

**UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD WORKING GROUP
THEMATIC SEGMENT FOR THE 42nd PCB MEETING**

***Ending tuberculosis and AIDS
– a joint response in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals***

At its 41st meeting, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) agreed that the theme for its 42nd meeting will be “*Ending tuberculosis and AIDS – a joint response in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals*”. The Thematic Segment will take place on 28 June 2018.

A Thematic Segment will provide PCB members an opportunity to review the evidence for effective strategies to prevent tuberculosis (TB) related morbidity and mortality and to discuss opportunities to accelerate action in order to achieve the 2016 United Nations Political Declaration target of 75% reduction in TB deaths among people living with HIV by 2020 and the Sustainable Development Goal targets to end tuberculosis and AIDS by 2030. The Thematic Segment also provides an opportunity to identify strategies to address underlying social determinants of TB and HIV as well as review best practices in implementing targeted, coordinated, and human rights based actions.

MEETING SUMMARY: THIRD MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP

DATE: Tuesday 5 June 2018

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Presentation of the second draft of the Background Note on *Ending tuberculosis and AIDS – a joint response in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals*
3. Discussion on the draft the Background Note
4. Presentation of the agenda for the thematic day
5. Discussion on the agenda
6. Way forward
7. Any other business

SUMMARY

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mr Morten Ussing, Chief of Governance and Multilateral Affairs, UNAIDS Secretariat, welcomed the PCB Working Group to its third and final meeting for the preparation of the Thematic Segment of the 42nd PCB on *Ending tuberculosis and AIDS – a joint response in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals*.

He mentioned that the main objective of the meeting was to finalize the agenda for the day and discuss the format of the thematic segment. He added that the meeting was also an opportunity to provide any final comments on the background note and to hear feedback from the interactive hearing for civil society, academia and private sector in preparations for the

UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on Tuberculosis (HLM) which took place on the 4th June.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE SECOND DRAFT OF THE BACKGROUND NOTE ON ENDING TUBERCULOSIS AND AIDS – A JOINT RESPONSE IN THE ERA OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Dr. Alasdair Reid, Senior Adviser on Testing, Treatment and Tuberculosis, UNAIDS Secretariat, explained how the draft Background Note had evolved since the first draft.

He explained that comments received from the working group had been integrated into the Background Note. He added that almost 80 case studies had been received in response to the UNAIDS call for submission of good practices and that a large number of those had been included in the paper as illustrative examples.

Dr. Reid summarised key points of the Background Note and explained that the paper is aligned with the Agenda for the day. After providing a brief background to the thematic segment, the Background Note describes the current status of the HIV and TB response in the world; explores the social and structural drivers of the two epidemics; and describes the TB key populations and explains who they differ from those most affected by HIV.

The Background Note includes a section on what is needed in the short term to reach the target of reducing TB deaths among people living with HIV by 75% by 2020. It focuses on identifying the policies and programmes that are currently not implemented effectively and which, if scaled up rapidly, would help achieve the target;

The paper also includes a section on addressing the social and structural determinants of the two epidemics as well a discussion on achieving the SDG 3 in the context of the broader SDG agenda. It describes strategies for the HIV community to better work with the TB community to address the social and structural drivers that cannot be addressed in isolation, such as stigma, discrimination, human rights, gender inequalities and inequities.

Dr. Reid also explained that the Background Note would be reduced in length and streamlined before it would be published.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT BACKGROUND NOTE ON ENDING TUBERCULOSIS AND AIDS – A JOINT RESPONSE IN THE ERA OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The PCB working group provided the following comments on the second draft of the Background Note:

Member States

- Emphasised that the Background Note should make a strong call to countries to integrate HIV and TB programmes in the context of the Universal Health Coverage in addition to a call to integrate services.
- Stressed the importance of also identifying challenges as well as good practices.
- Requested the Secretariat to clarify what definition is used in the paper for the term “rights-based approach to TB”.

PCB NGO Delegation

- No comments were made by the PCB NGO delegation during the meeting.

Cosponsors

- No comments were made by UNAIDS Cosponsors during the meeting.

Stop TB Partnership

- Mentioned that the Global Plan to end TB which is cited in the Background Note includes a description of the rights-based approach to TB and suggested that this could be also used also in the Background Note to the thematic segment.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

Dr Alasdair Reid introduced the draft agenda and suggested speakers for the thematic day. He mentioned that the key note addresses would include a perspective of a TB survivor as well as a perspective from a member state in addressing the two epidemics.

WHO and Stop TB Partnership will present the data on the epidemic and current interventions. This will be followed by two panel discussions, one focusing on the short-term actions to reach the target to reduce TB deaths among people living with HIV by 75% by 2020; the other on addressing the longer term structural drivers as well as sustainable financing.

Dr Reid mentioned that an invitation has been extended to the United Nations Special Envoy on TB, Eric Goosby, as well as to the Ambassador of Japan to the UN in New York H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho, in his role as a co-facilitator of the HLM on TB, to close the thematic segment.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT AGENDA

The working group members welcomed the overall focus of the draft agenda. No specific comments on the agenda were made

However, working group members enquired about the mechanisms for ensuring that the background document as well as the discussions during the thematic segment would be fed into the preparations for the HLM on TB.

6. WAY FORWARD

Mr. Morten Ussing said that working group members had until the close of business 6 June to send any final written comments on the draft Background Note before it would be finalised and posted on the PCB website.

In response to questions on how to feed the discussions from the PCB thematic segment to the preparations for the HLM, Mr Ussing mentioned that a formal letter from the Chair of the PCB, or from both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, summarising the key elements discussed could be sent to the co-facilitators of the HLM as well as to the President of the General Assembly.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Reflections from the interactive hearing with civil society, academia and the private sector as part of the preparations for the HLM were shared with the working group by UNAIDS Secretariat and Stop TB Partnership.

The working group was told that the hearing was a very important milestone in the preparations for the HLM and that the discussions made it clear that the TB epidemic has been neglected although it has a huge impact, especially on the poorest people in the world.

The hearing was well attended, including by TB survivors as well as by the permanent missions of New York.

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