



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

73rd World Health Assembly
9-14 November 2020 *Virtual Platform*

Pillar	1	ONE BILLION MORE PEOPLE BENEFITTING FROM UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE
Agenda	11	Review of and update on matters considered by the Executive Board
Sub-Agenda	11.5	<i>Tuberculosis</i>
Document	A73/5	Consolidated report by the Director-General
Requested Action		To adopt the resolution recommended by the Executive Board in resolution EB146.R7 <i>[Adopted through Silence Procedure]</i>

Thank you, Chair.

The Philippines welcomes the adoption of the “Global Strategy for TB Research and Innovation”, an important tool in focusing efforts towards investments into research and innovation into the development of affordable, effective, efficient and equitable interventions to ending tuberculosis.

We strongly support the formation and strengthening of tuberculosis research networks in collaboration with national tuberculosis programs, relevant international organizations, and non-state actors. Such will also serve as the interface for learning from each other’s experiences.

However, we would like to emphasize that it is equally critical to ensure that parallel efforts are initiated. These includes putting in place mechanisms for achieving balance between confidentiality of information and sharing of data, information and materials. Moreover, an inclusive process must be ensured at all times; wherein all key stakeholders are given the opportunity to partake in all stages of the research process -- from planning, implementation to dissemination. We advocate for research designs in which active participation of the people and communities most affected by TB, to have ownership of processes and results.

COVID-19 has added significant burden to our already strained health systems. In this regard, prioritizing strategies, innovation and research into interventions that limit disruptions to the provision of TB services, amidst the current context, would also be useful.

We affirm our commitment to the global strategy and look forward to active engagement through affiliations in tuberculosis research networks, among others.

Thank you.