Stop TB Coordinating Board

24 October 2001, Annapolis, United States

The first meeting of the Stop TB Coordinating Board ("the Board") was held at the Historic Inns, Annapolis, United States, on 24 October 2001, hosted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Board representatives from countries with the highest burden of TB, regions, donors, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and technical agencies, Stop TB Working Groups, and multilateral agencies attended the meeting. The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat ("the Secretariat") provided administrative support.

Discussion and decisions

Global TB Drug Facility (GDF)

- The Board recommends convening an expert meeting on drug management, especially related to issues of quality assurance.
- The Board endorses some expansion in the scope of the GDF, specifically in its core activities (linear expansion).
 Particular links with international initiatives (e.g. Green Light Committee for MRD-TB drugs) should be strengthened.

Global Plan to Stop TB

- The Secretariat is charged with developing a paper in consultation with DCA on the next steps of planning resource development, to include the following topics: 1) creating a political and social movement, including the appointment of "Stop TB ambassadors/champions"; 2) priority setting, including monitoring and evaluation; 3) donor collaboration (global and national).
- The Secretariat is requested to prepare a paper on a Stop TB Trust Fund to support increased resources.

Governance issues of supporting structure to Stop TB

- Dr Francis Omaswa is confirmed as co-chair for a period of one year.
- The Secretariat will prepare a paper within the next two months with proposed changes to the composition of the Board, together with staggering plan, and modifying language in a co-opting statement. The Secretariat will maintain a log of changes to the Framework, as minuted in meetings of the Coordinating Board.
- The Board endorsed the establishment of a Working Committee of the Board. Names of interested members were to be sent to the Secretariat by Wednesday 31 October 2001.

Workplan and budget 2002, Stop TB Partnership Secretariat

- The Secretariat budget should be revised and clarified in more detail. The Working Committee of the Board will
 guide the Secretariat in streamlining the budget, in terms of both finance and presentation.
- The Secretariat is advised to recruit a planning, budget and finance officer.

1. Opening and progress report

1.1 Opening

Jacob Kumaresan, Executive Secretary of the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat, opened the meeting and introduced Stop TB Coordinating Board Chair Ernest Loevinsohn and Vice-Chair Francis Omaswa. The process on how the chairs had been selected was outlined.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

Ernest Loevinsohn welcomed Board members and outlined the agenda and objectives of this first meeting of the full Stop TB Coordinating Board.

1.3 Progress report

Jacob Kumaresan reviewed the report of the Interim Stop TB Coordinating Board meeting held in Bellagio on 20–22 February 2001, and provided a progress report on the Global Partnership to Stop TB ("the Partnership").

2. Global TB Drug Facility (GDF)

2.1 Progress report

Jacob Kumaresan presented, as part of the GDF progress report, the various developments related to applications, namely the Technical Review Committee (TRC), country visits, procurement and monitoring. The importance of the GDF as a catalyst for DOTS expansion was emphasized.

Discussion

- The Board commended the swift progress in development of the GDF and pointed out the need to rapidly establish a robust prequalification process for drug manufacturers.
- Information on the funding status for the GDF will be presented at the next meeting of the Stop TB Coordinating Board.
- Unified monitoring systems for the GDF, building on existing monitoring of national programmes, with validation of indicators, is needed.
- In addition to global level advocacy, local mechanisms to advocate and communicate concerning the GDF and DOTS expansion, are needed to build support networks and create demand

2.2 Scope of the GDF

Ian Smith presented the future scope of the GDF, based on the GDF prospectus and a draft document prepared for the meeting. Direction from the Board was sought on expansion of the GDF scope.

Discussion

- The GDF needs to be flexible with the list of products to support country needs, but remaining in line with the WHO model essential drug list.
- Issues of additionality of funding and sustainability of national systems are of great importance, and must be addressed with care.
- Links with other related initiatives, including MDR-TB drugs (Green Light Committee) and HIV/AIDS drugs (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria) need to be strengthened.
- Countries that are purchasing TB drugs from their own resources should be encouraged to benefit from lower prices negotiated by the GDF through reimbursable procurement, to enable them to utilize national resources for other TB control activities. In addition, the GNP criteria for receiving GDF grants needs to be extended. The GDF needs to be clearly linked to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

2.1 Decisions:

2.2.1. The Board recommends convening an expert meeting on drug management, including issues of quality assurance mechanisms.

2.2.2. The Board supports the proposal for linear expansion of the GDF scope, beginning with NGO applications and reimbursable procurement, and notes that additional funding (US\$ 10 million from Canada and US\$4 million from The Netherlands) has been pledged.

2.2.3. The Board charges the Secretariat with preparing a plan for expansion of the scope of the GDF and presentation of this plan to the Board at its next teleconference.

3. Global Plan to Stop TB

3.1 Resource Development Plan

Bill Walch and Paul Zintl (DCA) presented a Resource Development Plan. The resource gap outlined clearly calls for raising additional resources. Most resources will flow directly to partners, i.e. outside any pooled funding mechanisms. Staff is needed to support the initial mechanisms. The importance of independent resource mobilization to avoid control by any single organization was outlined. In support of mobilizing resources, there is a need to create social demand, both in high burden countries and in donor nations. A separate Trust Fund is proposed in order that Partners can direct specific support to the Partnership.

Discussion

- The Global Plan to Stop TB ("the Global Plan") is the basis for resource development, and needs to be further developed to include extra levels of detail. An executive summary for the Plan, with logical framework, and clear priority setting mechanisms, are needed. A good workplan and good results are the best incentive for resource development. It is essential that the financing gap clearly spells out realistic and manageable activities and financial requests.
- As possible criteria for funding priorities the following points were suggested: 1) capacity to treat and cure people with TB; 2) ability to link with other existing health problems; 3) ability to develop new tools to prevent, diagnose and cure.
- Mechanisms on financial flow were discussed. Clarification is needed on the various institutional mechanisms, including collective systems. There is a need to simplify how resources can be channelled, and how countries can draw on these resources.
- Social movements, particularly at grassroots level, need to be included to create a climate of opinion and a social demand to Stop TB. An "ambassador/champion for TB control" with specific roles and targeted involvement was proposed.
- The key issue for independent resource mobilization capacity is to have professional staff based in various countries and organizations, and not just one central mechanism. A coordinating mechanism is required.

3.2 Monitoring mechanisms

Ger Steenbergen presented a scheme for monitoring implementation and outcomes of the Global Plan.

Discussion:

- A systematic approach to monitoring TB-related research resource flows has yet to be established, and needs further attention.
- Validation of indicators, including development of indicators in relation to TB-HIV and MDR-TB, is needed.

3.3 Decisions:

3.3.1. The Board charges the Secretariat with developing a paper in consultation with DCA on the next steps of planning resource development, to include the following topics: 1) creating a political and social movement, including the appointments of "Stop TB ambassadors/ Champions"; 2) priority setting, including monitoring and evaluation; and 3) donor collaboration (global and national). The following Board members will assist in this process: Amy Bloom, Roberto Tapia Conyer, Gijs Elzinga, Ejaz Rahim, and Nina Schwalbe. The paper will be prepared by end November 2001.

3.3.2. Sarah England will coordinate the process of development of this paper on behalf of the Secretariat. 3.3.3. The Secretariat is requested to prepare a paper on a proposal for a Stop TB Trust Fund to support the increased resources.

4. Governance issues of supporting structure to Stop TB

4.1 Stop TB Framework

Petra Heitkamp presented the composition and supporting structure of the Board, clarifying the staggered representation of Board members and the establishment of a Board Working Committee. Presentations and discussions on taskforces for Advocacy/Communications and Financing were deleted from the agenda.

Discussion

- Private sector representation on the Board should be enhanced in the current Board composition, as reflected in the Stop TB Framework.
- The number of participants represented on the Board should be increased to 30. More than 30 Board members would be impractical.
- Inclusiveness should be balanced with functionality. Developing country representation was highlighted as crucial. UNICEF volunteered to be represented by WHO. MSH also volunteered to reduce the number of NGO representatives.
- Continuous work of a Board Working Committee to provide guidance and support to the Secretariat was mentioned. Immediate items for the Working Committee are the recommendations of the TRC for GDF and the follow-up of the Board meeting.

4.2 Decisions:

4.2.1 The Board confirmed Francis Omaswa as co-chair for a period of one year.

4.2.2 The Secretariat is charged with preparing a paper (by end 2001) proposing changes to the Board composition, together with a plan for staggering representation, and modifying the language in the co-opting statement to read as follows: "*The Board may co-opt or invite persons non-members of the Board, to attend a meeting or part of it for temporary. A request to co-opt a participant for one Board meeting should be communicated to the Chair or the Secretariat, at least one month before the Board meeting*".

4.2.3. The Board requested that the Secretariat maintain a log of changes to the Framework, as minuted in meetings of the Coordinating Board;

4.2.4. The Board endorsed the terms of reference for establishment of a Board Working Committee. Names of interested members were to be sent to the Secretariat before Wednesday 31 October.

5. Workplan and budget 2002, Stop TB Partnership Secretariat

5.1 Jacob Kumaresan presented the workplan and budget for the Stop TB Secretariat for 2002.

Discussion:

- Concerns were raised regarding the presentation of the workplan, the source of some estimated costs, and the size of budget. The Board recognized that the limitations identified in the current workplan and budget arose primarily from the exceptionally high workload of the Secretariat over the past few months leading up to the Stop TB Partners' Forum. The Secretariat needs to revise the workplan and budget, with clarification of activities and budget breakdown, based on log frame approach, identifying priorities.
- The figures presented in the Global Plan and the Secretariat workplan should be consistent.
- The Board gave guidance on the following priorities for the Secretariat: 1) facilitatation of increased resource flow; 2) implementation of the Global Plan and related national partnerships; 3) GDF.

5.2 Decisions:

5.2.1. The Secretariat is requested to revise the workplan and budget. The Board Working Committee will guide the Secretariat concerning the presentation of the budget.

5.2.2.The Secretariat will recruit a planning, budget and finance officer.

The meeting closed with expressions of thanks to USAID for hosting the meeting.

Annex 1 Agenda

FIRST STOP TB COORDINATING BOARD MEETING Annapolis, United States, 24 October 2001¹

AGENDA

	Documents	
 08:30-08:45 Welcome and Opening Introduction of Chair and Vice-chair (<i>Jacob Kumaresan</i>) Objectives and expected outcome of the meeting <i>Chairman (Ernest Loevinsohn)</i> Adoption of the agenda Minutes of the previous meetings in Bellagio 	1. 2. 3.	0
08:45-09:00 Progress report by the Executive Secretary (Jacob Kumaresan)	4.	(Mid) Progress report
 09:00–10:30 Global TB Drug Facility (GDF) Progress report (2000 – 2001) The scope of GDF 	5. 6. 7.	
10:30 – 11:00 Tea /Coffee Break		
 11:00 – 13:00 Global Plan to Stop TB Resource development plan & resource mobilization (Paul Zintl, Bill Walch, DCA) Monitoring & evaluation mechanisms (Ger Steenbergen) 	8.	Resource Dev Plan
13:00–14:00 Lunch		
 14:00–16:00 Governance Issues of Supporting Structure to Stop TB CB composition and Working Committee Advocacy & Communications (TFA&C) (Jeannette Sanchez) Financing Issues (Sarah England) 	10. 11.	Stop TB Framework Board operational issues Advoc/Comm Taskforce Financing Taskforce
16:00 – 16:15 Tea / Coffee Break		
16:15–17:00 Workplan & Budget 2002, Stop TB Partnership Secretariat	13.	Workplan&Budget'0
17:00-17:30 Next steps and Closing statement by chairman		

23Nov2001

18:00 - 20:00 Reception

¹ Thanks to USAID, for hosting the Stop TB Coordinating Board meeting, in Annapolis, Historic Inns (address: 58 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1906, Tel: +1 401 263 2641/296 0990, www.annapolisinns.com).

For support in logistic matters please contact Mr Robert Hensley, Tel: +1 202 898 0980 x 175, Fax: +1202 898 9397, email: rhensley@medsproject.com)

Stop TB Coordinating Board 24 October 2001

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