



# Eligibility and inclusion criteria for the SRLN

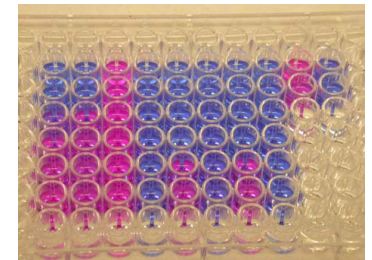
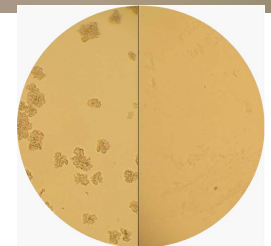
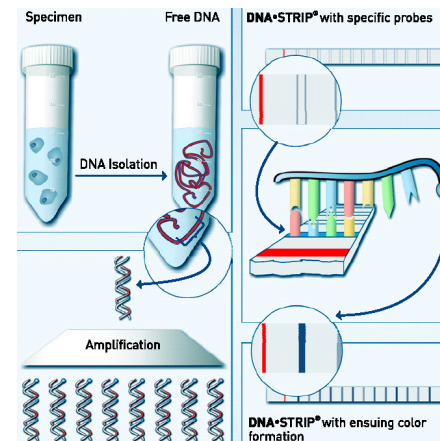
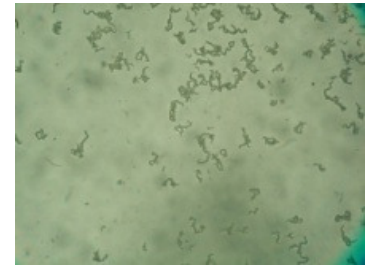
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*Global Consultation of the  
TB Supranational Reference Laboratory Network*

*14-15th April 2010  
WHO Geneva*

# Content

- Laboratory network and level of service
- Eligibility criteria
- Exercise

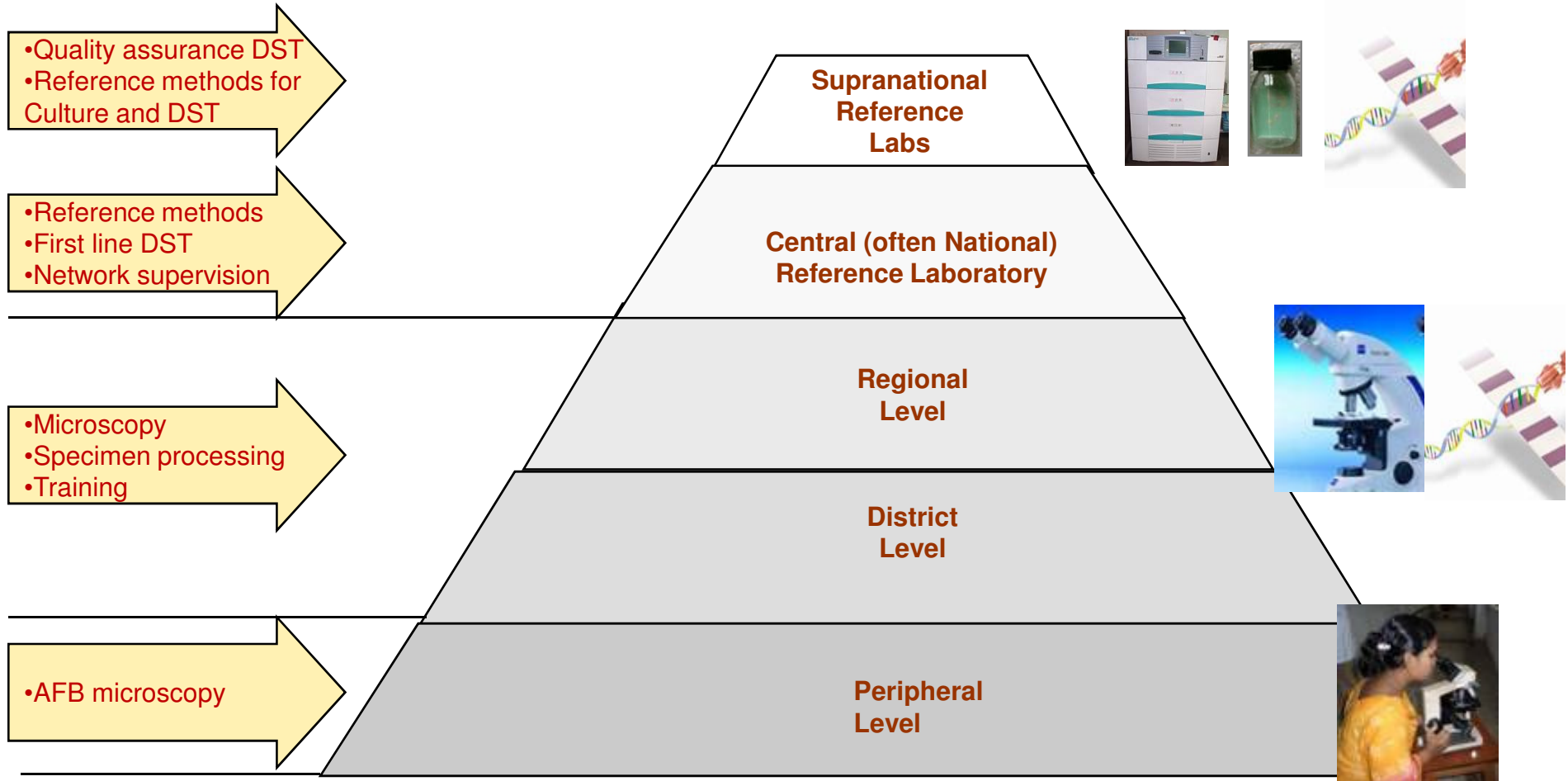


# Laboratory Networks



- Core elements of laboratory services
  - Laboratory infrastructure and maintenance;
  - Equipment validation and maintenance;
  - Specimen transport and referral mechanisms;
  - Management of laboratory commodities and supplies;
  - Laboratory information and data management systems;
  - Laboratory quality management systems;
  - Appropriate, adequate strategies and funding for laboratory human resource development.

# Functions at the different levels of laboratory Services



# Eligibility criteria for new candidate SRLs



- Officially recognized by the country health authority/MoH
- National Level Reference Laboratory supervising the national or sub-national network of lower level laboratories.
- Sufficient staffing, expertise, biosafety and equipment to perform AFB microscopy, culture, identification and susceptibility testing of MTB using phenotypic and molecular methods.
- Accredited to a National or International standard to perform TB testing
- Proven DST proficiency and sufficient workload levels (participated in at least 2 rounds of SRLN proficiency testing)
- Extra capacity (HR + equipment base) to support laboratories in other country/ies (as per new SRL TOR)
- Established or capacity to establish working relationships with the NRL in another country/ies through formal links

# Issues to consider in linking SRLs with NRLs?



- Political implications / Political history
- Religious differences
- Country size and disease burden
- Appropriate geographical linkages
- Experience of the Head of the SRL
  
- MoU established between candidate SRL with ministry of Health of the supported country

# Key messages

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- Laboratories must develop DST proficiency for INH and Rif as a minimum
- Laboratories should develop DST capacity for fluoroquinolones and second-line injectables
- Appropriate biosafety measures needed for the different levels of testing.
- Quality assurance is critical

# Scenario

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**A National TB Reference Laboratory Manager has requested a WHO Regional Office to be designated as an SRL.**

**The Regional Office says that your lab is NOT ready**

**How can the NRL convince WHO that it is ready?**



# Analysis

