

# Executive Committee Call 26 March 2024

Attended:	Apologies:	Secretariat:
Austin Obiefuna (EC Chair), Timur Abdullaev	Anand Date	Lucica Ditiu
Amy Bloom (for Cheri Vincent)	John Fawcett	Jenniffer Dietrich
Deliana Garcia	David Lewinsohn	Catie Rosado
Teresa Kasaeva	Carol Nyirenda	Suvanand Sahu
Carrie Lehmeier	Cheri Vincent	Kerrie Tyas
Subrat Mohanty		Ishan Bhatkoti
Peter Owiti		
Obinna Onyekwena		
Minutes of the Call		

### 1. Governance: Board and Executive Committee compositions

# Board Composition - Countries Affected by TB and Chair of the Board

- 1. The meeting started with Vice-Chair introducing the topic and giving the floor to the Head of Governance and Board Relations who presented the scenarios of Board membership going forward. One slide on the Board participation in 2024, slides with the outcome of the analysis of the Secretariat about suitable replacement countries for two Board members rotating out. The last slide presented the situation of Board membership from January 2025 onwards. Rotation is necessary and the way to go following the Board Governance Manual.
- 2. The Executive Committee gave comments, Global Affairs Canada asked for the granular analysis which the Secretariat will share. Beyond certain numbers of high-burden countries, the voice from Africa is important to keep prominent. It was also asked to take into account the political drive and push to want to eliminate TB, as much as the burden of a country.

#### **Board Composition – Chair of the Board**

3. The Vice-Chair introduced the agenda topic for a discussion about the proposal that the Secretariat received for the new Chair of the Board. The Secretary of Health (Minister of Health) of the Philippines approached the Secretariat about the replacement of the Chairperson of the Stop TB Partnership Board. The Vice-Chair and the Secretariat recommend taking up this opportunity. Executive Committee members discussed the matter on the call and agreement was reached for the preliminary endorsement of the new Chair of the Board.

# 4. Action items:

- The Secretariat to share granular analysis of potential new country representatives with the representative of Canada
- The Secretariat takes note of the Executive Committee wanting more focus on high TB burden countries that are making strides in addressing TB in their respective contexts
- The Secretariat notes the absence of objection to the proposal of the Minister of Health of the Philippines to become the new Chair of the Board, and will move forward with the process.



# **Executive Committee Composition**

5. The Vice-Chair introduced the agenda topic about the new composition of the Executive Committee, based on the changes made to the Board during the Board Strategy Review process. The proposal of the Secretariat is to launch the call for expression of interest to join the Executive Committee by April-May 2024 and close it at the end of May 2024. In June the Vice-Chair will review the interest received and propose a setup that is mindful of a balanced membership on the Executive Committee. The final recommendation will go to the Board for approval in July 2024.

### 6. Action items:

- The Secretariat to move forward with the timeline presented
- The Secretariat to share with the Executive Committee the draft email for the launch of the call for interest to Board members

### 2. World Tuberculosis Day

- 1. Stop TB Canada had events for World TB Day in 2024, and Global Affairs Canada presented them to the Executive Committee, which included the Parliamentary Breakfast, attended by MPs, government officials and Peter Sands from the Global Fund; lighting up major landmarks across Canada in red; social media posts on social determinants of TB and on the commitment for the development of the national TB elimination strategy. Other Canadian government health agencies had more social media highlights with their events.
- 2. Kenya did a pre-World TB Day activity with affected communities and law enforcement officers as well as medical teams (through CFCS funding from Kelin). In central Kenya, a declaration was made on how existing gaps can be filled to find and treat all people with TB.
- 3. In India, many events were taking place on the World TB Day across the country. An event in Delhi was organized by the TB Elimination Programme and the Ministry of Health with the participation of various partners and TB champions.
- 4. The Executive Director presented the WTBD events held in the Philippines during the regional meeting (such as the Guinness record for the largest number of people who came together to create an image of lungs). She also spoke about events in Ethiopia, where she was on duty travel, where for the first time the African Union organized an event for World TB Day. The Executive Director also briefed about the events that the Stop TB Partnership staff did in Geneva, including a tent that offered AI-assisted lung health screening by the sound of personnel's cough. Before closing, the Executive Director said that the Board and the Executive Committee should consider declaring a World TB *Week* (or month) every year in March.