

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
REGARDING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO STOP TB AND THE
GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA**

Version: 28-8-03

A. Background

1. The objective of the Global Partnership to Stop TB (“STBP”) is to eliminate tuberculosis as a public health problem. It aims to generate and focus resources to fight tuberculosis using the most appropriate strategies.

2. The purpose of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (“Global Fund”) is to attract, manage and disburse additional resources through a new public-private partnership that will make a sustainable and significant contribution to the reduction of infections, illness and death, thereby mitigating the impact caused by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in countries in need, and contributing to poverty reduction as part of the Millennium Development Goals.

B. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding sets forth the mutual understandings and intentions of the STBP and the Global Fund regarding their collaboration in the global fight against tuberculosis with the aim of

a. achieving a greater and more effective allocation of resources for the fight against tuberculosis, with verifiable results for patients and communities in the countries of greatest needs; and

b. carrying out the fight against tuberculosis in an effective and efficient manner at lower cost.

C. Basis for Cooperation and Collaboration

1. The Global Fund acknowledges that

a. the World Health Organization is the international body with a mandate to act as the directing and co-ordinating authority on international health work;

b. the STBP, including its competent technical partnership members, will be a premier source of technical support and advice on tuberculosis control to the Global Fund;

c. the work of the STBP will be critical if the Global Fund grants made to countries are to succeed in mitigating the disease impact; and

d. the Global Tuberculosis Drug Facility provides a unique package of services, including technical assistance in anti-tuberculosis drug management and monitoring

of anti-TB drug use, as well as procurement of high quality anti-TB drugs at relatively low cost.

2. The Stop TB Partnership acknowledges that

- a. the Global Fund is a financial entity, not an implementing entity;
- b. the Global Fund will make available and leverage considerable additional financial resources to combat tuberculosis; and
- c. the Global Fund will finance programs that reflect national ownership and respect country-led formulation and implementation processes.

D. Areas of Cooperation and Collaboration

1. The STBP plans to support Global Fund programs, upon Global Fund request, by

- a. providing technical input to the Global Fund and to countries funded by the Global Fund on global standards for addressing tuberculosis, including the specific challenges of the DOTS expansion, HIV/tuberculosis co-infection, and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis;
- b. making recommendations concerning multi-drug resistant tuberculosis proposals through the Green Light Committee; and
- c. procuring second-line drugs for multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis under Global Fund grants through the Green Light Committee, thus minimizing the development of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and allowing major reductions in drug costs.

2. In accordance with the principle of national broad-based ownership of the strategies and activities supported by the STBP and the Global Fund, the STBP plans, upon request by the Country Coordinating Mechanism or a prospective Global Fund grantee, as the case may be, to

- a. assist Country Coordinating Mechanisms to develop applications to the Global Fund, on both tuberculosis and joint tuberculosis and HIV proposals;
- b. assist countries to implement, monitor and evaluate approved proposals; and
- c. provide opportunities for Global Fund grantees to procure high-quality anti-tuberculosis drugs at low cost.

3. The Global Fund plans to support TB control initiatives by

- a. mobilizing and disbursing substantial new resources for TB control;

b. focusing on best practices by funding interventions that work and can be scaled up, such as those based on international norms and standards, including those of the World Health Organization;

c. requiring that procurement of medicines for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis be conducted through the Green Light Committee, to minimize the development of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and to facilitate major reductions in drug costs; and

d. encouraging Principal Recipients to utilize procurement mechanisms that provide quality products at the lowest prices, including the Global Tuberculosis Drug Facility.

4. The STBP and the Global Fund will collaborate on advocacy and resource mobilisation wherever such collaboration would be mutually advantageous.

5. The STBP and the Global Fund will work together to realize their mutual commitment to the goal of increasing the amount of global resources allocated to the fight against tuberculosis.

E. Organizational Coordination

1. The Global Fund and the STBP will share relevant information as appropriate.

2. The Global Fund and the STBP will establish a joint Collaboration Task Force, composed of representatives of the Global Fund and STBP, to address the process of collaboration and cooperation between them and other matters of mutual concern. The Collaborative Task Force will meet from time to time in Geneva as needed.

F. Effect of This Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding does not commit any funding by either the STBP or the Global Fund or require any preferential treatment by one towards the other. Cooperation between the STBP and Global Fund is subject to their respective policies and procedures.

G. Validity; Amendment; Review

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will be valid for a period of two years from the date of its signature. The Global Fund and the STBP may amend this Memorandum of Understanding by agreement in writing.

2. The Global Fund and the STBP will undertake a review of their collaboration one year after the signature of this Memorandum of Understanding.

FOR THE GLOBAL FUND

Prof. Richard G. A. Feachem
Executive Director

Date: _____

**FOR THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
TO STOP TB**

Ernest Loevinsohn
Chair, Stop TB Coordinating Board

Date: _____