

**FORTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY GENEVA, 6-16 MAY 1991****WHA44.8 Tuberculosis control programme****WHA44.8 Tuberculosis control programme**

The Forty-fourth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolution [WHA36.30](#);

Having considered the Director-General's report on the tuberculosis control programme <sup>1</sup>

Expressing concern that three million tuberculosis deaths and eight million new cases continue to occur annually in the world;

Noting with concern that the current strategy for tuberculosis control has begun to lose its effectiveness in the industrialized countries, and that in these countries the declining trend of incidence has either slowed down or been reversed;

Recognizing that in many developing countries tuberculosis is decreasing little if at all owing to the constraints on effective application of programme policies for tuberculosis control, and that in some countries the disease is rapidly increasing owing to the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

Further recognizing that the goal of tuberculosis control programmes in developing countries can nevertheless be achieved by resourceful application of existing technology even under very difficult conditions, as demonstrated in several countries on a national scale,

1. URGES Member States to give high priority to intensifying tuberculosis control as an integral part of primary health care, reviewing the situation of current control activities, particularly in the light of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, introducing short-course chemotherapy, and improving the treatment management system;

2. ENDORSES the dual approach of action and research adopted by the programme as the best means of achieving a reduction in tuberculosis mortality and morbidity;

3. ENCOURAGES international and bilateral agencies and nongovernmental organizations to continue to help control tuberculosis by collaborating with, and providing support to, the programme;

4. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to intensify collaboration with Member States in strengthening national control programmes in order to improve case-finding and treatment and attain a global target of cure of 85% sputum-positive patients under treatment and detection of 70% of cases by the year 2000, taking care to ensure that these programmes are integrated as far as possible into primary health care activities;

(2) to focus and strengthen the tuberculosis control and research strategy for the 1990s with a view to:

(a) elaborating and implementing WHO's strategy for tuberculosis control in order to achieve the global target;

(b) promoting as far as possible the integration of tuberculosis control into primary health care activities;

(c) promoting global interest in research on all aspects of tuberculosis control and elimination<sup>1</sup> and undertaking sharply focused research activities that are likely to produce new knowledge and technology to overcome critical constraints, including biological and psychosocial aspects, for the control and elimination of this disease;

(d) increasing the participation of international and bilateral agencies and nongovernmental organizations and providing international direction and coordination to combat tuberculosis, for example through a coordination committee or an advisory and review group;

(3) to continue to seek the extrabudgetary resources required to support these activities;

(4) to report to the Health Assembly through the Executive Board on the progress made in the implementation of the tuberculosis control programme.

*Hbk Res., Vol. III (2nd ed.), 1.16.7* (Eleventh plenary meeting, 13 May 1991 -  
Committee A, first report)

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