

TB HIV

Accelerating Advocacy on TB/HIV

15 July 2010

Hotel Mercure Wien Westbahnhof, Vienna, Austria

In conjunction with the TB/HIV Working Group regional meeting (July 16-17) and the AIDS 2010 Conference (July 18-23)

Background

Of the 33.2 million people living with HIV a third are estimated to also be infected with Tuberculosis (TB). TB remains one of the most common causes of illness and death among people living with HIV, despite being largely curable and preventable. There were an estimated 1.4 million new HIV positive TB patients in 2008, and 500,000 people died of HIV-associated TB. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that about one in four (28%) of all HIV deaths is associated with TB. In response, WHO issued a policy for the delivery of integrated TB and HIV services that aims to reduce the burden of TB among people living with HIV and the burden of HIV among TB patients.

The TB/HIV collaborative activities policy outlines 12 steps that national TB and HIV programs must implement in order to respond to TB/HIV co-infection. HIV testing of TB patients has increased substantially over the past 4 years, and in 2008 1.4 million TB patients were tested for HIV. However, the *Three I's* (intensified case finding for TB, isoniazid preventive therapy and infection control) which are measures that reduce the burden of TB in people living with HIV, are still not being implemented. In 2008, only 4% of all people living with HIV were screened for TB.

HIV civil society is a key conduit to raising awareness of the issues and bringing about implementation. However, HIV civil society knowledge of the issues and capacity to effectively engage in advocating for those services which reduce the burden of TB in people living with HIV needs to be enhanced. Previous experience shows that involving civil society is crucial to raise awareness and visibility of the key issues at all levels as well as creating demand for services locally.

Objectives of the workshop

The training curriculum will be based on the joint policy for delivering TB/HIV services and the WHO TB/HIV advocacy training manual and Treatment Action Group community TB/HIV training materials which have been used successfully for other similar workshops.

The one day advocacy workshop will:

- Familiarize participants with the TB/HIV policy, each of the *Three I's* as well as key issues such as drug-resistant TB, drug users, the TB/HIV research agenda and need for a point of care diagnostic for TB and key messages.
- Give participants the opportunity to network with each other and build momentum to catalyze implementation of an approach based on the needs of people in their countries and regions.
- Help participants identify action steps for TB prevention, screening and treatment for people living with HIV as a component of HIV treatment and care services; and action steps for nationwide expansion of TB infection control in health and congregate settings in the context of HIV/AIDS care and treatment.

08:30-09:00 Registration

09:00-09:15 Welcome Remarks and Introductions – **Smiljka de Lussigny & Alasdair Reid**

Morning Objective: Introduction to TB and HIV/TB - Overview of TB Disease Basics and HIV/TB

09:15-09:35 Session Objective: Establish the Gaps – **Annabel Baddeley**

Quiz: Assess your knowledge of TB

09:35-10:35 Session Objective: Introduction to HIV/TB

- *TB & TB/HIV – the basic science, infection, active TB, transmission, and TB and HIV dynamics and inter-relation – **Alasdair Reid***
- *The specifics of TB in the region: Prisons, alcohol, drug use, and MDR – **Smiljka de Lussigny***

10:35-10:50 Coffee/Tea Break

10:50-12:45 Session Objective: To Introduce Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment

- *Inter-active flip-chart session on prevention, diagnosis and treatment – **Delphine Sculier***
- *TB prevention, treatment and diagnosis, and TB in people living with HIV – **Claire Wingfield***
- *Time for discussion, questions and answers – **Claire Wingfield & Alasdair Reid***

12:45-13:45 Lunch

Afternoon Objective: To Gain a Practical Understanding of the Policies in Preparation for Regional TB/HIV Euro Meeting and to Take Things Forward

13:45-14:05 Session Objective: Introduction to the Interim Policy on Collaborative TB/HIV Activities as a Solution to the Challenges – **Mark Harrington**

- *Participants will gain an overview of the evolution of TB/HIV advocacy work in relation to the Interim Policy on Collaborative TB/HIV Activities*

14:05-15:00 Session Objective: Presentation of the Policy Guidelines for Collaborative TB & HIV Services for Injecting and Other Drug Users from a civil society perspective

- *Interpretation of the guidelines and key recommendations in the Policy Guidelines for Collaborative TB & HIV Services for Injecting and Other Drug Users – **Gregory Vergus***

15:00-16:00 Session Objective: Encourage participants to think through putting The Policy Guidelines on Collaborative TB & HIV Services for Injecting and Other Drug Users into practice – **Caoimhe Smyth**

- *Each group is assigned 1 of the drug guidelines recommendations and asked to reword. Groups to consider at least one barrier to implementation of the recommendation and strategies to overcome the barrier*

16:00-16:15 Coffee/Tea Break

16:15-16:45 Groups Report Back

16:45-17:15 Session Objective: Practical Insight from the Field

- *Russia: Human rights issues in accessing TB and HIV treatment services for a person who uses drugs – **Anya Sarang***
- *Ukraine: Good practice case study – **Alexander Kulchenko***

17:15-17:30 Session Objective: Taking Things Forward – **Andrew Doupe**

- *Next steps, possible mechanisms/sources of funding for ongoing civil society activities*
- *Links to the VIENNA CIVIL SOCIETY DECLARATION*
- *The march and other relevant activities during IAS*
- *Discussion*

17:30-17:45 Wrap Up – **Alasdair Reid**