

# **Abuja Statement**

## **on Financing to End Tuberculosis (TB) in Africa**

**Abuja, 11 December 2024**

We, the participants of the meeting on Financing to End Tuberculosis in Africa, co-organized by the Stop TB Partnership, African Union, Africa Parliamentary TB Caucus, and the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health representing governments, parliaments, civil society, technical partners, the private sector, and other stakeholders from 22 high TB burden countries, have convened with a shared commitment to accelerating efforts to end TB, an airborne infectious disease which can be prevented, diagnosed, treated and cured.

### **Recognizing:**

- That TB remains the deadliest infectious disease globally, and in Africa, claiming 400,000 lives annually, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable populations;
- That significant gaps persist, with 26% of TB cases and 64% of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) cases undiagnosed or untreated, and only 54% diagnosed using rapid molecular tests;
- That funding for TB prevention, diagnosis, and treatment falls far short of the needs outlined in National TB Strategic Plans and Africa's share of the UN High-Level Meeting financing targets;
- That domestic budgets for TB responses are inadequate and additional resources are required to address funding gaps in national TB responses;
- That the Global Fund's critical support and the flexible TB/HIV/Malaria disease split at country-level must be complemented by strengthened accountability in implementation;
- The importance of TB in the mining sector and the need to accelerate compensation for former mine workers or their dependents;

### **We affirm our collective commitment to:**

1. Contribute towards efforts to increase awareness of our Heads of State and Government on the national TB situation and response, challenges and gaps for ending TB.
2. Advocate for increased domestic financing for TB including at sub-national level and awareness for TB across all sectors.
3. Promote the formation and strengthening of country level multi-stakeholder TB taskforces to address social and economic drivers of TB.

4. Ensure Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) closely engage with parliaments, and they also allocate resources to TB proportionate to national plans, response needs, and funding gaps.
5. Engage Development Banks to integrate TB financing into concessional loans and grants discussions with governments.
6. Raise private sector awareness of TB's economic impacts and advocate for their leadership in supporting TB diagnosis, treatment, care, and prevention.
7. Leverage new financing mechanisms, including the Pandemic Fund, Green Fund, blue economy, and digital economy, to bridge TB funding gaps.
8. Advocate for the inclusion of TB in primary health care packages and health insurance schemes.
9. Advocate for effective and efficient health commodities procurement systems and support health system funding to be used for procurement and scale up tools used for TB and other diseases.
10. Strengthen regulations, policies, and legislation on health safety in the formal and informal mining sectors.

This meeting marks a pivotal step in the fight against TB. United by our mission, we leave with renewed resolve to secure the resources needed to ensure no one is left behind in ending this preventable and treatable disease.

**Together, we can end TB.**

*List of participants is attached*