NEWS

New ACSM at Country Level Core Group

Elections were held on August and September for the ACSM at Country Level Core Group. The new Core Group members will serve a two-year term, and will work to:
- review progress and implement the 10-year strategic framework for action;
- set priorities for action;
- recommend for consideration projects that the full Sub Group can undertake; and
- act as an advisory body to the Chair of the Sub Group.

Apart from the four new Core Group members, who won the elections by majority of vote, the Core Group will consist of representatives from the various Working Groups, Sub Groups and Networks of the Stop TB Partnership in order to ensure crucial linkage between the ACSM-related work that is being done. For more information on the new Core Group and the list of members, please visit: http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmcl/core.asp

ACSM Joint Core Group meeting in Paris, 15 October

The two Core Groups of the ACSM Working Group (Global Advocacy and ACSM at Country Level) will hold their annual meeting in Paris, prior to the 39th Union World Union Conference on Lung Health. There will be a joint Core Group plenary in the morning to discuss the future of the ACSM Working Group, followed by separate Core Group meetings to discuss direction and priority action plans for the respective Sub Groups in 2009.

Notes and action points from the meetings will be posted online. More information and draft agendas can be found at: http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmga/.

ACSM events at the Union Conference

Advocate's Corner

The Stop TB Partnership ACSM Working Group is delighted to announce the Advocates’ Corner at the 39th World Conference on Lung Health to be held in Paris, on 16-20 October 2008. The Advocate's Corner will be open from 17 to 20 October and will provide a home for all advocates attending the conference, where they can meet and network; share ideas and best practices; promote their projects/organizations; and display their banners, posters, reports and relevant literature for dissemination to a global audience.

The Advocate's Corner is being coordinated, on behalf of the Stop TB Partnership, by TB Alert. Should you wish to arrange to display materials, volunteer to help staff the corner, put your name forward for one of the “Talk to the Advocate” sessions or even to suggest new ideas that could add value to the Advocate's Corner, please contact Renato Pinto at advocacy@tbalert.org or +44-1273-234008 in the UK at your earliest convenience.
A timetable of activities, including the “Talk to the Advocate” session, at the Advocate’s Corner shall be disseminated in due course, which will also be on display at the Palais des Congrès. The Advocate's Corner will be located at Stand No. 40, near the poster area.

**TB Community Zone**

The TB Community Zone, is a space managed by community representatives of the ACSM Working Group. It is a closed space made where TB-affected community members will be able to meet and share experiences and come up with ways to mainstream patient advocacy issues into the work of the ACSM Working Group. The Zone will be open to all community members and will be available from 18 to 20 October in Room 315, Level 3 in the Palais des Congrès.

The space will be used to share materials as well as to hold discussions on selected issues. For more information and ideas, please contact the three community representatives:

- Banza Chela: banzachela@yahoo.co.uk
- Mayowa Joel: mayowajoel@yahoo.com
- Jacob Kayombo: jackayombo@yahoo.com

**PAST EVENTS**

**Africa Regional ACSM Planning Workshop**

The Africa Regional ACSM Planning Workshop was held in Kampala, Uganda from 8-12 September. The workshop is the third of its kind, the previous two having been held in Thailand and Jordan. Organized by the East, Central and Southern African (ECSA) Health Community in coordination with the Academy for Educational Development, and with the technical support of the Stop TB Partnership and PATH, the Workshop aimed at providing participants with the skills they need to plan, implement and evaluate ACSM activities related to their approved Global Fund grants. The four participating countries were: Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS**

**Stop TB Partnership Annual Report - 2007**

The Annual Report of the Stop TB Partnership is now available online. The report outlines events and achievements for the year as well as a summary of all the work of the seven Working Groups of the Partnership.

**Innovative Toolkit to Prompt Chinese Companies’ Action around the TB Threat**

The Global Health Initiative of the World Economic Forum with support from the Lilly MDR-TB Partnership and inputs from the National Center for Tuberculosis Control and Prevention, Chinese Center for Disease Control (CDC) and key partners developed a toolkit, "Protecting Your Workforce and Surrounding Communities from Tuberculosis: An Awareness Building Toolkit on a Comprehensive Approach to TB for Businesses in China".
The objective of the toolkit is to help Chinese Companies plan and implement workplace and community-based TB prevention, care and control programmes. The toolkit launched on September 26, 2008 at the Annual Meeting of the New Champions in Tianjin encourages companies to adopt an integrated approach to manage TB and HIV co-infections in partnership with their employees, the government and other key stakeholders.

For more information and downloading the toolkit in English and Chinese, please click on the following hyperlink: http://www.weforum.org/en/initiatives/globalhealth/index.htm

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Looking for ACSM Experts**
If you have considerable experience in advocacy, communication and social mobilization (ACSM) activities, please submit your CV to the ACSM Consultant Database. We are looking for experts to match with incoming technical assistance requests.

**ACSM Country-Level technical assistance now available**
The Stop TB Partnership, with support from PEPFAR through USAID, is coordinating technical assistance to Global Fund grants in order to accelerate absorptive capacity and to improve performance of ACSM activities.

**Submit best country examples**
The Stop TB Partnership is looking for best practice examples to showcase in web sites, presentations, and events. Share with us your stories of success in implementing advocacy, communication and social mobilization activities in your neighborhood, town, city or country.
For more information, visit:
http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmcl/bestpractice.asp

**Submit your news**
If you, or partners that you know, have news or resources you would like to announce or share through this e-update, please forward to chuy@who.int for inclusion in the next e-update.

**RESOURCES:**
Sub Group on Global Advocacy for Resource Mobilization
Sub Group on ACSM at Country Level

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