



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29 January 2018

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 11 January 2018, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from H.E. Mr. Walton Webson, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda, and H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan, co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations on the modalities and outcomes of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis.

The letter of the co-facilitators informs Member States of the first informal consultations on the proposed elements of the modalities resolution to be held on 9 February 2018.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

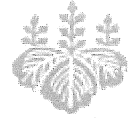
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', written in a cursive style.

Miroslav Lajčák

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York



**The Permanent Mission of Antigua  
and Barbuda to the United Nations**



**The Permanent Mission of  
Japan to the United Nations**

26 January 2018

Excellency,

We are honored to write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators to lead the intergovernmental consultations and negotiation on the modalities and outcomes of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis as contained in documents A/RES/71/159 and A/72/645.

In line with the letter of the President of the General Assembly dated 11 January 2018, we are committed to ensuring that the process of consultations on a draft modalities resolution and outcome document to be adopted by the General Assembly is inclusive, transparent and Member State-driven.

In this regard, we are pleased to convene the first informal consultations on the proposed elements of the modalities resolution. The consultations will be held on 9 February 2018, from 10 am to 1 pm in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. In preparation for the first informal consultations, please find the attached proposed elements of the modalities resolution.

H.E. Mr. Walton Alfonso Webson  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Japan to the United Nations

**H. E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák**  
**President of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly**

## Proposed elements\*

### Modalities for the high-level meeting on tuberculosis

#### (Introduction)

- A. Recalling resolution 71/159, entitled “Global health and foreign policy: health employment and economic growth”, [A/RES/71/159]
- B. Recognizing that through their endorsement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in September 2015, Heads of State and Heads of Government made a bold commitment to ending the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, similar to a goal that has been endorsed by the World Health Assembly, [Para 2 of A/72/645]
- C. Emphasizing that current global actions and investments fall far short of those needed to end the global tuberculosis epidemic, [Para 2 of A/72/645]
- D. Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General A/72/645 Options and modalities for the organization of the high-level meeting on tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly, [A/72/645]

#### (Date and venue)

- 1. Decides to convene a high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis on **24<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018**, in New York, consisting of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment, [Based on Para 4, 6 and 14 of A/72/645]

#### (Overall theme)

- 2. Also decides the overall theme of the high-level meeting will be “United to end tuberculosis: a global response to a global emergency “, [Para 5 of A/72/645]

*\*Draft elements are primarily derived from A/72/645 Report of the Secretary-General “Options and modalities for the organization of the high-level meeting on tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly Report of the Secretary-General” for facilitating the negotiation on modality resolution of the high-level meeting on tuberculosis.*

**(Opening segment)**

3. Further decides that the speakers at the opening segment will be the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the World Health Organization, the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership, and also an eminent high-level champion of the fight against tuberculosis and a person affected by tuberculosis both selected by the President of the General Assembly, [Para 7 of A/72/645]

**(Plenary segment)**

4. Further decides that during the plenary segment, statements made by Member States and observers of the Assembly will be heard, [Para 9 of A/72/645]

**(Multi-stakeholder panels)**

5. Also decides that the organizational arrangements for the multi-stakeholder panels will be as follows:
  - (a) The specific themes of the panels may include the following topics: universal health coverage and inclusive tuberculosis response; sustainable national and international financing for ending the tuberculosis epidemic, including adequate funding for research and development to identify new diagnostics, drugs and vaccines; the growing health security threat of antimicrobial resistance and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis; and an accountability framework to drive multisectoral action in order to end tuberculosis, [Para 10 of A/72/645]
  - (b) Two Co-Chairs may be appointed by the President of the General Assembly for each panel. The Co-Chairs may be identified from among the representatives attending the meeting at the level of Head of State or Head of Government, in consultation with the regional groups. One Co-Chair would represent a high-tuberculosis-burden country and the other a low-tuberculosis-burden country. The President of the Assembly may also invite the heads or senior officials of relevant institutional stakeholders, as well as representatives of the private sector and affected communities, to serve as speakers on the panels, [Para 11 of A/72/645]

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- (c) Participation in the panels should be open to representatives of all Member States, observer States and observers; relevant entities of the United Nations system, civil society and community organizations; donors, technical partners, representatives of business sectors, taking into account gender parity, the principle of transparency and the principle of equitable geographic representation. In accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly, the President of the Assembly will communicate the list of stakeholders, [Para 11 of A/72/645]

#### **(Closing segment and Outcome)**

6. Decides that the closing segment will comprise the summary of the panels, closing remarks by the President of the General Assembly and a person affected by tuberculosis, and the endorsement of a concise and action-oriented intergovernmental political declaration as an outcome of the meeting, including the following recommended actions: [Para 8 and para 20 of A/72/645]
  - (a) Advancing the response to tuberculosis through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and linkages with other Goal 3 health targets, including HIV/AIDS, universal health coverage and antimicrobial resistance;
  - (b) Increasing and sustaining financing for multisectoral actions against tuberculosis;
  - (c) Intensifying research on new tools for and innovative approaches to tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, in order to end tuberculosis epidemic by 2030.

#### **(Preparatory process)**

7. Requests the President of the General Assembly to organize and preside over an interactive hearing for civil society with the active participation of people affected by tuberculosis, broader communities and civil society organizations, to be attended by representatives of Member States, observer States and observers; non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; invited civil society organizations; parliamentarians; and the private sector. It is proposed that the President prepare a summary of the hearing. [Para 18 of A/72/645]

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**(Participation)**

8. Encourages all Member States to participate in the meeting at the highest level possible, [Para 14 of A/72/645]
9. Invites Intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to participate in the meeting, as appropriate, [Para 15 of A/72/645]
10. Also invites members of civil society, especially those representing communities and vulnerable populations heavily affected by tuberculosis, to make a fundamental contribution to the process in terms of raising awareness of the issues faced by the poorest and most marginalized populations of the world, [Para 16 of A/72/645]
11. Encourage Member States to include in their national delegation representatives, such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors, of cities and States with a high burden of tuberculosis; representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, community organizations and faith-based organizations; the private sector; and networks representing people affected by tuberculosis and HIV-associated tuberculosis, including women, children and adolescents, migrants and miners. [Para 17 of A/72/645]

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