In the latter March 27, a public hearing was carried out at the National Congress (The Brazilian Parliament), in Brasilia, in order to discuss tuberculosis as a public health problem in Brazil. The hearing was an initiative of the member of parliament, Antônio Brito (PTB-BA), of the social security and family committee of the members of Parliament, in partnership with the National Tuberculosis Program from the Ministry of Health.

The purpose of the hearing was to draw attention to tuberculosis as a public health problem, in allusion to the March 24 – World TB Day – and sensitize the National Congress to the issues involved in tuberculosis control in Brazil and strategies to reach vulnerable populations to TB, in addition to strengthen partnerships with other sectors such as civil society organizations, national councils of Health and Welfare, state management, as well as other areas of executive Power, as the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights Secretariat.

Apart from the member of parliament Antônio Brito, participated as speakers at the hearing, the Secretary of Health Surveillance from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Jairas Barbosa, Dr. Germano Gerhard, from Ataulpho de Paiva Foundation (FAP), Carlos Basilia, from the NGO Tuberculosis Forum from Rio de Janeiro and Carlos Duarte, from Support Group for AIDS Prevention from Rio Grande do Sul State (GAPA/RS).

Twenty-four members of parliament were present, several civil society representatives and the three spheres of government. At the end of the presentations and discussions, Antônio Brito informed that he will collect signatures from the National Congress Members in order to create a parliamentary Commission to fight tuberculosis, which should promote the dialogue between the legislative and executive powers, and lead to the development of a bill (proposed law) in order to facilitate the control of tuberculosis in Brazil.

See more:

