

**STATEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY TB
CONSTITUENCY DELEGATION TO THE STOP TB PARTNERSHIP BOARD ON
NEW PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVE GLOBAL ACCESS TO ANTIBIOTICS**

June 5, 2024

The Community of People Affected by TB Constituency Delegation to the Stop TB Partnership Board has welcomed the [new partnership agreement to improve global access to antibiotics](#) by The Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP) and the Stop TB Partnership's Global Drug Facility (GDF).

The new partnership aims to improve access to new antibiotics in low-and middle-income countries to boost efforts to combat TB and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). This development comes at a ripe time when the UN General Assembly [will convene a High-Level Meeting on antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\)](#) for the second time during its 79th session (UNGA 79) in New York in September 2024.

Drug-resistant infections know no borders, meaning no single country can respond to AMR alone. Communities are at crossroads as most countries are not able to afford quality drugs as they cannot meet their balance of payment yet these countries were expected to have developed transition plans.

This agreement will provide opportunities not only to procure cheaply, through economies of scale, but also to provide quality drugs from reliable and proven sources hence mitigating antimicrobial resistance that may occur through circulation of substandard drugs.

This new partnership comes at a critical time when most low and middle-income countries are experiencing shocks in transitions in domestic financing and the backdrop to the [2023 Lusaka Agenda](#) which provides a foundation for coordinated action to support these shifts, and a path towards a joint long-term vision of domestically-financed health systems and Universal Health Care (UHC) that leaves no one behind.

The Board Leadership of the Affected Communities Delegation has welcomed this partnership, saying "Research and development of antibiotics starts and ends with communities, and for that reason we the end users of scientific innovations appreciate these developments that improves access to affordable antibiotics".

Further, "We commit to advocate in our respective countries and regions by creating demand through our governments to join in the partnership through advance market commitments for essential drugs that are available in the GDF listing and to disseminate information among community organisations to strengthen this advocacy at the country level. Access to treatment consists of many factors, and only together we can achieve equal conditions of access to treatment for all people! Yes, we can End TB!"

~ENDS~

**Board Leadership,
The Community of People Affected by TB Constituency Delegation to the Stop
TB Partnership Board**