



In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Opening remarks

to the

**INTERCOUNTRY WORKSHOP ON REVISED RECORDING REPORTING FOR
TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL AND THE ELECTRONIC NOMINAL RECORDING AND
REPORTING SYSTEM (ENRS)**

Cairo, Egypt, 2–5 April 2007

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the Intercountry Workshop on Revised Recording Reporting for Tuberculosis Control and the Electronic Nominal Recording and Reporting System (ENRS).

Surveillance is the backbone of effective tuberculosis control. Since the start of the DOTS strategy, the standardized recording and reporting system has been a key element in promoting tuberculosis control. The recording and reporting system is a part of the general health information system, and it aims at monitoring performance and progress of national tuberculosis programmes towards the global targets for tuberculosis control and the Millennium Development Goals, and at providing the evidence needed for planning and policy development.

Following the development of the Stop TB strategy in January 2006, WHO and the global Stop TB Partnership, in collaboration with other partners, revised the tuberculosis recording and reporting system in order to align the forms and registers with the new strategy. The revision aims at facilitating the monitoring of the implementation of the 6 components and 18 sub-components of the Stop TB Strategy. We have consulted with NTP managers in the Region, and adapted the

globally revised recording and reporting system to the context and situation of the national tuberculosis programmes and their increased needs.

Since the new recording and reporting system is to address the entire Stop TB strategy, the number of indicators to monitor the progress has increased. Consequently NTP managers have recognized the critical need for computerizing the recording and reporting system to facilitate the process of data collection, improve data quality, and improve data analysis through time-saving and use of better tools for data interpretation. It is important to note that such computerized systems should be built on the paper-based tuberculosis recording and reporting system.

In response to the increased demand, the Regional Office has developed a tool for a computerized and recording reporting system based on nominal data entry by using the tuberculosis registers. It is called the Electronic Nominal Recording Reporting System (ENRS). The ENRS uses the Microsoft Excel® package and has the same structure as the paper-based tuberculosis recording and reporting system. ENRS has been successfully implemented in Egypt, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Along with the revision of the tuberculosis recording and reporting, ENRS has been modified, keeping the original comprehensive interface and report-links in both the Excel® and Access® packages. Built-in quality verification means are also included. Moreover, a revised manual with training package will be available soon.

You, as members of the Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Task Force will discuss in this workshop the plans to introduce and expand the use of the revised recording and reporting system and the ENRS.

We look forward to having your plans for implementation, with identification of budget sources and technical assistance needed, by the end of the workshop. You will have very busy working days; however we encourage you also to enjoy Cairo after working hours, and wish you a fruitful and successful workshop.