

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

The General Assembly,

PP1. *Recognizing* that, through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Heads of State and Government made a bold commitment to ending the epidemic of tuberculosis by 2030,

PP2. *Recognizing also* that, through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Heads of State and Government supported research and development of vaccines and medicines, as well as preventive measures and treatments for communicable and non-communicable diseases, in particular those that disproportionately impact developing countries,

PP3. *Reaffirming* its commitment to the political declaration on the fight against tuberculosis adopted at the high-level meetings of the General Assembly in 2018, in which it reiterated, inter alia, the importance of a comprehensive multisectoral and adequately funded response to accelerate efforts towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 3, in particular target 3.3 of ending the tuberculosis epidemic by 2030, in a manner that addresses the health, social and economic determinants of the epidemic and that protects and fulfills the human rights and dignity of all people,

PP4. *Recalling* that it was decided in the political declaration to convene a high-level meeting on tuberculosis in 2023 in New York, aimed to undertake a comprehensive review on the achievement of agreed tuberculosis goals at national, regional and global levels in the 2018 political declaration, to identify gaps and solutions to accelerate progress towards ending the epidemic by 2030,

PP5. *Taking note* of the 2020 report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved in the implementation of the political declaration, entitled “Progress towards the achievement of global tuberculosis targets and implementation of the Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Fight Against Tuberculosis: report of the Secretary-General” and its recommendation to the World Health Organization to support preparation “for a high-level meeting on tuberculosis in 2023 that aligns with the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on universal health coverage also to be held in 2023”,

PP6pri. *Emphasizing* that global actions, financing and investments fall far short of those needed to end the global tuberculosis epidemic,

PP6. *Also noting* the World Health Organization Director-General’s report on the Global strategy for tuberculosis research and innovation taken note of at the seventy-fifth World Health Assembly,

PP7. *Recalling* the tuberculosis goals and commitments contained in the WHO End TB Strategy endorsed by the sixty-seventh World Health Assembly in 2014, and in the Global Strategy for Tuberculosis Research and Innovation endorsed by the seventy-third World Health Assembly in 2020.

PP7bis: Taking note of the Stop TB Partnership Global Plan to End TB 2023-2030, which provides a blueprint of priority actions required and detailed estimate of financial resources needed to end TB,

PP8. *Taking note* of the Global Tuberculosis Report 2022 of the World Health Organization,

PP.8-bis. *Recalling* the Moscow Declaration to End TB adopted at the First WHO Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response, held in 2017,

PP9. *Expressing* deep concern that the global tuberculosis epidemic was responsible for 1.6 million deaths in 2021, and despite the gains achieved in the tuberculosis response, including lives saved, progress has been uneven among and within countries, and the world is not on track to meet most of the time-bound targets set out in the 2018 Political Declaration on Tuberculosis,

PP10. *Recognizing* that the COVID-19 pandemic has a disproportionately heavy impact on health and development gains, thus hampering the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and creating additional setbacks in achieving the targets set out in the 2018 Political Declaration on Tuberculosis,

PP11. *Recognizing* that tuberculosis remains an urgent global health and development challenge, and recognizing also the need to address persistent challenges and gaps in tuberculosis research and development, including the development of safe and effective vaccines, diagnostics, medicines, and essential health technologies, and their components, as well as equipment, in order to mount an effective TB response,

PP12. *Underscoring* that the tuberculosis response should be driven by scientific evidence and data, and acknowledging the central role of the World Health Organization in the global tuberculosis response and its key leadership role in the United Nations system for the development of evidence-based policy options; surveillance, monitoring and evaluation of the tuberculosis epidemic; providing technical support; and shaping the research agenda, in close collaboration with Member States,

PP13. *Highlighting* the importance of ensuring coordination in the organization of this high-level meeting with the high-level meetings on Universal Health Coverage and Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response, in order to ensure action-oriented health agendas,

OP1. *Decides* that the one-day high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis to be convened by the President of the General Assembly shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York during the general debate on 22 September 2023 of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m, and consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment;

OP2. *Also decides* that the overall theme of the high-level meeting will be “Advancing science, finance and innovation, and their benefits, to urgently end the global tuberculosis epidemic, in particular, by ensuring equitable access to prevention, testing, treatment and care.”;

OP3. *Further decides* that

(a) The high-level meeting shall provide for the full and effective participation of all Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies;

(b) The opening segment, to be held from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, the Secretary-General, the President of ECOSOC, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership, an eminent high-level champion of the fight against tuberculosis, as well as a person affected by tuberculosis, selected in consultation with Member States, by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance;

(c) The plenary segment, to be held from 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., will comprise statements by Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies, 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;

(d) The closing segment, to be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., will comprise 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, selected in consultation with Member States by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance;

OP4. *Decides* that the organizational arrangements for the two multi-stakeholder panels will be as follows:

(a) Two multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary segment, one from 11.00 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.;

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

Panel 1: Accelerating multisectoral actions to ensure equitable high-quality people-centered tuberculosis care, and addressing determinants of tuberculosis in the context of universal health coverage;

Panel 2: Scaling up adequate and sustainable national, regional and international financing to ensure equity in tuberculosis service delivery, innovative strategies, as well as for the research and development of new diagnostics, vaccines and medicines;

(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 tuberculosis 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 Member States, taking into account gender balance, level of development and geographical representation;

(d) The President of the General Assembly may invite parliamentarians, local governments, the heads or senior representatives of relevant United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization and international financial institutions, development partners, civil society, populations and communities vulnerable to TB, the private sector, academia, medical and scientific associations, Indigenous Peoples, representative organizations of people living with, at risk of, and affected by TB and HIV coinfection, of persons with disabilities and community organizations to serve as speakers on the panels, taking into account gender balance, level of development, geographical representation and the representation of youth and older persons;

OP5. *Further 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 Assembly;

OP6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the World Health Organization and the Stop TB Partnership, hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services and other relevant partners, to convene and preside over an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, no later than June 2023, with the active participation of appropriate senior-level representatives of Member States and members of UN specialized agencies, observers of the General Assembly, parliamentarians, representatives of local government, relevant United Nations entities, major global health donors for tuberculosis, 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 populations and communities vulnerable to TB, representative organizations of people living with, at risk of, and affected by TB and HIV coinfection, people affected by tuberculosis and broader communities, ensuring the participation and voices of women, girls and Indigenous Peoples as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, and also requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing prior to the high-level meeting;

OP7. *Encourages* all Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies to participate in the high-level meeting, including the multi-stakeholder panels, at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and invites all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level;

OP8. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, as well as the Stop TB Partnership, hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services, Unitaaid, hosted by the World Health Organization, 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 learned from tuberculosis-related responses;

OP9. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat to attend the high-level meeting and participate in the multi-stakeholder panels and the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing;

OP10. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector, who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis¹ and to bring the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting;

OP11. *Encourages* Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies to include in their delegations to the high-level meeting ministers from all relevant ministries, as appropriate, representatives such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors of cities and states with a high burden of tuberculosis, representatives of Indigenous Peoples, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and networks representing people affected by tuberculosis, with due regard to gender balance;

OP12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with support of the World Health Organization, to submit a follow up comprehensive and analytical report on progress achieved and challenges remaining in realizing tuberculosis goals within the context of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on the progress and implementation of the 2018 ‘Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis’, which will serve to inform the preparations for a comprehensive review by Heads of State and Government at the High-Level Meeting in 2023.

¹ The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.

OP13. *Decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting and the multi-stakeholder hearing shall be webcast, and encourages the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the World Health Organization to give the highest visibility to the high-level meeting, through all relevant media platforms and information and communications technologies.