



Accelerating Advocacy on TB/HIV

6 July 2011

Hotel Intercontinental Miramar, Panama City, Panama

in conjunction with the meeting "Scaling up the implementation of collaborative TB/HIV activities in the region of the Americas" (July 7-8) the AIDS 2011 Conference (July 17-20)

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 is the leading cause of death among people living with HIV, despite being largely curable and preventable. There were an estimated 1.1 million new HIV positive TB patients in 2009, and 380,000 people died of HIV-associated TB. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that almost one in four 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 5 years, with 1.7 million tested for HIV in 2009, up from 1.4 million in 2008. However, the *Three 'I's* (intensified case finding for TB, isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) and infection control) which are measures that reduce the burden of TB in people living with HIV, are still not being implemented. In 2009 globally, only 5% of all people estimated to be living with HIV were screened for TB. The 2010 Global TB report suggested that only 41% of the notified TB patients were tested for HIV in the Region of Americas, ranging as low as 2 to 12% in some countries. TB screening among people living with HIV remains very low and provision of IPT was reported in only 13 countries of the Americas.

HIV civil society is a key conduit to raising awareness of the issues, creating demand 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 and globally.

Workshop Objectives

The one day advocacy workshop will:

- Facilitate networking opportunities among participants, and translate their experiences/concerns about TB/HIV into advocacy recommendations based on the needs of people in their countries and regions.
- Help participants identify key messages on TB/HIV to advocate for at the subsequent regional meeting.
- Share information on funding opportunities and other resources so that participants can pursue their local/regional TB/HIV advocacy priorities.

08:30-09:00	Registration	
09:00-09:15	Welcome Remarks and Introductions - Facilitators	Ezio T. dos Santos Filho, Eleonora Jimenez-Levi & Gracia Violetta Ross Quiroga
	- PAHO/WHO – UNAIDS on the importance of civil society involvement in scaling up TB and TB/HIV activities in the Region of the Americas	Dr. Mirtha del Granado & Dr. Cesar Nunez
Morning Objective: Introduction to TB and TB/HIV - Overview of TB Science and TB/HIV		
09:15-09:30	Ice-breaker: Getting to know you	Ezio & Gracia
09:30-10:35	Session 1 Objective: Introduction to TB and TB/HIV – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why should we care about TB? ▪ TB & TB/HIV: basic science, transmission, infection & treatment ▪ TB and HIV dynamics - the deadly duo 	Eleonora & Gracia
10:35-10:50	Coffee/Tea Break	
10:50-12:30	Session 2 Objective: Tools to prevent, diagnose and treat TB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TB prevention, treatment and diagnosis, and TB in people living with HIV ▪ Challenges in prevention, diagnosis and treatment 	Eleonora & Ezio
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
Afternoon Objective: Identifying and developing recommendations on TB/HIV		
13:30-14:45	Session 3 Objective: Identifying local, national and regional TB and TB/HIV challenges: A Civil Society’s Perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 break out groups: participants will share problems/challenges they face or witnessed on TB and TB/HIV to identify common advocacy recommendations and solutions. • Groups will come together and present their main findings. 	Ezio, Gracia & Eleonora
14:45-16:00	Session 4 Objective: PAHO/WHO, UNAIDS, Stop TB Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional Mission and priorities on TB and TB/HIV. • Commitment to supporting civil society participation in TB and TB/HIV scale up: Funding opportunities (Challenge Facility; TB REACH), global advocacy, and other resources. • Group discussion on issues discussed in previous session. 	Dr. Haileyesus Getahun, Dr. Mirtha del Granado, Dr. Cesar Nunez, Gracia Violetta Ross Quiroga
16:00-16:20	Tea/coffee	
16:20-17:30	Session 5 Objective: Preparation for the Regional TB/HIV meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review TB/HIV Regional Agenda. • Groups will develop advocacy messages and recommendations for the Regional TB/HIV meeting; identify speakers for panel session; formulate key messages on community support for TB/HIV management and difficult to reach populations. <i>A planning tool template guiding participants through the process will be provided.</i> 	Gracia, Ezio & Eleonora
17:30-17:45	Wrap Up	