

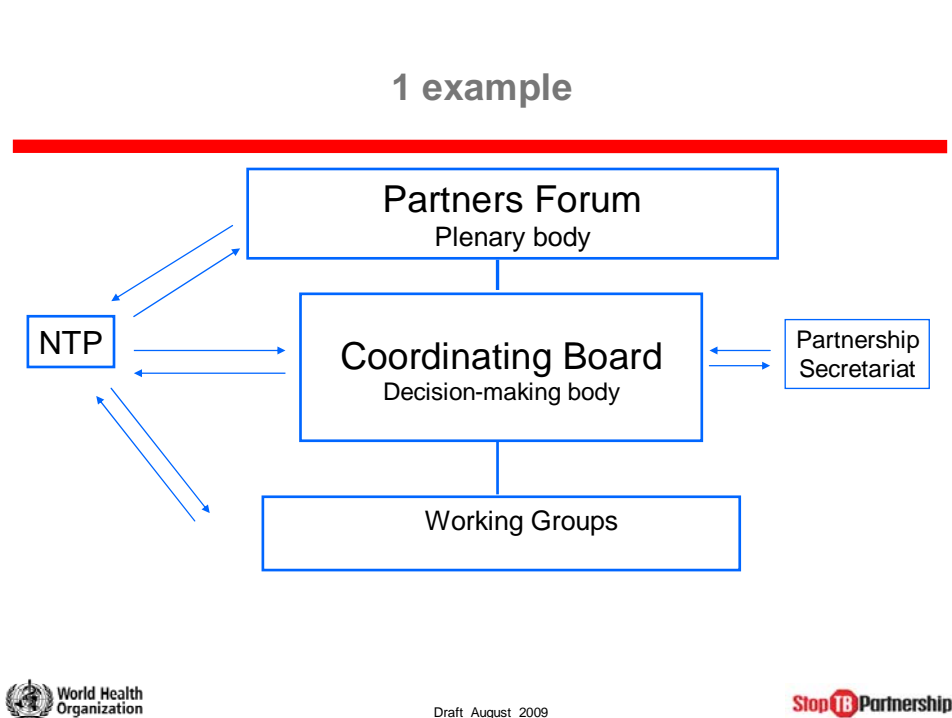
## Governance structure

The partners should find the best way to structure the national stop TB partnership according to their various needs and the number of partners. A governance structure is necessary to ensure that decision-making, management and development arrangements are appropriate and operate effectively. The governance structure will be composed of governing bodies and the partnership secretariat.

Concerning the **governing bodies**, the national Stop TB partnership could choose among different governance model.

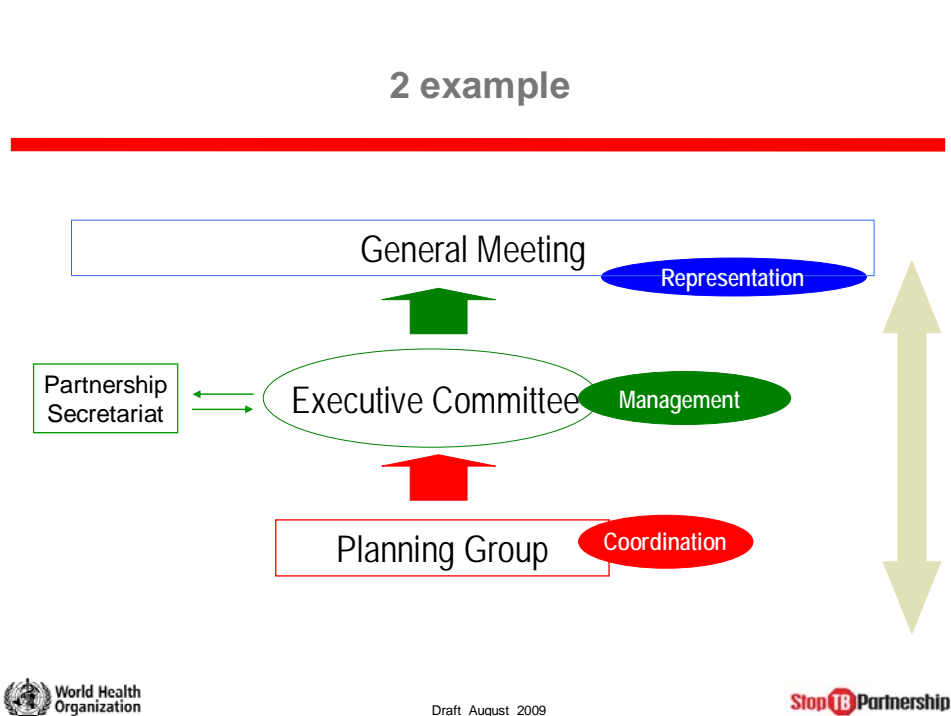
First example:

- Plenary body
  - all partners are represented
  - consolidates and increases support for and commitment to the work of the partnership
  - reviews and comments on the overall progress of the partnership
  - serves as a forum of information exchange on progress, problems and challenges
  - meets annually
  
- Coordinating body
  - Elected/selected representatives of the constituencies of the partnership
  - coordinates, plans and reports on the work of the partnership
  - takes decisions on the work of the partnership
  - meets twice a year



Second example:

- General Meeting
  - all partners are represented
  - it reviews the reports and the activities of the partners and the secretariat, and, where appropriate, endorses them
  - it meets once a year
- Planning Group
  - responsible for co-ordinating the main activities of the partnership
  - it collects and co-ordinates the reports on the activities of the partners and submits new proposals and ideas to the General Meeting for its endorsement
  - it meets at least once a year
- Executive Committee
  - responsible for the management of the partnership, and offers overall strategic direction and guidance.
  - it analyzes all proposals presented by the PG before these are presented to the GM for its endorsement/approval
  - it meets at regular intervals, either in person or via tele/telephone conference.



The national Stop TB partnership **secretariat** could:

- be hosted by one of the partners. In this case, the host organization will provide the legal umbrella under which the partnership operates. If the host organization is the WHO Country Office, WHO rules and regulations will be applied and a close collaboration with WHO headquarters and regional office must be maintained.
- be constituted as an independent legal entity in the form of a not-for-profit organization under the law of the country. In this case, the national stop TB partnership remains legally independent and the Global Stop TB Partnership Secretariat can provide it with contributions based on experiences in other countries. As the WHO Country Office and the Ministry of Health/NTP cannot be members of a nongovernmental organization, they may decide, if invited to do so, to serve as ex-officio members on the governing bodies of the National Stop TB Partnership.

Depending on the partnership, **working groups** could be constituted to contribute to the achievement of the partnership aims. Working groups could focus on the following areas of work:

- DOTS expansion
- TB/HIV
- MDR-TB
- New tools

Appropriate governance will help putting in place procedures and mechanisms to ensure appropriate and effective:

- Decision-making;
- Double-accountability system - partners to their own organization and partners to each other as a partnership;
- Transparency within and outside the partnership – reporting mechanisms and grievance procedures;
- Communications between: a) the partners; b) the partners and their constituencies; c) the partners and beneficiaries of the partnership activities; and d) the partnership and external audiences.