



## **MEDIA ADVISORY – STOP TB PARTNERS' FORUM**

This week Brazil is at the hub of activity around the global fight against tuberculosis – a killer disease that takes the lives of nearly 5000 people around the world, including 20 people in Brazil, every day.

More than a thousand people representing hundreds of organizations from around the world have gathered in Rio for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stop TB Partners' Forum, from 23-25 March. Their objective is to halve tuberculosis cases and deaths by 2015.

### **Opening press conference**

**When:** 12:30, Monday, 23 March, 2009

**Where:** Press conference room,

Centro de Convenções Sul America, Av. Paulo de Frontin com Av. Pres. Vargas - Cidade Nova – RJ

**Who:**

HE Dr José Gomes Temporão, Minister of Health, Federative Republic of Brazil

Dr Jorge Sampaio, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Stop TB and former President of Portugal

Dr Marcos Espinal, Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership

**What:** On the occasion of the opening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stop TB Partners' Forum, HE Dr José Gomes Temporão will brief journalists on Brazil's latest efforts and commitments on tuberculosis. Dr Marcos Espinal will speak on global progress and challenges; and Dr Jorge Sampaio will address political and economic challenges.

### **World TB Day Press Conference**

**When:** 11:00, Tuesday, 24 March 2009

**Where:** Press conference room, Centro de Convenções Sul America, Av. Paulo de Frontin com Av. Pres. Vargas - Cidade Nova – RJ

**Who:**

Dr Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director, Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Mr Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS, Geneva

Dr Hiro Nakatani, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Geneva

Dr Marcos Espinal, Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership

Dr Mario Raviglione, Director, Stop TB Department, World Health Organization, Geneva.

**What:** Announcement of the latest available data and information on tuberculosis, worldwide, with release of the 2009 World Health Organization Global TB Control Report.

### **Release of the Rio Communities' Declaration**

**When:** 12:30, Wednesday, 25 March 2009

**Where:** Press conference room, Centro de Convenções Sul America, Av. Paulo de Frontin com Av. Pres. Vargas - Cidade Nova – RJ

**Who:**

Ezio Távora dos Santos Filho, Member of the Steering Committee of the upcoming ministerial meeting of high M/XDR-TB burden countries in Beijing, China (1 April)

Javid Syed TB/HIV Project Director, Treatment Action Group

Erin Howe, Project Coordinator, Public Health Watch, Open Society Institute

Louise Holly, Project Manager, Advocacy to Control TB Internationally (ACTION) Project, RESULTS UK

Dr Tamari Trapaidze, Coordinator, Norwegian Refugee Council

**What:** Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR-TB) threaten to reverse gains made by tuberculosis and AIDS programs. Civil society participants at the 3rd Stop TB Partners Forum will release a call to action on drug-resistant tuberculosis.

### **Briefing by the World Health Organization on the Beijing ministerial meeting on tuberculosis**

**When:** 13:15, Wednesday, 25 March

**Where:** Press conference room, Centro de Convenções Sul America, Av. Paulo de Frontin com Av. Pres. Vargas - Cidade Nova – RJ

**Who:** Dr Ernesto Jaramillo, Drug Resistance Team Leader, World Health Organization

**What:** Ministers from countries with a high burden of drug-resistant tuberculosis will meet in Beijing, China from 1-3 April 2009, to urgently address the alarming threat of MDR-TB. Dr Jaramillo will provide a briefing on the meeting, which is being organized by the World Health Organization, the Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

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