistant TB into the activities of TB control programmes.	Governments, development agencies, and technical agencies
To make full use of existing funding opportunities for operations research on drug-resistant TB.	Governments and technical agencies
To consider investing in research aimed at understanding the casual factors for the development of drug-resistant TB.	Governments, development agencies, and research funding agencies

Financing M/XDR-TB control and care

Action needed	Actors responsible
Preparation of country-specific budgets, based on national strategic plans.	National TB Programme, Ministry of Health, technical agencies
Mobilize funding based on a fully-budgeted national strategic plan, with particular attention to domestic funding in middle-income countries.	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, bilateral donors, international organizations, development banks, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNITAID