On 3rd June 2016, in Islamabad, The Stop TB Pakistan National Partnership held a consultation meeting to develop their work plan for 2016-17. The meeting aimed to align Stop TB Pakistan with the Global Stop TB Partnership’s Global Plan to End TB 2016-2020 and was called after reviewing the National Strategic Plan 2020 of the National TB Programme (NTP) in this light. The review proposed to bring the execution of Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization activities under the responsibility of Stop TB Pakistan, these activities constitute the Second Pillar of the Global Policy.

During the NTP review, Stop TB Pakistan was commended for having successfully managed to involve important sections of the Pakistani society in TB control activities over a short period of time. Today, Stop TB Pakistan has the support of the corporate sectors & parliamentarians of two provinces. The review recognized the importance of the experienced and capable leadership of Stop TB Pakistan and of recent efforts to further develop and strengthen the organization, which have allowed the National Partnership to tackle new challenges. Stop TB Pakistan now has plans to expand its operations in order to support the NTP’s revised National Strategic Plan, Vision-2020. The National Partnership’s excellent work and reputation encouraged the Global Organizations and the NTP to entrust it with the massive responsibility of the execution of the Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization activities.

During the consultation meeting in Islamabad, Stop TB Pakistan chalked out a work plan for the year 2016-17 with its technical partners, the NTP and PTPs. Representatives of Mercy Corps, Independent Observers, CSO and Experts, along with representatives from the corporate sector were also invited to this meeting. The developed work plan will serve as the basis for a road map towards a TB-free Pakistan.

Stop TB Pakistan would like express their gratitude to all the stakeholders involved: Mercy Corps, NTP, PTPs, corporate representatives and especially Mr. Ejaz Rahim (Former Federal Secretary of Health & former Minister), Dr. Syed Karam Shah (Expert) and all others who provided guidance in this cause.