

Retooling Task Force Forum
38th Union World Conference on Lung Health
International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
Cape Town, 9 November 2007

Agenda

- 9:00 **Welcome and introduction** – Executive Secretary of the Stop TB Partnership
9:15 **Presentation of the retooling task force** – Vinand Nantulya
Questions
9:30 **Introduction of "New Technologies for TB Control: a framework for their adoption, introduction and implementation"**- David Lee
Feedback from participants
10:00 **Key checklist of actions at global and country levels: an example from diagnostics**
- Andy Ramsay
Feedback from participants
10:30 **Philippines Case Study** - Lyn Vianzon
10:45 Panel discussion
Discussion on retooling at country level - Ikushi Onozaki
Engaging with National TB Programs - Saidi Egwaga
Feedback from participants
11:30 **Advocacy plan at global and country levels** - Jennifer Wolley
11:45 **Moving forward: What do countries and partners need from the retooling task force?** - Christy Hanson
12:00 Closing

Minutes

The session was well attended, with approximately 150 participants. There was broad consensus that the document "New technologies for TB control: a framework for their adoption, introduction and implementation" is useful for purposes beyond retooling and should be shared with those working on health systems strengthening, lab capacity strengthening and in other disease control communities.

Participants attending the session identified potential challenges for retooling at the country level and asked the Retooling Task Force to address some of the urgent needs in the next phases of its work, including:

1. Provide clear definitions of adoption, introduction and implementation
2. Share more information from the technical working groups (i.e. Stop TB working groups on new diagnostics, drugs and vaccines) with programmes and partners. The information requested included the pipelines of new technologies, market analyses, updates on ongoing trials and field evaluations, cost analysis for each new tool, and quality assurance requirements for new tools. The RTF was also requested to simplify the scientific information and develop communication materials that target politicians, communities, health workers and donors regarding new tools in the pipeline and retooling requirements. The RTF was encouraged to share information on infection control considerations for new tools to engage lab workers and politicians.

3. Consider the role of the retooling task force in promoting advance market commitments for new tools
4. Define a process for standardized evaluation of diagnostic technologies and the translation of evidence into global policy recommendations for diagnosis. It was noted that the New Diagnostics Working Group will establish scientific norms for evaluating new diagnostic tools. However, the Retooling Task Force was asked to establish and communicate a transparent process for collecting this evidence and promoting programmatic norms that is well understood by industry, national TB programmes, research partners and policy makers. It was noted that currently, product developers do not know how to present findings for policy consideration and national programmes do not know how to evaluate the technologies proposed to them. Concern was raised that small and mid-sized developers are unable to access the global market.
5. Consider the role of the business sector in promoting and providing resources for retooling, in collaboration with the ACSM working group.
6. Pilot test the stakeholder engagement tool in a country(ies) that do not have experience with strong local partnerships
7. Identify the human resource needs, particularly task-shifting possibilities, that will come with new tools
8. Continue to share information on lessons learned from other disease control communities that are engaged in retooling