



## Child & Adolescent TB Working Group

### Update from the chair

**Farhana Amanullah**

*Annual meeting of the Child and Adolescent  
TB Working Group*

Virtual meeting, 16 October 2020



# Outline

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- Progress since UNGA HLM on TB
- Activities in 2019/2020
- Meetings and coordination
- Webinars on child and adolescent TB and COVID-19
- Planned activities for the next year
- Acknowledgements

# Progress since UNGA HLM on TB

- Roadmap translations:
  - Russian – completed in December 2019
  - Spanish – completed in May 2020: <https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/52187>
- Regional consultation for EMR, SEAR and WPR regions on Ending TB in children and adolescents, Hanoi, Viet Nam, 26-28 November 2019
  - Hosted by Government of Viet Nam
  - Over 100 participants from 12 countries
  - Presentation, facilitation and participation by various core team and working group members
  - Country action plans developed and later used in NSPs and GF applications
- Section on ending TB in children and adolescents in UNGA HLM on TB progress report (secretariat, input by core team)
- Expansion of data reported on children and adolescents to the Global TB Programme (see WHO update): age-disaggregation, MDR/RR-TB, outcomes



# Progress since UNGA HLM on TB

- National TB Programme reviews with paediatric TB experts:
  - India, November 2019
  - South Africa, November 2019
  - Indonesia, January 2020
  - UR Tanzania, February 2020
  - Zambia, February 2020
  - Sierra Leone, March 2020
- Consultants training “Orientation on What’s New in TB and Engagement with the Global Fund” (including session on paediatric TB and introduction of budgeting tools), 27-31 January 2020
- Programme review tool translated into French (by the Union)
- Support to update of guidelines on the management of TB in children and adolescents
  - Consultation with core team of the working group regarding topics to be covered in call for data
  - Call for data issued in July 2020
  - More details in WHO update

# Activities in 2019/2020

- Several partners (EGPAF, UNICEF, CDC, TAG, STP and WHO) set up the “Pediatric Operational and Sustainable Expertise Exchange (POSEE)” group to ensure sustainability of interventions in Unitaid funded CaP-TB project
  - Support to countries with NSP development and GF applications
  - Finalized pediatric budgeting tools to assist countries in applying for child and adolescent TB funding; tools were widely disseminated through WHO GTB and GF
  - POSEE is now a task force under the child and adolescent TB working group
- Chair represented the Implementation Working Groups in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Stop TB Partnership Board meeting (December 2019, Jakarta)
- Review of Global Fund applications of high burden and priority countries focusing on interventions on TB prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of children and adolescents (secretariat and core team members)
- Chair member of the GF Technical Review Panel (TRP)

# Meetings and coordination

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- Annual meeting of the Working Group – Hyderabad, 30 October 2019
- Core team calls June and October 2020
- Paediatric Anti-TB Drug Optimization meeting (PADO-TB) virtual review, 22 September 2020
  - Updates on developments around the priorities for paediatric medicines and formulations identified during PADO-TB1 (February 2019)
  - Discussions and consensus on shifts in priorities for DS-TB, DR-TB and LTBI
- Core team and secretariat represented in advisory committee for the Union/CDC Centre of Excellence
- TB/HIV implementation working group call on paediatric TB/HIV (21 May 2020) - Martina Casenghi, James Seddon, Sabine Verkuijl

# Webinars on child/adolescent TB and COVID-19

- The Union/SSA Centre of Excellence webinar: *The Programmatic Management of Paediatric and Adolescent TB in the initial COVID-19 response* (3 June 2020); Facilitators: Brittany Moore and John Paul Dongo; Speakers: Dennis Falzon, Anneke Hesselning, Anne Detjen, Shana Godfred and Grania Brigden
- WARN/CARN network on COVID and childhood TB (11 June 2020); Speakers: Dennis Falzon and Sabine Verkuijl
- Hosted by CAWG and The Union: *Maintaining essential child and adolescent TB services during the COVID-19 pandemic: practical solutions and lessons learnt* (3 September 2020); Facilitators: Farhana Amanullah and Steve Graham; Speakers: Shakil Ahmed, Celia Martinez, Sathish Kumar and Chishala Chabala; video of affected family by Betina Mendez Alcântara Gabardo, Andrea Rossoni and colleagues



The Union **100** A CENTURY OF LEADERSHIP IN URBAN HEALTH

Child & Adolescent TB Working Group

**Maintaining essential child and adolescent TB services during the COVID-19 pandemic: practical solutions and lessons learnt.**

Open access webinar: Thursday 3 September 1pm CEST

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# Planned activities for next year

- Regional meeting in African region (focus on implementation of key actions from the Roadmap): timing depending on COVID-19 situation
- Continue support to update of the child and adolescent TB guidelines (expected release date December 2021)
- Support to development of an operational handbook on the management of child and adolescent TB
- Development of updated training materials on child and adolescent TB, in line with guidelines and handbook (in collaboration with The Union)
- Follow-up PADO meeting (PADO-TB2)
- High Level Dialogue on paediatric HIV and Paediatric TB in children living with HIV hosted by the Vatican (Rome5), 5-6 November (virtual)
- Continue to highlight challenges and opportunities in all relevant fora; Promote research and development
- Continue to organize annual meetings of the Child and Adolescent TB working group with regional engagement of all relevant stakeholders
- Assist countries to move from single projects to programmatic approaches

# Acknowledgements

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- Farhana Amanullah, Chair
- WHO secretariat: Annemieke Brands, Sabine Verkuijl
- Core team members
- Implementation partners
- Funding agencies
- Researchers
- PADO virtual review participants
- National TB Programmes
- Paediatricians
- Healthcare workers
- Community volunteers
- Child TB advocates