



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 February 2018

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 13 February 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.

In this regard, I am honored to share the final draft of the modalities resolution. The final draft is under silence procedure until 9:00am EST on Wednesday, 28 February 2018.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the co-facilitators for ably leading the consultations and to all parties for their constructive engagement.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák'.

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**

23 February 2018

Excellency,

We are pleased to write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations on the modalities and outcomes of the High-Level Meeting on the Fight against Tuberculosis.

With reference to our letter of 13 February 2018, please find attached the final draft for the General Assembly resolution on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the High-Level Meeting on the Fight against Tuberculosis.

The draft resolution has been prepared following open, transparent and inclusive consultations and in accordance with the mandate that you had given us.

We kindly request your Office to circulate the attached final draft resolution under silence procedure until 9:00am, 28 February 2018.

We would like to express our deep appreciation to all delegations for their cooperative and constructive engagement in the process.

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

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

DRAFT resolution

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/159, entitled "Global health and foreign policy: health employment and economic growth", in which it decided to hold a high-level meeting in 2018 on the fight against tuberculosis, *Ad ref*

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 71/3, entitled "Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the GA on Antimicrobial Resistance", as well as resolution 70/266 entitled "Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS on the fast track to accelerating the fight against HIV and to ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030", *Ad ref*

Recognizing that through the adoption of the Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, in September 2015, Heads of States and Heads of Government made a bold commitment to ending the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, *Ad ref*

Recognizing the End TB Strategy endorsed by the Sixty Seventh World Health Assembly in 2014, *Ad ref*

Taking note of the 2017 World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis report, *Ad ref*

Emphasizing that current global actions and investments fall far short of those needed to end the global tuberculosis epidemic, *Ad ref*

Welcoming the convening of the World Health Organization First Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response, held in Moscow on 16 and 17 November 2017, and taking note with appreciation of its outcome, which forms part of the way towards the high level meeting of the General Assembly on tuberculosis, *Ad ref*

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the options and modalities for the organization of the high-level meeting on tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly, *Ad ref*

1. *Decides* that the one day high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly shall be held in New York on the second day of the general debate of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, from 10:30 a.m. to 1

p.m. and from 3 to 6:00 p.m., consisting of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment; *Ad ref*

2. *Also decides* that the overall theme of the high-level meeting will be “United to end tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic”; *Ad ref*

3. *Further decides* that:

- (a) The opening segment held from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the World Health Organization, the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership, the Chair of World Health Organization First Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response, as well as an eminent high-level champion of the fight against tuberculosis and a person affected by tuberculosis both selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender equity; *Ad ref*

- (b) The plenary segment held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. will hear statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly. A list of speakers will be established in accordance with established practices of the General Assembly and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States; *Ad ref*

4. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the two multi-stakeholder panels will be as follows:

- (a) Two consecutive multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary, one from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; *Ad ref*

- (b) The multi-stakeholder panels will address the following themes:

Panel 1: Accelerating comprehensive response through access to affordable prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care to end the TB epidemic, including multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, taking into consideration co-morbidities and the linkages to relevant health challenges on each country’s path towards achieving Universal Health Coverage; taking note of and building on the efforts concerning an accountability framework to drive multi-sectoral action as envisaged in the Moscow Ministerial Declaration, *Ad ref*

Panel 2: Scaling up sufficient and sustainable national and international financing and implementation for service delivery, innovation, and research and development to identify new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines and other prevention strategies, *Ad ref*

- (c) Each of the two multi-stakeholder panels will be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a high-tuberculosis-burden country and one from a low-tuberculosis-burden country with successful TB control programmes, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with the regional groups; *Ad ref*
- (d) The President of the General Assembly may invite parliamentarians, local governments, the heads or senior representatives of relevant UN entities, civil society, private sector, academia, medical associations, indigenous leadership, and community organizations to serve as speakers on the panels, taking into account gender equity, level of development and geographical representation; *Ad ref*
5. *Decides* that the closing segment by the President of the General Assembly will comprise of summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly and a statement by a person affected by tuberculosis; *Ad ref*
6. *Also decides* that the high-level meeting shall approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the General Assembly; *Ad ref*
7. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the World Health Organization and the UNOPS-hosted Stop TB Partnership, to organize and preside over an interactive civil society hearing, no later than July 2018, with active participation of appropriate senior level representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly; parliamentarians, local government representatives, relevant United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; invited civil society organizations; academia, medical associations; and the private sector, as well as people affected by tuberculosis, broader communities and ensuring the participation and voices of women, girls and indigenous leadership, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, and further requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing prior to the high-level meeting; *Ad ref*
8. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the high-level meeting, including the multi-stakeholder panels, at the highest level possible, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government; *Ad ref*
9. *Invites* all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level; *Ad ref*

10. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies including the World Health Organization, regional commissions, relevant Envoys of the Secretary-General as well as UNOPS-hosted Stop TB Partnership, World Health Organization-hosted Unitaid, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as appropriate, to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and urges them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing good practices, challenges and lessons learnt from tuberculosis-related responses; *Ad ref*
11. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the ECOSOC with relevant expertise to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting; *Ad ref*
12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector with expertise in tuberculosis who may attend the high-level meeting and participate in the interactive civil society hearing and the multi-stakeholder panels, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;¹ *Ad ref*
13. *Also invites* members of civil society, especially those representing communities and those in vulnerable situations 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; *Ad ref*
14. *Encourages* Member States to consider, including 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, indigenous leadership community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia; philanthropic foundations; the private sector, and networks representing people affected by tuberculosis, with due regard to gender equity; *Ad ref*
15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting. *Ad ref*

¹ The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.