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**The Berlin Ministerial Forum-Europe Against Tuberculosis.
STATUS REPORT (10th April 2007)**

Ministerial Forum now firmly set for **Berlin Oct 22 2007** (in conjunction with 13th Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board)

- First announcement signed by WHO Regional Director Sent
- Invitation letters to be prepared by EURO signed by RD and Minister of Health, Germany
- Steering Committee, 2 meetings (Vilnius, Berlin) appointed CORE Group to finalize arrangements, agenda, declaration etc.
- Core group made up of Stop TB Partnership Secretariat, KNCV; European Centres for Disease Control; WHO Euro TB; Stop TB Partnership Europe.

Provisional Programme

- The first session will set the tone of the event and involve a number of strong/high profile speakers. German Minister of Health, President Sampaio, Commissioner Kyrianiou, DG WHO Margaret Chan, Portuguese Minister of Health (EU Presidency) among others.
- A Chair and a Co-Chair will be selected for each session, one Minister and one other personality.
- Morning sessions include:
 1. TB: The Threat is Real
 2. European Response to the TB Threat
 3. Filling the Gaps
- There will be a separate sit down lunch arrangement for all Ministers, deputy Ministers and Forum speakers to discuss Tuberculosis at country level
- Afternoon sessions include:
 1. Ministerial panel
 2. Discussion and adoption of the "Berlin Declaration"

The Declaration

The Dublin Declaration and other international declarations on TB are currently being reviewed. A draft Berlin Declaration is currently being prepared. A pre-meeting will be sponsored by KNCV in the Hague in July 2007 to give experts from national governments the opportunity to discuss the Declaration.

Overall Progress

There is now an effective core group representing several key constituencies for the Ministerial Forum. We will continue to apprise all STOP TB Partners and solicit their assistance when required.