

STOP TB NEWS

October 2010

TOP LINE NEWS

Transforming the Fight: Global Plan to Stop TB 2011–2015 to be launched

A new action plan from the Stop TB Partnership will be launched on 11 October. The *Global Plan to Stop TB 2011-2015: Transforming the Fight - Towards Elimination of Tuberculosis*, for the first time, identifies all the research gaps that need to be filled to bring rapid TB tests, faster treatment regimens and a fully effective vaccine to market. It also shows public health programmes how to drive universal access to TB care, including how to modernize diagnostic labs and adopt revolutionary TB tests that have recently become available. Press conferences to launch the plan will take place in Johannesburg, Berlin and Geneva.

In 2006 the Stop Partnership launched the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015. The new roadmap for 2011-2015 follows on that earlier plan while setting new and more ambitious targets for the next five years.

NEWS

TB/HIV in the spotlight at the XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna

Landmark agreement signed by Stop TB Partnership and UNAIDS

It was a first at the International AIDS Conference—a protest march calling for **no more deaths from TB in people living with HIV**. The TB Cough-in/Coffin March began in the Global Village at the [XVIII International AIDS Conference](#) in Vienna at noon on 22 July. Scores of people assembled, with t-shirts, placards, cardboard coffins, Stop TB handkerchiefs, vuvuzelas, drums and banners.

They alternated between coughing into handkerchiefs and chanting the slogans: "When you cough, when you sneeze, cover your mouth to stop TB" or more simply "STOP TB!" One of the two black coffins bore the messages: "Saved from HIV, but died from tuberculosis".

The marchers wove their way through the Global Village, swelling their ranks with new volunteers as they crossed the conference centre, finally landing in a session room where a lunchtime plenary session on TB/HIV was about to begin. The session, chaired by Dr Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#), featured Dr Jorge Sampaio, the [UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Stop TB](#); Dr Marcos Espinal, Executive Secretary of the [Stop TB Partnership](#); Mr Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of [UNAIDS](#); and Mr Timur Abdullaev, a human rights lawyer from Uzbekistan who is living with HIV and currently undergoing tuberculosis treatment.

"Let's face reality: tuberculosis remains the leading cause of death among people living with HIV. In 2008 tuberculosis accounted for over half million AIDS-related deaths, that is more than one in every four AIDS deaths," Dr Sampaio said.

Mr Abdullaev, Mr Sidibé and Dr Espinal exhorted those present at the session—and all 20 000 participants in the conference—to view TB/HIV as the crisis, and tragedy, that it is.

At the session's close, Dr Sampaio presided over the signing of a landmark document: a memorandum of understanding between the Stop TB Partnership and UNAIDS. The agreement binds the two organizations together in a common goal: to strive towards halving the number of people living with HIV who die from TB by 2015, compared to 2004 levels. Another key objective is the provision of life-saving antiretroviral treatment for all TB patients living with HIV.

Stop TB and UNAIDS will press government health programmes to reach all people in need of care for TB/HIV by integrating the services that provide diagnosis and treatment for both conditions. They will also seek to increase the resources needed to accomplish this goal. Another overarching objective is to galvanize civil society organizations, communities affected by TB and HIV, and the private sector to form strong partnerships aimed at jointly addressing TB/HIV.

In keeping with the focus of this year's AIDS conference, the signatories stressed the needs of marginalized groups. "We call on the world's leaders to promote full access to HIV and TB services for women and girls, orphans, displaced persons, migrants, prisoners, men who have sex with men, people who use drugs other vulnerable groups," Dr Espinal said.

During 2010 and 2011 the leadership of Stop TB and UNAIDS will make at least two joint visits per year to countries heavily affected by TB/HIV and promote their new initiative at least one international event per year.

[View photos](#)

[View the webcast of the session](#)

[Read the press release \[.pdf\]](#)

Patient-centred approach needed to confront TB/HIV epidemic in European region

He was wearing a black T-shirt boldly advertising the name of his country and its TB/HIV burden: **UKRAINE: TB 459 000, HIV 340 000.**

Dimytro Sherembey, speaking to participants in a meeting on TB/HIV in Europe and Central Asia—held in Vienna on 16 and 17 July in the run-up to the International AIDS Conference—exhorted the assembled group to remember their true purpose.

"We have met here to save the lives of people who are not here. You cannot do it when you do not know for whom you do it," he said. "Behind every statistic there is a valuable life."

Sherembey's organization, the [All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV](#), was one of a score of civil society groups who came together with public health experts; officials from regional prison, alcohol and drug authorities; academics; and staff from international agencies to form a united front on accelerating collaborative TB/HIV activities in this region, which is heavily affected by TB, MDR-TB and HIV.

Many of the people Sherembey works with are former prisoners, drug users or members of other marginalized groups. The challenge of making TB/HIV care accessible and acceptable to the people most in need of it in Eastern Europe and Central Asia was a strong focus of the meeting.

The diverse group was unanimous in its goal of patient-centred, not disease-centred, approaches. Participants also agreed that next steps must include enhanced political commitment, increased financial resources, and involvement of civil society at every level. Other priorities include increasing awareness to avoid late diagnosis, tracking progress by developing joint registries and surveillance with comparable data, collaboration between ministries, prison and civil services and civil society, and "one-stop shopping" for HIV, TB and harm reduction services.

UNITAID funding enables scaling up of MDR-TB treatment and diagnosis

Global Drug Facility and partners to scale up MDR-TB treatment in India

People with multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) in India will have improved access to treatment thanks to a joint initiative between the Stop TB Partnership's [Global Drug Facility](#) (GDF), the [Green Light Committee](#) (GLC), the [Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#) and [UNITAID](#)—an

international facility for the purchase of drugs and diagnostics for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. The initiative—announced in August—is a new phase of the MDR-TB Scale Up Initiative, which seeks to increase the number of patients receiving second-line drugs and have a positive impact on market dynamics for these drugs through improvement in price, quality and delivery.

India has the largest TB burden of any country in the world, with one-fifth of all cases. TB is one of the leading causes of mortality in India, killing nearly 1000 people each day. India also has more MDR-TB cases than any country in the world.

A first UNITAID grant of US\$ 20.8 million was approved in 2007 and increased to US\$ 37.6 million in July 2009. Its objective has been to boost the supply of drugs needed to treat MDR-TB in 17 countries, with the additional goal of achieving price reductions of 5–25% for second-line anti-TB drugs subject to a sufficient number of quality assured sources being available. All the countries receiving this assistance have Green Light Committee-approved MDR-TB treatment programmes in place.

The budget increase of US\$ 16.8 million will cover 9850 patient treatments for India. With this addition, the number of patients accessing second-line drugs through the initiative will increase to a total of 15 606 in 18 countries. This surge in demand is likely to have a favourable impact on market forces.

UNITAID, GLC, the Global Fund and GDF will collaborate to implement the initiative. UNITAID will provide funding and financial review. The GLC will have an advisory role including review and selection, monitoring and evaluation, and co-ordinating World Health Organization (WHO) technical assistance. GDF will manage procurement and delivery of treatment, working to reduce prices and increase availability of quality-assured MDR-TB drugs.

Myanmar inaugurates state-of-the-art TB laboratories

State-of-the-art laboratories recently established both in Yangon and Mandalay will greatly benefit TB patients, their families and the community by allowing MDR-TB diagnosis to be confirmed within 3 days, rather than 2–3 months as in the past.

Funding of US\$ 1.2 million for the laboratories was provided by UNITAID in the context of the [EXPAND-TB](#) (Expanding Access to New Diagnostics for TB) Project, a collaboration between the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO), the [Global Laboratory Initiative](#) (GLI), the [Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics](#) (FIND) and the Stop TB Partnership's [Global Drug Facility](#). To date, UNITAID has contributed US\$ 87.6 million to EXPAND-TB, which aims to improve the detection and management of TB and MDR-TB through the supply of diagnostics to high-burden countries.

Extensive technical support for Myanmar's new laboratories was provided by FIND, while WHO facilitated the importation of equipment and supplies and ensured project coordination in Myanmar. The diagnostic tools now available include liquid culture, first-line drug susceptibility testing, rapid immunoassay for species identification and line probe assay for rapid diagnosis of MDR-TB.

The Yangon laboratory was inaugurated on 12 July 2010 at the National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory, Aung San TB Hospital Compound, Insein, Yangon. H.E. Professor Kyaw Myint, Minister of Health, chaired the opening ceremony, which was attended by Deputy Minister Professor Paing Soe; Director General, Department of Health; Deputy Director General, Disease Control; directors, professors, medical superintendents, chairman of the Divisional Health Committee (Yangon Division), WHO Acting Representative Ms Margareta Skold, and Dr Giorgio Roscigno, Chief Executive Officer from FIND.

NEWS ON AWARDS AND GRANTS

Eli Lilly and Company recognized with World Business and Development Award

In September, an international panel of judges selected [Eli Lilly and Company](#) to receive a [World Business and Development Award](#) for demonstrating what can be achieved through successful partnerships in the battle against multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). The awards, given every two years, showcase the creative efforts of the private sector in applying their core business expertise to helping achieve the Goals.

Lilly was chosen because the activities of the company-funded [Lilly MDR-TB Partnership](#), which works in more than 80 countries and with more than 20 partners, demonstrate a clear linkage between vital business practices and a contribution towards achieving the [Millennium Development Goals](#).

Challenge Facility for Civil Society: Grants in action

ORISADE helps sex workers fight TB in Cameroon

In July, [Challenge Facility for Civil Society](#) grant recipient ORISADE (*Organisation Internationale Santé et Développement*, or International Organization for Health and Development) launched a project to help sex workers with TB in the city of Bafoussam, Cameroon.

Project activities include training sex workers as "TS Leaders" to raise TB awareness among their co-workers; identification and referral of suspected TB cases for diagnosis and treatment; financing of TB-related medical expenses (including transportation to treatment centres); nutritional support for TB patients during their first two months of treatment; and distribution of information materials.

Since the project's launch, ORISADE has referred more than 80 people for screening; 30 of these screened positive and have begun treatment. The project will run through February 2011.

Stop TB Bouaké works with communities in Côte d'Ivoire

Stop TB Bouaké is using its grant from the Challenge Facility for Civil Society to build capacity and community skills for the diagnosis and monitoring of tuberculosis patients in the department of Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire. Activities target poor or marginalized communities, residents of remote rural areas, people with TB, pregnant women, children under 5 years old, and people living with HIV.

Since July, the organization has mobilized support from village chiefs, religious leaders, association presidents and NGOs, conducted public awareness campaigns, sensitized health centres to boost referrals of suspected TB cases, and provided capacity-building training to 20 community workers.

In addition, 395 people were counselled about HIV and TB, of which 150 were diagnosed with TB and 33 people with TB/HIV co-infection. Psychosocial support to patients is an important element of the project, with 150 people trained so far to make home visits and supervise treatment.

TB PEOPLE

Goodwill Ambassador Craig David will donate a new, original song to the fight against TB

At a gala event in New York on 22 September, [Goodwill Ambassador Craig David](#) made a special announcement:

"Tonight, I would like to pledge an exclusive and new recording that I will donate to the fight against tuberculosis," he said. "The song will be available for free download on my own website and on that of the Stop TB Partnership. The goal is to build a powerful online community for raising awareness and fighting the stigma attached to tuberculosis. Tuberculosis sufferers and communities affected need to know that there is no shame in tuberculosis."

The gala—organized by the UN Foundation and UN Special Envoy for Malaria Ray Chambers—was a high point in a crowded week of events organized on the occasion of the [United Nations High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals](#) (MDG Summit). The assembled dignitaries and celebrities included Queen Rania of Jordan, Bob Geldof, Tommy Hilfiger and Ted Turner.

Craig stressed that without tackling TB, the MDGs will not be reached. "Look at the situation with women and children: tuberculosis is the number three cause of death in women. And we know that we can't fight HIV without also fighting tuberculosis, which remains the leading cause of death of people living with HIV," he said.

There is too much silence around tuberculosis, he added. "And that is because in countries heavily affected by TB people think it is shameful. In the rest of the world, people don't know about it and think it is a disease of the past. Even the Millennium Development Goals forgot to mention

tuberculosis! In fact the heading of MDG 6 is: 'Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases'. Tuberculosis got lost among the other diseases. Yet, it kills nearly 5000 people per day worldwide."

Craig announced his pledge to create and record the new song dedicated to the fight against TB during an interview with the 24-hour news channel, Sky News. Earlier in the week, he talked about TB with journalists, bloggers and civil society via the UN Week Digital Media Lounge.

[Read more](#) about Craig David

COUNTRY NEWS

Ramadan: a time of giving for national Stop TB partnerships in the Eastern Mediterranean

During the Muslim holy month of Ramadan—when Muslims fast and also share generously of what they have with others—national Stop TB Partnerships across the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region organized donations for TB patients and their families in Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Pakistan and Sudan. A similar campaign was organized in 2009.

The coordinating board of **Afghanistan's** very active national partnership called for generous cash donations and made the first contributions themselves. Sub-national partnerships in Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif provinces followed suit.

The **Egyptian** National TB Programme and national partnership mobilized donations for four chest hospitals and their patients in the cities of Cairo, Alexandria, Tanta and Suez. Donations included hospital equipment, food packages, cash support for patients and emergency services for patients in need arriving at the hospitals.

The **Iran** Stop TB Committee, the oldest national partnership in the Region—teaming up with the Iranian Charity Foundation for Tuberculosis and Lung Disease and Imdad Committee of Imam Khomeini—organized Iftar food baskets for TB patients and their families. Iftar is the traditional meal eaten to break the fast every evening during Ramadan.

In **Jordan**, the national TB control programme and Jordanian Anti-TB Association were supported by National Stop TB Ambassador and actress Rania Ismail. The partners collected and distributed food, supplements, clothes and cash among poor patients and their families.

In flood-affected areas of **Pakistan**, the national TB programme and partners worked with the business community, philanthropists and donors to provide food support to TB patients and their displaced families.

The **Sudan** national partnership, in association with the Women's Federation, organized Iftar dinners in all states of the country and distributed food baskets to TB patients.

"Walk, Run and Bike" to STOP TB NOW in the Philippines

On 29 August, the [Rotary Clubs of Zamboanga City](#) and the Zamboanga Hermosa Tuberculosis Council ended Lung Month by gathering more than 10 000 people for the second "Rotary Walk, Run and Bike to STOP TB NOW" event, intended to generate awareness that TB is preventable and curable.

Zamboanga's mayor, Celso Lobregat, fired the starting gun at exactly 6:30 AM, with bikers, walkers and runners starting at different points but sharing the same finish line, where they enjoyed a post-race party featuring door prizes and a "TB or TV" fundraising raffle.

The event formed part of the Zamboanga's continuing efforts to reduce (if not eliminate) TB cases in the city, in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

Scoring goals against TB and HIV in Kenya and South Africa

Kick N Test in Kenya

In July, [Vijana Amani Pamoja](#) hosted the second annual Kick N Test football tournament, combining the sporting element with voluntary HIV counselling and testing and TB screening. Sixteen teams of

boys and girls aged 13–18 from Nairobi's Eastland neighbourhood participated in this unique street football tournament with a better-health theme.

Teams scored points by winning or drawing a match, by participating in TB and HIV awareness-raising activities, and by visiting the voluntary HIV counselling and testing and TB screening tents. Everyone who was tested left with a certificate plus a bonus point for his or her team. Out of 220 participants, 156 youths were tested and screened. During intermissions and half-time, participants were sensitized about the strong connection between TB and HIV.

As a parting gift, all participants received a copy of [Luis Figo and the World Tuberculosis Cup](#), the educational comic book published by the Stop TB Partnership.

Kicking TB in South Africa

South Africa's Kick TB school outreach programme, which conveys positive messages to pupils, aged 5–13 by combining football with active learning on the signs and symptoms of TB, launched its second campaign in early October.

Since its launch in June 2010, Kick TB has reached 8000 children from 14 schools in Gauteng, Limpopo and Kwa-Zulu Natal provinces. This second campaign will extend activities to three further provinces: Limpopo, Mpumalanga and North West.

Developing a partnership to stop TB in the Black Sea region

In September, a delegation of the People's Assembly of Bulgaria made an official visit to Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital. During the visit, the delegation met with the *Verkhovna Rada* (Ukrainian Parliament) group on interparliamentary relations with the Republic of Bulgaria; one of the issues discussed was further development of the Black Sea Partnership for TB Control.

The decision to establish the partnership was made in November 2009 at the Global Fund's Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, where Black Sea countries discussed issues concerning cooperation in the area of public health. Tuberculosis is a priority: at the Ministerial Meeting of High M/XDR-TB Burden Countries in Beijing in April 2009, a group of Black Sea countries was recognized as bearing a heavy multidrug-resistant TB burden.

Thailand and Myanmar strengthen collaboration to fight TB in border areas

Thailand and Myanmar are working together to strengthen and promote border-area health collaboration on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, as well as on their response to disease outbreaks.

Thailand's Ministry of Public Health, with the cooperation Myanmar's Ministry of Health, held a Thailand–Myanmar Collaborative Workshop on Disease Surveillance Prevention and Control in the Border Areas on 1–3 September 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. During the workshop, representatives from both countries developed the Thailand–Myanmar Joint Work Plan on TB 2011–2012.

The plan's main objectives are to strengthen TB programme collaboration at the national and local levels, to improve TB service, to strengthen TB communication and social mobilization, and to strengthen surveillance of drug-resistant TB. DOTS strategies and implementation will be improved with the aim of achieving a treatment success rate of 85% in defined districts in border areas.

The next step will be to hold a meeting with all stakeholders to identify sources of financing for the implementation of the plan.

Tuberculosis Prevention Week in Japan

Japan's Tuberculosis Prevention Week (September 24–30) saw free medical exams and health counselling offered across the country, as well as a mass awareness campaign featuring advocacy posters with the support of [Nippon Beckton Dickinson Company, Ltd](#) in cooperation with the [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare](#) and the [Japan Medical Association](#).

Community-based action in Zambia

The Zambia Tuberculosis And Leprosy Trust (ZATULET)—which now also addresses HIV,—has been active at 12 project sites in 5 provinces.

During the past quarter, in addition to running a community clinic, the organization's TB Treatment Supporters and Coordinators have been raising community awareness of basic TB facts, and referring people with suspected TB to diagnostic centres for testing.

Highlights from India

Axshya project launched in Orissa

The Axshya project, which aims to decrease morbidity and mortality due to drug-resistant TB and improve access to quality TB care and control services through enhanced civil-society participation, was launched in Orissa on 3 September 2010 by the [LEPRA Society](#).

The Global Fund-supported project will be implemented in 374 districts across 23 states of India.

Raising awareness in Maharashtra

The Sahyadri Gramin Vikas va Bahuuddeshiya Yuvak Kalyan Sanstha nongovernmental organization, based in Nagpur, Maharashtra, launched a TB Awareness Programme on 30 July in the Moninpura slum area of Nagpur.

A new Stop TB poster was inaugurated and widely displayed in public places including markets, government offices, hospitals, and public and private vehicles, and TB sensitization activities were carried out, reaching more than 500 people.

Karnataka: A TB-free Udupi

"A TB-free Udupi" is the vision of a TB Club formed in July 2010 in the Udupi district of Karnataka State. The club is made up of patients who are currently undergoing treatment, former patients, and DOTS providers.

TB Clubs were initiated in northern Ethiopia and have been shown to improve patients' compliance to TB treatment and build positive attitudes and practices in the community regarding TB.

The Udupi TB Club was established with support from [Population Services International](#) (PSI) in the context of its "Connect" project, which is funded by [USAID](#) and aims to forge public-private partnerships for HIV and TB in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Supporting disadvantaged TB patients in West Bengal

The [Initiative to Manage People Centered Alliances in Control of Tuberculosis](#) (IMPACT) Project is being implemented by CARE India in West Bengal, with funding from [USAID](#). It links poor TB patients with poverty alleviation and other government social welfare schemes to strengthen treatment compliance, thus preventing a rise in multidrug-resistant TB.

Between December 2009 and August 2010, more than 1100 needy TB patients have been linked to various types of assistance, receiving cash or nutritious food items.

Asha Deep Foundation active in Shahid Nagar (Delhi)

The [Asha Deep Foundation](#) operates in Shahid Nagar, bordering North East Delhi, where TB is a major public health problem.

The organization's activities over the past quarter include staff training, regular small community-group meetings, larger awareness-raising meetings and promotion of immunization for babies, interaction with government programme staff, monthly review meetings with the district health and TB authorities, internal assessment of programme efforts, and networking and relationship-building with other organizations.

Combined action to fight tuberculosis in Turkey

A workshop entitled “Combined Action in Fighting Tuberculosis in Turkey” was held in Ankara in July to mobilize efforts to achieve the vision of “A Turkey without Tuberculosis”. The event—chaired by the Head of the Tuberculosis Control Department of the Turkish Ministry of Health—brought together government officials, nongovernmental organizations, representatives of international organizations, and health workers at various levels active in TB control.

The group identified goals and created 12 working groups to address specific areas. A second workshop was scheduled for later this month.

RESEARCH NEWS

Western Pacific TB Operational Research Grant: Call for Applications 2010–2011

The WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific is calling for applications for its Western Pacific TB Operational Research Grant, which aims to strengthen in-country research capacity and expand the knowledge and evidence base for TB control policy formulation in the Region.

Research proposals should originate in countries in the Region that have a high or intermediate burden of TB, and should focus on operational research issues addressing programmatic gaps in implementing the [Regional Strategic Plan to Stop TB in the Western Pacific \(2011-2015\)](#). Proposals must have been developed in collaboration with the National TB Programme (NTP) of the relevant country; at least one co-investigator should belong to the concerned NTP.

The principal investigator must submit an electronic copy of the proposal form and curriculum vitae to stoptb@wpro.who.int by 20 December 2010. The original, signed form and an endorsement letter from the NTP must be mailed to the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific by 31 December.

[Learn more about the grant programme](#)

Vaccine update

Aeras and Crucell launch vaccine trial in Kenya

In September, Dutch biopharmaceutical company [Crucell N.V.](#) and the [Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation](#) announced the start of a Phase II clinical trial in infants of the jointly developed TB vaccine candidate, AERAS-402/Crucell Ad35.

The main objective of the trial is to test the safety and efficacy of the TB vaccine candidate in infants previously vaccinated with the Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine. The first part of this clinical trial, which will be conducted in Kenya, will establish the optimal dosing regimen. The selected regimen will then be tested in the second part of the trial, which is planned to begin in 2011 in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa and Uganda.

AERAS-402/Crucell Ad35 has been tested in seven early-stage clinical trials including a Phase I clinical trial in infants in South Africa. A Phase II trial to test its safety and efficacy in adults living with HIV is ongoing in South Africa.

[Read the press release](#)

Clinical trial of new investigational vaccine

At the [Second Global Forum on TB Vaccine Development](#) in Tallinn, Estonia in September (see “Recent Events”, below), the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation announced that it will initiate a clinical trial of an investigational live recombinant tuberculosis vaccine to be led by researchers at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

The new investigational vaccine, called AERAS-422, is a modernized version of the BCG vaccine and will undergo clinical trials to evaluate its properties for interrupting TB at all stages of infection, including initial infection, latency and reactivation.

[Read the press release](#)

RECENT EVENTS

Target TB and partners share perspectives on civil society engagement in TB control

In September, UK-based NGO [Target TB](#) and partner organizations from across Asia and Africa participated in a meeting entitled "Promoting civil society engagement in TB control: African and Asian perspectives". The 21 delegates, representing 12 NGOs in India, Malawi, Timor-Leste, Uganda, the UK and Zambia, met in Tamil Nadu, India to discuss their approaches to TB control and share experiences.

Topics discussed included operational and clinical research; innovative strategies to reach marginalized and vulnerable groups; working with volunteers and community-based approaches; networking and partnerships; and governance, transparency and sustainability.

At the end of the meeting, Target TB Director Nikki Jeffery said: "This meeting has been a great success—it is the first time that Target TB has brought together all its partners from around the world, giving an opportunity for NGOs working at the grass-roots level to share their experiences and learn with each other."

The [Commonwealth Foundation](#) provided support for the meeting.

Second Global Forum on TB Vaccines held in Tallinn

More than 150 scientists from around the world gathered at the [Second Global Forum on TB Vaccines](#) in Tallinn, Estonia from 20–24 September to review progress on TB vaccines, assess challenges, propose solutions and reframe the global agenda for TB vaccines for the next decade. The forum was opened by Estonia's Minister of Social Affairs, Hanno Pevkur.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS/MULTIMEDIA/WEB

Experiences and Issues at the Intersection of Faith & Tuberculosis

A report released in July surveys the contributions of faith-inspired organizations to the global fight against tuberculosis and suggests ways to increase their participation and effectiveness.

Experiences and Issues at the Intersection of Faith & Tuberculosis, a collaboration between the [World Faiths Development Dialogue](#) and the [Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs](#) at Georgetown University, highlights the critical roles that faith-inspired actors play in addressing TB challenges in the developing world. It calls for increased efforts to bring faith-inspired organizations into coordinating mechanisms at the country and global levels.

The report acknowledges and describes the capacity issues that may be preventing faith actors from being more involved with TB control, and points clearly towards more concerted action to engage faith actors.

[Download the report \[.pdf\]](#)

UPCOMING COURSES/WORKSHOPS

Upcoming Courses from the Union

Human Resources Development and Management: 6–18 December 2010, Bangkok

Participants in this two-week course will strengthen their organizations' output by learning the most effective ways to recruit, train, motivate and retain qualified health professionals. Topics covered include determining an organization's human resources needs, aligning management of human resources with organizational strategy, human resources performance management tools and techniques, and comprehensive organizational human resources audits.

Public Health Aspects of Lung Disease: 17–20 January 2011, Bangkok

During this one-week course, participants will learn about how to prevent some of the most common lung diseases such as tuberculosis, asthma, respiratory cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The course will review the principles of epidemiology and the impact these diseases have on health systems, discuss effective prevention techniques in lung health, and train participants to develop strategies to combat the spread of these diseases and perform important advocacy work.

Management, Finance and Logistics, 14–26 February 2011, Bangkok

In this two-week course, participants will learn the basics of managing a national health programme with emphasis on building financial comprehension, developing fundamental budgeting skills, and facilitating successful multi-party negotiation. In addition, participants will learn to enhance coordination through supply-chain and effective logistics management, and to develop innovative ways to manage workloads.

For more information or to register for any of the above courses, visit www.union-imdp.org or e-mail imdp@theunion.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

41st Union World Conference on Lung Health: Sir John Crofton Lecture announced

Dr Thomas R. Frieden, Director of the [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov), will give the Sir John Crofton Lecture at the opening ceremony of the [41st Union World Conference on Lung Health](http://www.union-imdp.org) on Friday 12 November 2010, from 17:30-19:00. The theme of the lecture will be "TB and Tobacco Control: their role on the global health agenda".

The conference, which will take place at the [ICC Berlin](http://www.icc-berlin.de) in Berlin, Germany on 11–15 November 2010, will focus on "TB, HIV and Lung Health: From research and innovation to solutions". More than 2500 delegates from 100 countries are expected to attend the conference, which has become the largest annual event focusing on lung health issues as they affect low- and middle-income countries. The Stop TB Symposium will take place on 11 November.

[Download the Stop TB Partnership's Roadmap to the Conference \[.pdf\]](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

October 2010

11 Oct.	Global Business Coalition African Business Leaders on Health	Johannesburg, South Africa	Info
14–17 Oct.	19 th Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board Meeting	Johannesburg, South Africa	Info

November 2010

11–15 Nov.	41 st Union World Conference on Lung Health	Berlin, Germany	Info
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