Tuberculosis (TB) is the leading infectious disease killer worldwide today. It carries profound economic and social consequences. The public health crisis of multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) continues. Although 49 million lives have been saved through global efforts since 2000, actions and investments fall far short of those needed to end the TB epidemic. High-level multisectoral action is needed, and action on TB can serve as a tracer for the Sustainable Development Agenda.

The WHO Global Ministerial Conference “Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response” aims to accelerate implementation of the WHO End TB Strategy - with immediate action addressing gaps in access to care and the MDR-TB crisis - in order to reach the End TB targets set by the World Health Assembly and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through national and global commitments, deliverables and accountability. The Ministerial Conference will inform the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on TB in 2018.

EIGHT THEMATIC TRACKS
Based on the SDG agenda and the UNGA high level health themes

1. UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF TB CARE AND PREVENTION
2. SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FOR TB, UHC AND SOCIAL PROTECTION
3. RESPECT FOR EQUITY, ETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
4. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRESS
6. ACTION ON AMR, HEALTH SECURITY AND MDR-TB
7. STEPPED-UP TB/HIV RESPONSE
8. SYNERGIES ACROSS THE RESPONSES TO TB AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

TOP OUTCOME AREAS

- ADVANCING TB RESPONSE WITHIN UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, AMR AND SDG AGENDAS*
- SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
- INCREASED AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

* This outcome area also encompasses actions on: Equity, ethics and human rights; AMR, health security and MDR-TB; TB/HIV response, and synergies across the responses to TB and noncommunicable diseases.
THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
A CALL FOR INCREASED ACTION ACROSS THE SDGs TO END TB

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

- Ministers of Health and Ministers from other sectors (e.g. finance, social development, justice) will be invited to attend, including from the top 40 highest TB and MDR-TB burden countries;
- Leaders of UN organizations, development agencies and regional bodies;
- Nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations, civil society representatives, affected people and communities, as well as academic and research institutions, philanthropic foundations and private sector entities.

A Ministerial Declaration will be signed at the Conference, containing bold commitments by countries to accelerate action to end TB and meet the milestones towards the 2030 SDGs. This will inform the UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on TB in 2018.

DECISION BY THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON TB IN 2018


Global health and foreign policy: Health Employment and Economic Growth
The General Assembly, (…)
21. Takes note of the initiative to hold, in Moscow in November 2017, a global ministerial conference on the fight against tuberculosis in the context of public health and the Sustainable Development Goals;
22. Decides to hold a high-level meeting in 2018 on the fight against tuberculosis, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to propose options and modalities for the conduct of such a meeting, including potential deliverables, building on existing efforts in this regard; (…)

KEY TB FACTS

- 1.8 MILLION TB DEATHS INCLUDING 0.4 MILLION TB DEATHS AMONG PEOPLE WITH HIV*
- TB was one of the top ten causes of death worldwide
- TB was responsible for more deaths than VIH and malaria
- MDR-TB crisis with gaps in detection and treatment
- Only 1 in 5 needing MDR-TB treatment were enrolled on it
- Funding shortfall for TB implementation
- Gap of over US$1 billion per year for TB research

CURRENT ACTIONS AND INVESTMENTS ARE FALLING FAR SHORT

INVESTING IN ENDING TB IS GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY:
For every US$ 1 invested, US$ 43 is gained in return

Source: Copenhagen Consensus

CONFERENCE WEBSITE:
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