



Information as of 24 November 2015
MEDIA ADVISORY

High level political endorsement for the *Global Plan to End TB 2016-2020: The Paradigm Shift* one week after its launch

The world is losing its battle with tuberculosis (TB), which is now the biggest infectious killer globally, causing 1.5 million deaths every year. Without a clear investment plan and a complete overhaul in how this disease is tackled, TB is unlikely to be eliminated until the end of the 22nd century, and the world will miss the recently announced Sustainable Development Goal to end TB by 2030. This will require a US\$ 56 billion investment package from 2016-20, which will see 29 million people with TB receive treatment; save more than 10 million lives and prevent 45 million people from getting ill with TB. This investment will offer a huge return for affected individuals, their families, and their communities, and one of the highest returns on investment of any health intervention - an estimated US\$ 85 for each dollar invested. The new *Global Plan to End TB 2016 -2020* was launched on 20 November by the Stop TB Partnership.

This press event, held on the sidelines of the 46th Union World Conference on Lung Health will showcase the high level political endorsement and commitment from countries, technical partners and key stakeholders for the Global Plan to End TB 2016-2020 one week after its launch. Representatives from the Global TB Caucus, a worldwide network of parliamentarians dedicated to fighting TB, will be present as well.

WHO: Hosted by Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health for South Africa and the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board. Panelists will include Dr Lucica Ditiu, Executive Director of the Stop TB Partnership, José Luis Castro, Executive Director of The Union, Nick Herbert MP & Chair of the Global TB Caucus, Dr Eric Goosby, UN Special Envoy for TB, and a person affected by TB.

WHEN: Monday, 30 November 2015, from 12 – 2 PM

WHERE: Southern Sun The Cullinan
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