

Executive Committee Call 26 November 2024

Attended:	Apologies:	Secretariat:
Austin Obiefuna (EC Chair), Timur Abdullaev Amy Bloom (for Cheri Vincent) John Fawcett (for Obinna Onyekwena) Mayowa Joel Carrie Lehmeier / Natalie Paruzel David Lewinsohn Karina Halle (for Tereza Kasaeva) Peter Owiti Vama Jele / Aman Shukla	Tereza Kasaeva Obinna Onyekwena Cheri Vincent	Lucica Ditiu Jenniffer Dietrich Mikkel Broholt Catie Rosado
Minutes of the Call		

1. Governance update

1. The Director of Operations at Stop TB Partnership Secretariat, provided an update in line with the Action Plan. Usually, during the last Executive Committee call before a Board Meeting, the Executive Committee (EC) would be briefed by the host org on the status of complaints in the Secretariat. This briefing is done by the Director of Ethics Office of UNOPS, Berkan Manaigo-Vekil, who was not able to do so due to heavy schedule, and committed to brief the Executive Committee during the first Executive Committee call of 2025 in February. In the meantime, he informed that there was nothing out of the ordinary.
2. The Vice-Chair updated the Executive Committee on the leadership change in the Delegations. Jenniffer Dietrich, the Head of Governance, informed the Executive Committee that two Board Members representing the community of people affected by TB constituency, Carol Nawina and Peter Ng’ola Owiti, have completed their terms; the remaining Board Member, Rhea Lobo, will be joined by new Board Members, Mr. Maxime Lunga, DRC, and Dr. Tanaka Mukuhwa, Zimbabwe, at the 38th Board Meeting. These Board Members will also join the Executive Committee calls from 2025.
3. Peter Owiti thanked the Executive Committee and wished the new Board Members to continue in the same spirit and contribute to the work of the Executive Committee and the Board.

2. Global Fund Committee Meeting

4. The Vice-Chair and the Executive Director briefed the EC on their attendance of the fifty-second Global Fund Board meeting, which was held in Malawi a week before. On the positive side, TB – and all the messaging – got huge visibility thanks to the First Lady of Malawi. Before the opening, a breakfast was organized under the leadership of the First Lady, which was very well attended by both Global Fund Board members and civil society advocates. First Lady showed genuine interest to continue being a TB champion. Some site visits to local clinics were also organized with the participation of the First Lady. On the negative side, the Global Fund Board approved Option 3 of the disease split revision, as per the recommendation of the Secretariat and the Strategy Committee, whereby the TB share starts at 18% if Replenishment raises under \$13.5 billion, and then in case of a more successful Replenishment, the share will increase up to 25% at the Replenishment

equal to or above \$18.5 billion. Taking the Replenishment level of 2022 of around \$14.5-15 billion, TB will get 20.3% (would be \$220 million more than in the previous funding cycle), the least of the three diseases.

5. Overall, the global TB community has never had so much energy and unity and deserves credit for mobilization around the TB33% Campaign, including the Petition, which collected almost 30,000 signatures globally. **All Global Fund Board constituencies recognized that TB does not have enough money and needs more.** However, it was broadly realized that the Global Fund is **part of** the answer but is not **the** answer to end TB. Therefore, the discussion should start now as to how and where the TB community will be getting the money in addition to the funding from the Global Fund – whether domestically or otherwise (bilateral, new donors, etc.), and this is something to be discussed at the upcoming Board Meeting.
6. Vice-Chair agreed that the Global Fund is not a panacea for TB. As the decision has been taken and will be in effect till next review in three years, it will be important to look for other sources of TB funding (e.g., domestic, TB replenishment, community-led financing solutions, etc.) and encouraged Executive Committee members to come up with strategies to address this.
7. **Discussion and action points:**
 - Canada thanked for the update and commended the mobilization of the TB community around the demand for the equitable disease split. The discussion on the allocation methodology will take place in three years and in the meantime, it would be good to discuss internally the lessons learned around the mobilization, advocacy and policy engagement so that we are well positioned next time. And there is a need to look at other resources, so it is good that this conversation will be part of the Board meeting. It was proposed to develop a strategy on mobilizing and securing additional resources; this would help focus our efforts and how the Stop TB Partnership can support these efforts.
 - The Executive Director expressed her gratitude to Canada and other constituencies for highlighting concerns around insufficient funding for TB and pushing for a more equitable disease split. The discussion on reviewing the disease split will need to resume in 2026. At the same time, there should be more discussion as to where from mobilize additional resources for TB. There will be countries like Malawi, which cover only 1% of their TB response domestically, and for the rest they will depend on external funding. Also, based on the conversations with the World Bank, some countries have illusions that the Global Fund will find the money they need, and they are not interested in exploring other options until they see that the Global Fund will not provide them with funds needed. To address this lack of awareness, there will be an African Union meeting on TB financing alongside the Stop TB Partnership Board, and also a TB financing session during the Board. And the Partnership will prepare a paper outlining TB financing for the coming years.
 - It was stressed that on the one hand, advocacy for domestic resource mobilization should be intensified, and on the other hand, countries' capacity to demand increased allocation for TB within their envelopes should be strengthened.

3. 38th Stop TB Partnership Board Meeting

8. The Executive Director provided an overview of the Board meeting agenda, as well as side events (Stop TB Partnership/African Union Dialogue on TB Financing, 10-11 December; National TB Conference, 10-12 December):
 - 11 December 2024: Board Constituency Delegation Meetings
 - 12 December 2024: High-level event at the State House (morning); Board meeting (afternoon); Board Dinner (evening)
 - 13 December 2024: Board Meeting (full day)

- 14 December 2024: Board Meeting (morning)
9. The Executive Director updated the Executive Committee on a new approach to decision points: the general introduction/background will now be in the preamble, followed by specific points on agreed actions.
 10. **Discussion points:**
 - EC members shared the status of their visa applications. As several EC members have not yet received the confirmation of their visa on arrival, they were asked to contact Mayowa and Jenniffer for support.
 11. **Action points:**
 - Secretariat to share draft Decision Points with the Executive Committee for review and feedback.