

Executive Committee Call 10 September 2024

Attended:	Apologies:	Secretariat:
Austin Obiefuna (EC Chair), Timur Abdullaev John Fawcett (for Obinna Onyekwena) Vama Jele / Aman Shukla Mayowa Joel Teresa Kasaeva Carrie Lehmeier David Lewinsohn Peter Owiti / Carol Nyirenda Cheri Vincent / Amy Bloom	Obinna Onyekwena	Lucica Ditiu Jenniffer Dietrich Catie Rosado Suvanand Sahu

Minutes of the Call

1. 38th Stop TB Partnership Board Meeting

- The meeting started with Vice-Chair welcoming Executive Committee members, introducing the agenda of the meeting and then passing the floor to the Secretariat for an update on the 38th Board meeting agenda.
- The Secretariat prepared a practical information note, which contains information about visas, necessary vaccinations, airport transfers, health declaration screening form, etc. Participants were once again encouraged to apply for their visas well in advance. The yellow fever vaccination was highlighted as something that everyone attending the Board Meeting needs to have and bring proof of. Normally, it was only required for people traveling from countries with high incidence of yellow fever, but since the emergence of monkeypox, the requirements have become stricter. It was also pointed out that the Yellow Card may be requested not only at entry, but also at departure.
- The Community Delegation informed the Secretariat that Board Member elections will take place; once the names of new Board Members are communicated, official invitation letters will be issued.
- The program, as of the time of the Executive Committee call, looks as follows:

Time	Event	Venue
Tuesday, 10 December		
13:00–19:00	Ending TB Together – Nigerian CSOs in dialogue with global orgs and Stop TB CS Delegations	<i>Trade and Convention Centre</i>
Wednesday, 11 December		
08:30–17:30	Board Constituency Delegation Meetings (by invitation)	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>
10:30-17:00	Africa High-Level Regional Dialogue (for Board Members)	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>
18:30-21:30	High-level Reception	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>
Thursday, 12 December		
11:30–13:00	Opening of 38th Stop TB Board Meeting	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>

14:30-16:30	Engagement at the Nigerian National TB Conference	<i>Trade and Convention Centre</i>
19:00-22:00	Official Board and Special Guests' Dinner	TBC
Friday, 13 December		
09:00-18:00	38th Stop TB Board Meeting	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>
Saturday, 14 December		
09:00-14:30	38th Stop TB Board Meeting	<i>Transcorp Hilton Hotel</i>

5. The preparations for the Board Meeting are ongoing. Board documents are being prepared, including a concept for each Board Session.
6. On behalf of the Nigerian organizing committee, Stop TB Partnership Nigeria confirmed that they are intensifying the preparations to all the meetings being planned. [Free registration](#) for the Nigerian National TB Conference is open.
7. **Action items:**
 - The Secretariat to share the practical information note for the Board Meeting on 11 September 2024 with all Board participants
 - The Secretariat to inform if malaria vaccination is required/recommended for Abuja according to information available by the ministry
 - From 1 October 2024, the Secretariat to start sharing online Board Meeting documents as available

2. Global Fund Committee Meeting

8. At its October meeting, the Global Fund's Strategy Committee will explore the options for revising the Global Disease Split and allocating more funding for TB. However, there are multiple signals that there is no appetite to substantially increase the TB allocation. The Secretariat has developed a discussion paper, which analyzes the proposals from the Global Fund Secretariat. It seems that the Board understands that TB requires more funding but does not see how it would be possible to increase its funding. The proposals presented to the Strategy Committee are not going to close the TB funding gap.
9. The Secretariat is working with a range of stakeholders so that they send letters to the Board leadership and Board Members of the Global Fund explaining not only the need to invest more in TB, but also highlighting the contribution of the TB response to overall health systems strengthening in countries.
10. Civil society Board constituencies formed a taskforce to coordinate around the Global Disease Split advocacy. One of their activities was the publication of a petition on [avaaz.org](#), which is now open for signatures. The petition is not supporting any of the options being considered, but demanding an equal share of the Global Fund budget for TB. The taskforce is planning other activities, including a publication of a position paper and meetings with Global Fund Board Members, in the lead up to and during the Strategy Committee meeting in October and the Board meeting in November.
11. **Discussion points**
 - Canada expressed their support to increasing the shares of both tuberculosis and malaria
 - It was proposed to organize a call with the members of the Strategy Committee
 - It is important to make statements on the need to increase funding for TB during the HLM on AMR
 - In the event that the Global Fund cannot increase the funding for TB, they should come up with a strong message around a critical funding gap for TB

12. Action items:

- The Secretariat to widely share the discussion paper on the Global Disease Split
- The Secretariat to send an invite to the Strategy Committee to have a call/webinar on Option 2A proposed by the Partnership

3. TB Vaccine Accelerator Council

13. The WHO is moving forward with the TB Vaccine Accelerator Council which held a meeting during the last WHA in Geneva. The Council identified immediate priorities, one of which is addressing the financing of TB vaccine development and implementation. Following this, the Council agreed to organize a special forum with potential investors for vaccine development and implementation in 2025, possibly as a G20-related high-level event. In the meantime, the Council is working with the Partnership on preparations to the TB Vaccine Forum in Brazil. The Council will announce the formation of four working groups covering: financing and access; implementation preparedness and community engagement; research; and policy development for the implementation of the vaccine. The Council embraces an active engagement of the Stop TB Partnership, and of StopTB partners in these working groups, and also in events at the Union Conference.

4. Events around UN General Assembly

14. The HLM Declaration is finalized and it has some references to TB and even GDF, but links between TB and AMR have to be emphasized during the HLM.
15. There will be a number several side-events taking place around UN HLM on AMR, including those organized by the Stop TB Partnership and partners. These will be the TB Vaccines Dialogue, “Breaking the Resistance: Fighting AMR and TB together for a healthy future” and the launch of the Governance Report, which looks at transparency, inclusiveness and operations. There may also be another side event (TBC) on TB and climate co-organized by WHO and Brazil.