



### **Report of the first meeting of "The National Partnership to fight Tuberculosis"**

Place: National Training Institute –Ministry of Health

Date: 18/8/2009

#### **Aim of the meeting:**

The meeting was part of the exploratory phase of the partnership building , it aimed at giving an orientation for different partners about the scope of the partnership regarding its goals, objectives, potential activities and executive structure.

#### **Attendants:**

Attendants were representatives for:

- Relevant departments in MOH: PHCs , Health education and AIDS program
- HIO

- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Defense
- Ministry of Interior
- NGOs: Rotary , Anti TB association , Women Health Improvement Association , Worldwide Health Forums
- Business sector
- Scientific organizations: Egyptian Thoracic Society
- Scout Organization
- University professors (chest and public health)
- Medical students' organization
- Representatives of patients
- Media people

The meeting was chaired by Prof. Mohammed Awad Tag-Eldin, the chair of the EM regional partnership to Stop TB, and in presence of Dr. Zuhir Hallaj and Dr. Akihiro Seita from WHO EMRO.

### **Preparations:**

- Preparing a brochure for the meeting clarifying the needs for the partnership, its structure and the future meeting arrangements
- Designing a logo and a slogan for the partnership,
- Designing and printing some advocacy materials consisting of a brochure, a banner and rollups.
- A formal invitation was sent to all potential partners few days prior to the meeting rather than phone call and direct conversations.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Prof. Tag Eldin started the event with welcome words for the attendees and gave short speech about the aim of the meeting then introduced Dr. Essam Elmoghazy, the NTP manager who gave a presentation about nature of Tuberculosis, methods of infection, symptoms and treatment, he also talked about the magnitude of TB problem in Egypt and how much TB patients are suffering, stating that TB is an economic and social problem other than being a health problem.

Prof. Tag El Din, then talked about the Idea of the Partnership and how it will help the National program in eliminating Tuberculosis from Egypt by 2050. He talked about the vision and mission of the partnership then gave a picture about the expected activities and outcome of the partners' efforts. He then opened a free discussion about the possible contributions of each partners.

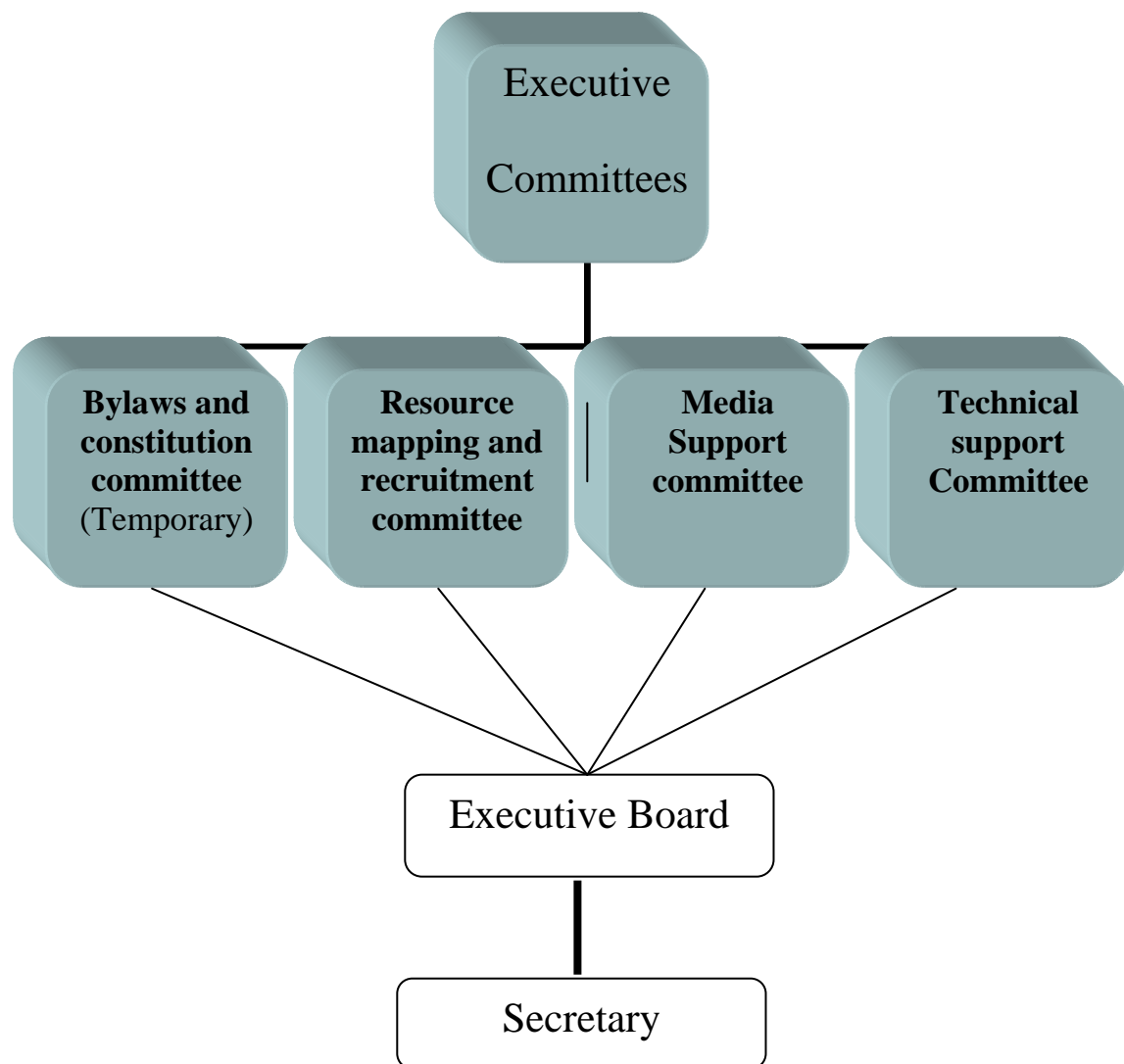
Most of attendants contributed to this discussion with good inputs. During their discussion a template for resources mapping was circulated among them to define areas of competencies for each partner.

### **Resource Mapping:**

An initial step for resource mapping was done during the meeting, the following draft framework of the partnership was presented to the attendants, and through the annexed "resource mapping template" each respondent was asked to contribute to the

preferred committee that suits his competency and work field and was asked also to define his contribution. After that the collected templates had been analyzed to highlight the gaps and constraints, and facilitate the identification of challenges to be addressed and to add new partners regarding these gaps in the resource mapping.

Then there will be a taskforce for detailed mapping of available program resources and what is exactly needed from partners. Members of this taskforce will be members from "Resource mapping and recruitment" committee in addition to ACSM team of the national program.



**The results of resource mapping:**

- **Representatives of the departments in MOH: PHCs, Health education and AIDS program:** joined the technical support committee and committed to providing their resources for joint programs with the national TB program.
- **Health Insurance Organization (HIO) representatives:** also joined the technical support committee and committed to enhancing the collaboration with NTP with more efforts to detect new TB cases
- **Representative of Ministry of Education:** joined the technical support committee and decided to start a mass communication campaign in all schools with pilot phase in the first year to be conducted in Cairo.

- **Representative of Ministry of Defense:** joined the technical support committee and promised for more efforts for active case detection among soldiers and enhancing the reporting system with NTP.
- **Representative of Ministry of Interior:** also preferred the technical support committee and committed for improving the sanitary environment of prisons and also providing more support for TB patients within prisons and would prepare a plan for admitting all TB patients of prisons into the public hospitals of NTP the whole period of treatment in order to guarantee the complete adherence to medications and complete cure.
- **NGOs' representatives: Rotary , Anti TB association , Women Health Improvement Association , Worldwide Health Forums:** joined both the resources and the technical support committees and committed to providing financial support for MDR-TB patients as well as other TB patients and will work to recruit more financial sources to empower TB patients. And they also will provide technical assistance through their regular role in raising the public awareness about Tuberculosis
- **Business sector:** joined the resource mapping and recruitment committee and committed for recruiting more business men and companies to join the partnership and to provide financial support for patients , they also will conduct regular fundraising campaigns
- **Representatives of Egyptian Thoracic Society:** joined the technical support committee and offered help to resources committee through providing a sub account number for fundraising efforts
- **Representatives of Scout Organization:** offered their technical help through their teams all over Egypt who can share in raising health awareness among youth.
- **University professors (chest and public health):** joined the technical committee and committed for providing research and training help
- **Representatives of Medical students' organizations:** joined the bylaws committee and committed for making a draft constitution for the partnership also committed for health education campaigns within universities.
- **Representatives of Media:** joined the media support committee and committed for making donation campaigns through media and also in mass media communication

### **Voices of TB patients:**

Voices of TB patients had to be heard during this event that was done by two TB patients; one of them is still under treatment and another cured one. Both talked about their own experience regarding sufferings until getting medication and improved. The Event ended by group photos and a light lunch.

### **Venue of Next Meeting:**

Prof. Tag Eldin suggested the last week of Ramadan (third week of September) or after Eid (end of September) to be the next meeting of partnership