



Acceleration of UN High-Level Meeting Commitments on TB Focus of International Respiratory Societies

Cape Town, Glenview, Lausanne, Montevideo, New York, Paris, Tokyo, March 24, 2019

On World TB Day, the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) urges governments to leverage the success of the first-ever United Nation (UN) High-Level Meeting (HLM) on the fight against tuberculosis (TB), held in 2018. The meeting produced a UN political declaration on TB and endorsement at the highest level to take the necessary steps to end the TB epidemic.

TB is preventable and curable, yet it remains the world's most common infectious disease killer. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 10 million people fell ill from TB in 2017 and 1.6 million people died. Only 64 percent of the estimated 10 million global TB cases were actually diagnosed and notified. In 2017, approximately 558,000 people developed TB that was resistant to rifampicin (RR-TB), and of these, 82 percent had multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB). Only one in four people who needed treatment for MDR/RR-TB in 2017 actually received it.

For the first time the High-Level Meeting brought together heads of state to give the leadership that is urgently needed to address this terrible disease. This unique opportunity and momentum must not be lost.

FIRS is calling on leaders to follow through on the commitments they have made, including to:

- Successfully treat 40 million people for TB, including 3.5 million children and 1.5 million people with drug-resistant TB.
- Provide TB preventive therapy to 30 million people, including four million children under the age of five.
- Include child TB in the child survival agenda and provide family-based TB care.
- Advance all areas of innovation needed to deliver new tools for TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment.
- Support a human rights-based approach to global TB.
- Mobilise U.S. \$13 billion annually for TB care, and U.S. \$2 billion annually for TB research and development.

FIRS urges the TB community to hold leaders accountable for their commitments, and to push governments to support the changes needed to realise the UN Sustainable Development Goal of ending the TB epidemic by 2030.

Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD, executive director, FIRS, said: "If we are to truly see an end to TB, the world's most common and deadly infectious disease, governments must commit to scale up of research, funding, human rights and accountability. It is our job as the TB community to strive for the commitments we've seen from our leaders to become action and not just promises."



International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
Health solutions for the poor





By adopting the UN political declaration on TB, national leaders have said they recognise TB as a threat they are committed to eradicating. They have agreed to specific actions. The day to begin implementing this new agenda begins now.

Notes:

All quoted TB statistics are from the [Global Tuberculosis Report 2018](#), The World Health Organization

About the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS)

[The Forum of International Respiratory Societies](#) (FIRS) is an organisation comprised of the world's leading international respiratory societies working together to improve lung health globally: [American College of Chest Physicians](#) (CHEST), [American Thoracic Society](#) (ATS), [Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology](#) (APSR), [Asociación Latino Americana De Tórax](#) (ALAT), [European Respiratory Society](#) (ERS), [International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases](#) (The Union), [Pan African Thoracic Society](#) (PATS), [Global Initiative for Asthma](#) (GINA), and the [Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease](#) (GOLD).

The goal of FIRS is to unify and enhance efforts to improve lung health through the combined work of its more than 70,000 members globally.

For more information about FIRS please contact Lisa Roscoe lisa.roscoe@firsnet.org.



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TUBERCULOSIS (TB) FACT SHEET

24 MARCH 2019 #WORLDTB DAY



TB IS THE WORLD'S MOST COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASE KILLER

1.6 MILLION
10 MILLION

people died from TB (including 0.3 million among people with HIV).

people fell ill from TB (558,000 cases being drug-resistant).

an estimated
1 MILLION CHILDREN

became ill with TB and 239,000* children died of TB (including children with HIV associated TB).

30%

TB is the main cause of death related to antimicrobial resistance and the leading killer of people with HIV. In 2017, 30 percent of HIV deaths were due to TB.

> 95%

Over 95 percent of TB deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.

8 COUNTRIES
66%

Eight countries account for 66 percent of the total, with India leading the count, followed by Indonesia, China, Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh and South Africa.

Each day **4,383** people lose their lives to TB and **27,397** fall ill due to TB

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND – ACCESS TO CARE

6.4 MILLION
3.6 MILLION

people had access to quality TB care **BUT**

people missed out on TB care and treatment.

TWO OUT OF EVERY FIVE people with TB were undiagnosed or unreported

BETTER REPORTING

+

DIAGNOSIS

+

ACCESS TO CARE

=

WILL CLOSE THIS GAP

DRUG RESISTANCE



ONLY ONE IN 4 PEOPLE

needing treatment for MDR-TB in 2017 actually received it.

55% Only just over half of those who started MDR-TB treatment were cured



Better prevention, detection and care will address the MDR-TB crisis

558,000

Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) remains a public health crisis and a health security threat. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there were 558,000 new cases with resistance to rifampicin – the most effective first-line drug – of which 458,000 had MDR-TB.

POLITICAL COMMITMENT IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO END TB

26 SEPTEMBER 2018



The first-ever United Nations High-Level Meeting (HLM) on Ending TB produced a historic Political Declaration



The Declaration has specific, measurable milestones to achieve by 2022

Read more about the HLM: <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/un-general-assembly-high-level-meeting-on-ending-tb>

THE END TB STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)



An estimated

54 MILLION

lives were saved through TB diagnosis and treatment between 2000 and 2017.



Globally, TB incidence is falling at about 2 percent each year

This needs to accelerate to a four-five percent annual decline to reach the 2020 milestones of the End TB Strategy.

2030

 Ending the TB epidemic by 2030 is among the health targets of the SDGs

FUNDING GAPS IMPEDE EFFORTS TO END TB



TB Care and Prevention

Funding gap of US\$ 3.5 billion in 2018.



Research and development

Funding gap of US\$ 1.2 billion per year is required for the development of new tools.



Investing in Ending TB is value for money

And will save 1.6 Million lives every year.

NOTES: All figures quoted are for 2017 (unless stated otherwise) which are the latest recorded data. Figures quoted should be credited to:

Global Tuberculosis Report 2018, pub. World Health Organization:
https://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/en/

One of the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 is to end the global TB epidemic. The WHO "End TB Strategy" calls for a 90 percent reduction in TB deaths and an 80 percent reduction in the TB incidence rate by 2030, compared with 2015. View the End TB Strategy here: <http://www.who.int/tb/strategy/en/>

*Cruz, Andrea T. and Jeffrey R. Starke. 'What's in a number? Accurate estimates of childhood tuberculosis.' The Lancet Global Health. Aug 2014, 2(8): 432-33

