

Preparation for a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on ending tuberculosis

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on the preparation for a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on ending tuberculosis, to be held in 2018,¹

1. REQUESTS the Director-General to develop, working in close collaboration with all relevant international, regional and national partners as recommended in the Moscow Declaration to End TB (2017), a draft multisectoral accountability framework that enables the monitoring, reporting, review and actions needed to accelerate progress to end tuberculosis both globally and nationally, leaving no one behind, through an independent constructive and positive approach, especially in the highest burden countries, and the independent review of progress achieved by those countries, to be considered by the Seventy-first World Health Assembly in May 2018, and presented at the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on ending tuberculosis in 2018 in order to secure strong political support;
2. RECOMMENDS to the Seventy-first World Health Assembly the consideration of the following draft resolution:

The Seventy-first World Health Assembly,

Noting with concern that tuberculosis remains the leading infectious disease killer in the world today, responsible for an estimated 1.3 million deaths and an additional 374 000 deaths among people living with HIV/AIDS in 2016; and that the epidemic, including drug-resistant tuberculosis, poses a serious threat to health security and is a priority in the response to antimicrobial resistance;

Reaffirming resolutions: WHA67.1 (2014), by which the Health Assembly adopted the global strategy and targets for tuberculosis prevention, care and control after 2015, subsequently known as the End TB Strategy; and WHA68.7 (2015), by which the Health Assembly adopted the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance; as well as recalling General Assembly resolution 71/3 (2016) "Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Antimicrobial Resistance";

Recalling the General Assembly resolution 70/1, which adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and defined the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the associated target of ending the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030;

¹ Document EB142/16.

Recalling further the report submitted to the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017 on the implementation of the End TB Strategy,¹ which concluded that global, regional and country-level actions as well as investments were falling far short of those needed and that high-level global support and regional and national commitments were required; and noting that progress is slow on all three targets of the Strategy (reducing TB incidence, reducing TB mortality, and eliminating catastrophic costs among TB patients and their households);

Recognizing that to achieve the TB targets and milestones of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and of the WHO's End TB Strategy, care and prevention-related actions should be reinforced, paying particular attention to vulnerable groups, taking into account national contexts and circumstances, in the context of [the context of progress towards achieving] [achieving] universal health coverage (UHC) and taking into account social, economic and environmental determinants and consequences of TB;

Welcoming the decision contained in the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/159, to hold a high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis in 2018;

Welcoming also the first WHO global ministerial conference on "Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response", organized jointly with the Government of the Russian Federation and held in Moscow on 16 and 17 November 2017, and the resulting Moscow Declaration to End TB,² with commitments and calls to action regarding notably: advancing the TB response within the Sustainable Development Agenda; ensuring sufficient and sustainable financing; pursuing science, research and innovation; developing a multisectoral accountability framework; and, acting immediately to prepare for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly;

Noting the commitment made in the Moscow Declaration to support the development of the multisectoral accountability framework, [looking towards] the 2018 UNGA high-level meeting on TB, to be considered by the WHO Governing Bodies,

1. URGES Member States:³

(1) to support preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 on tuberculosis, including by enabling high-level participation;

(2) to pursue the implementation of all the commitments called for in the Moscow Declaration to End TB (2017), which will contribute to reaching the targets of the End TB Strategy and the Sustainable Development Goals target to end the tuberculosis epidemic;

2. CALLS UPON all international, regional and national partners, as appropriate, to pursue the actions called for in the Moscow Declaration to End TB (2017) and to invite those who have not yet endorsed it to add their support;

¹ Document A70/38, section E.

² Available at http://www.who.int/tb/Moscow_Declaration_MinisterialConference_TB/en/.

³ And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to continue to support the United Nations Secretary-General and the General Assembly, upon request, in the preparation of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on ending tuberculosis in 2018;

(2) to support, together with all relevant stakeholders, the implementation of the Moscow Declaration to End TB as a direct contribution to the success of the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting and to advance tuberculosis prevention and care and the specific actions requested of WHO in the Moscow Declaration, including: actions to [to achieve (DEL advance towards)] [to strengthen health systems [(DEL for progress)] towards achieving] universal health coverage, [(DEL through health systems strengthening), including for tuberculosis prevention and care; to urgently support high multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) burden countries in their national emergency response and to address MDR-TB as a major threat to public health [(DEL security)] by supporting implementation of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) including TB-specific actions in all countries;

(3) to continue to provide strategic and technical leadership, assistance, advice and support to Member States, as well as working with international institutions and all other relevant stakeholders, towards sufficient [, (DEL and)] sustainable [and flexible] financing;

(4) to develop a global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation taking into consideration ongoing and new efforts and to make further progress in enhancing cooperation and coordination of tuberculosis research and development, considering where possible drawing on relevant, existing research networks and global initiatives;

Ninth meeting, 25 January 2018
EB142/SR/9

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