

A UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON TUBERCULOSIS

TUBERCULOSIS: A HIDDEN GLOBAL EMERGENCY

Tuberculosis is the leading cause of death from an infectious disease and causes 1.8 million deaths a year. Despite this, TB has a low profile on the global political agenda and hasn't received the attention or resources it deserves.

A UN High-Level Meeting on TB in September 2017 at the UN General Assembly in New York, as called for by Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi, Chair of the Stop TB Partnership and Minister of Health of South Africa, would change this by bringing together Heads of State, governments, and all stakeholders to unite the world against this health emergency.

WHY WE NEED A UN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON TB

LEADING INFECTIOUS KILLER

TB is the world's leading infectious disease, both globally and in low income countries. It kills 1.8 million annually – a death every 18 seconds. It's also the leading cause of death among People with HIV/AIDS.

POLITICAL NEGLECT

Despite Heads of State agreement to end TB by 2030 in the UN SDG goals, TB has never been a global political priority. Unlike other infectious diseases, its never been included in high-level discussions among Heads of State or prioritized in the UN, G7 or G20.

FUNDING FALLING SHORT

TB treatment was recently identified as one of the 19 most cost effective investments among all the 169 SDG targets. Yet, domestic funding is inadequate and TB research funding is declining. Despite being the leading infectious killer in poor countries, donor funding for TB is far less than other infectious diseases.

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY RISK

We are at risk of losing the fight against drug-resistant TB. Only one in ten cases is diagnosed, treated and cured. DR-TB was responsible for 250,000 deaths in 2015, and is also the leading cause of death from Antimicrobial resistance, responsible for 1 out of 3 AMR deaths.

GLOBAL CHALLENGE

TB is airborne and is easily transmissible across borders – TB anywhere is a threat everywhere. TB affects everyone but the most productive populations are worst affected, and it has devastating economic effects at the individual, community and national level.



- ▶ **ASK YOUR MINISTERS** of Foreign Affairs & Health to support a UN High-Level Meeting on TB through a UN resolution calling for the meeting at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.
- ▶ **SPREAD THE WORD** on twitter and Facebook using the hashtag **#UNITE4TB**.
- ▶ **VISIT** www.stoptb.org/unite4TB

ACT NOW
JOIN OUR CALL FOR
A UN HLM ON TB