

Minutes of the Meeting

1st Meeting of StopTB Board

Date: 3rd April 2013

Time: 11:30 AM

Venue: Vice Chancellor's Office at Dow International Medical College, Ojha Campus, Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi.

Participants

Board of Partners:

1. Prof., Dr. Masood Hameed Khan, Chairman, Stop TB Partnership Pakistan.
2. Dr. Iqtidar Ahmed, Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership Pakistan
3. Dr. Ejaz Qadeer, Manager, National TB Control Program Pakistan.
4. Dr. Javed Akhter Shaikh, WHO, Pakistan, Sindh.
5. Dr. Munir Ahmed (representative of Mr. Javaid Akhai), Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturer Association.
6. Dr. Nisar Ahmed Rao, (Vice President, representative of Dr. Syed Naeem Agha, President, Pakistan Chest Society),
7. Prof., Dr. Muhammad Masroor, Principal, Dow International Medical College, DUHS, Karachi.
8. Dr. Waquaruddin Ahmed, Technical Director, Pakistan Medical Research Council.
9. Ch. Muhammad Nawaz, President of Pakistan Anti TB Association, **regret** due to domestic emergency.
10. Aisha T. Haq, Executive Director, Pakistan Pharma Bureau (**absent**).
11. Mr. Muhammad Saqib, (Member, Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industries), **absent**.

Scientific Sub Committee:

1. Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah, Bridge Consultant Foundation,
2. Dr. Shahina Qayyum, President Pakistan Chest Society, Sindh Chapter.
3. Dr. Rumina Hassan, Aga Khan University Hospital.
4. Prof., Dr. Rafique Khanani, Chairman Pathological Laboratories, DUHS.
5. Dr. Raja Ayub, National TB Control Program, Islamabad.

Pharmaceutical Sub Committee:

1. Dr. Munawar Saeed Wasti, Pfizer Pakistan.
2. Dr. Muhammad Zaka-ur-Rehman, ShazooZaka Pharma (**absent**).
3. Dr. Ahsan Siddiqui, Novartis Pharma.
4. Dr. Munawar Ali Qureshi, Deputy Director, IPER, DUHS.

Proceedings

1. Recitation from the Holy Quran, performed by Prof., Dr. Masood Hameed Khan (The Chairman).
2. The Executive Secretary (Hon.,) with the permission of chair started the proceeding and asked the participants for introduction.
3. Welcome & Opening speech was delivered by the Chairman, who highlighted the alarming situation of TB in the country and role of Stop TB partnership.
4. Dr. Ejaz Qadeer with the help of presentation presented details regarding TB situation in country. He shared the achievements of the program, identified the gaps and role of Stop TB partnership.

Agenda:

1. Introduction of the Board of Partners:
2. Speech by Prof., Dr. Masood Hameed Khan on increasing TB burden in Pakistan:
3. Presentation of by Dr. Ejaz Qadeer National Manager (NTP):
4. Discussion on Rules & Regulations (by Laws) of Stop TB Partnership Pakistan:
5. Discussion upon Legislation for Control of TB Diseases in Pakistan:
6. Discussion upon International Symposium on National Post MDG Strategy for Pakistan:
7. Discussion upon Development Fund for Secretariat Office of Stop TB Partnership Pakistan:
8. Open Discussion:

Discussion & Decision:

Discussion & Decision agenda point No. 4.

The A sub committee comprising of Dr. Ejaz Qadeer (Manager, National TB Control Program), Dr. Iqtidar Ahmed (Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership Pakistan) & Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah (Focal Person, Bridge Consultants Foundation) was constituted to review and revise the by laws of the StopTB partnership.

Discussion & Decision on the point No. 5

Dr Ejaz Qadeer presented draft of following two Legislative Bills;

- **Prohibition of the Over-the-Counter Sale of Anti-Tuberculosis Drugs.**
- **Declaration of Tuberculosis a Notifiable Disease.**

After thorough deliberation on both the above Bills, it was decided that the bills will be circulated among the board members and members of technical sub committees who will provide their feedback / inputs to the executive secretary StopTB in one week positively.

Discussion & Decision point No. 6.

Stop TB Partnership Pakistan in collaboration with National TB Control Program is already planning to organize an international symposium at Islamabad to review and revise the national strategy in post MDG scenario in Pakistan. An organizing committee comprising of Dr. Ejaz Qadeer, Dr. Iqtidar Ahmed, Prof., Dr. Muhammad Rafique Khanani, Dr. Shahina Qayyum, Dr, Sharaf Ali Shah & Dr. Rumina Hassan has been constituted.

Discussion & Decision on point No. 7.

Prof., Dr. Muhammad Masroor, Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi informed the Board about the inputs provided by Dow Medical University. He shared the details regarding HR i.e. a Deputy Director and support staff, building and office furniture etc.

After discussion on agenda point the house was declared open by the chairman for discussion. All the members were requested for their inputs and suggestions. The following was proposed and decided.

- The patients should be tracked for compliance through electronic messaging service.
- Production of quality medicine to be ensured in country by following WHO quality standards. Pharmaceutical companies should be facilitated for registration with WHO. Following subcommittee was formulated to ensure quality of medicine till the end users.
 - a) Mr. Munawar Qureshi (Member Pharmaceutical Sub Committee, IPER, DUHS)
 - b) Mr. Munir Ahmed (representative, Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Association)
 - c) Mr. Zeeshan Mansoor (Member Pharmaceutical Sub Committee, Pfizer).
- The participants were informed about BA & BE laboratory established in Dow University of Medical Sciences and offered for the services to pharmaceutical companies.
- The Chairman proposed for the web based courses on TB. The point was well taken and a subcommittee comprising of following was formulated to carry out the task.
 - a) Prof., Dr. Muhammad Masroor (Member, Dow University of Health Sciences)
 - b) Dr. Nisar Ahmed Rao (Member, Sub Committee)

- Dr. Nisar Ahmed Rao (Vice President, Pakistan Chest Society, highlighted the importance of private sector and proposed for engagement of private practitioners in diagnosis and management of TB. He emphasized for their training.
- It was pointed out that program should emphasize on management of Extra-Pulmonary cases.
- It was proposed that GeneXpert facility may be extended by provision of more machines.
- The need for extending the network of Stop TB Partnership upto district level was identified.
- Role of ACSM was highlighted and emphasized.
- Incorrect prescribing practices by private practitioners was highlighted and it was recommended that GPs should be trained.
- Inadequate allocation and releases for TB Control Program by government resources was highlighted.
- A Special Committee was constituted to conduct Workshops for Stakeholders on Process Evaluation & Strategy, comprising of:-
 - a) Mr. Ahsan Siddiqui (Member Pharmaceutical Sub Committee, Novartis Pharma)
 - b) Dr. Iqtidar Ahmed (Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership Pakistan)
- High default rate was identified as a problem.

At the end of the discussion Executive Secretary requested the Chair for Vote of Thanks and invited the participants for Lunch.