



**TOWARDS THE
UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HIGH-LEVEL
MEETING ON THE
FIGHT AGAINST
TUBERCULOSIS**

Advancing science, finance and innovation, and their benefits, to urgently end the global tuberculosis epidemic, in particular, by ensuring equitable access to prevention, testing, treatment and care

22 September 2023, New York



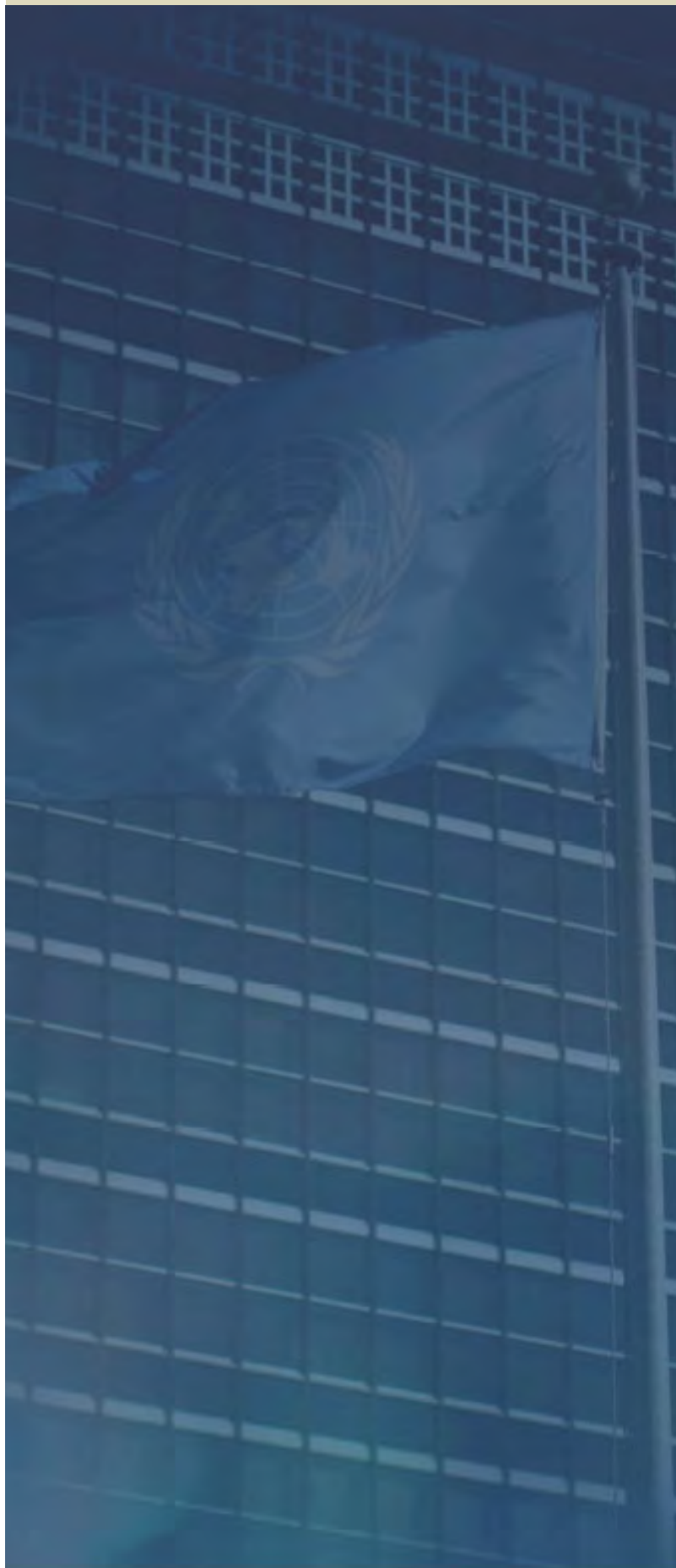
OVERVIEW

Tuberculosis (TB) remains one of the world's deadliest infectious killers. Each day, close to 4400 people lose their lives to TB and close to 30,000 people fall ill with this preventable and curable disease.

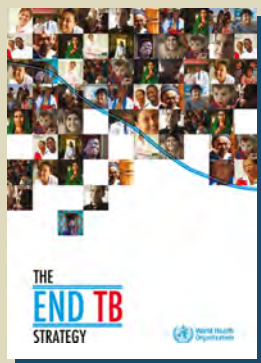
Global efforts to combat TB have saved an estimated 74 million lives since the year 2000. However, the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with conflicts across Europe, Africa and the Middle East and socioeconomic inequities, has reversed years of progress made in the fight to end TB, and placed an even heavier burden on those affected, especially the most vulnerable. In the Global Tuberculosis Report 2022, WHO highlighted that for the first time in over a decade, estimated TB incidence and deaths have increased.

2023 is a critical year to push forward the agenda towards ending TB, as there are several high-level opportunities to raise visibility, increase political commitment, and enhance investments for the TB response.

Heads of State will come together to deliberate on accelerating efforts to end TB, for the second time at the 2023 UN High Level Meeting on TB at the General Assembly in September. The prioritization of TB in the agenda of Heads of State and other leaders provides strong impetus to step up progress against this ancient disease.



GLOBAL COMMITMENTS TO END TB



WHO END TB STRATEGY

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

2015

FIRST WHO GLOBAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

ENDING TB IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ERA:
A MULTISECTORAL RESPONSE

16-17 November 2017
Moscow, Russian Federation



2017



FIRST UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON TB

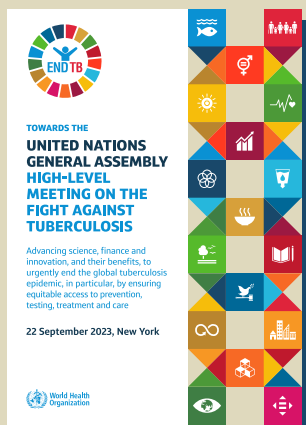
26 September 2018
UN Headquarters, New York, USA



2018

SECOND UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

22 September 2023,
UN Headquarters, New York, USA



2023



ABOUT THE

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

22 September 2023, New York

The United Nations General Assembly will hold the second high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis on 22 September 2023.

The theme of the meeting is:

“Advancing science, finance and innovation, and their benefits, to urgently end the global tuberculosis epidemic, in particular, by ensuring equitable access to prevention, testing, treatment and care.”

The main objective of the meeting is to implement a comprehensive review of progress in the context of the achievement of targets set in the 2018 political declaration, and in the Sustainable Development Goals.

ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

The UN High-Level Meeting on TB is being organized under the direction of the UN General Assembly. WHO is working closely with the office of the President of the General Assembly, the Co-facilitators, Member States and partners including civil society in making preparations for the UN high-level meeting.

Co-facilitators

The President of the UN General Assembly has appointed two co-facilitators for the high-level meeting process – Poland and Uzbekistan.



HIGHLIGHTS AND AGENDA

Agenda structure

The meeting will be held fully in-person and will consist of an opening segment, a plenary, two interactive multi-stakeholder panels and a closing segment.

The themes of the multi-stakeholder panels are as follows.

Panel 1

Accelerating multisectoral actions and accountability to ensure equitable high-quality people-centered tuberculosis care, and addressing determinants of tuberculosis in the context of universal health coverage.

Panel 2

Scaling up adequate and sustainable national and international financing for tuberculosis service delivery, innovative strategies, as well as for the research and development of new diagnostics, vaccines and drugs.

Outcome

The high-level meeting will approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the General Assembly.

PARTICIPANTS

- ✓ Heads of State and Government
- ✓ Ministers of Health and of other sectors such as finance, social development, justice, interior and labour
- ✓ Leaders of UN organizations, development agencies, and regional bodies
- ✓ Nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations, civil societies representatives, affected people and communities
- ✓ Academic and research institutions
- ✓ Philanthropic foundations
- ✓ Private sector entities



COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL TUBERCULOSIS TARGETS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLITICAL DECLARATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

This progress report of the UN Secretary-General, has been developed with the support of the World Health Organization pursuant to [General Assembly resolution 77/274](#). It provides a comprehensive and analytical overview on progress achieved and challenges remaining in realizing tuberculosis goals within the context of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on the progress and implementation of the 2018 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis. The report has been instrumental in informing preparations for a comprehensive review by Heads of State and Government at the high-level meeting in 2023. It provides overview of actions taken by Member States, the World Health Organization, communities and partners over a period of five years, from 2018 to 2022.

INTERACTIVE MULTISTAKEHOLDER HEARING ON TUBERCULOSIS

8 May 2023

In advance of the UN High Level Meeting on TB, an interactive Multistakeholder Hearing on TB was held on May 8, and provided an opportunity for all relevant stakeholders to contribute to the preparatory process for the High-Level Meetings, with a focus on the state of efforts and top needs to accelerate the response.



Through the hearing, organized by the Office of the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Stop TB Partnership, civil society and other stakeholders contributed to preparation for an impactful high-level meeting. The participants provided their vision and recommendations to members of the UN General Assembly for the high-level meeting, with a focus on the current state of efforts and top needs to accelerate response.

The hearing was well attended, with over 600 registrants including representatives of civil society, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations, academia, medical associations and the private sector, as well as people affected by TB and broader communities.

Read the meeting summary [here](#).



Watch the video webcast of the hearing.

WHO DIRECTOR-GENERAL FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE TO #ENDTB









[Read the document](#)

In advance of the 2023 UN High Level Meeting on TB, the World Health Organization (WHO) has expanded the scope of the WHO Director-General's Flagship Initiative to fast-track progress towards ending TB, over the period 2023-2027. The focus of the initiative is on ensuring universal access to prevention, care and the latest tools and technologies to combat TB on the road to Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

This builds on the achievements made in the first period of the flagship initiative “FIND. TREAT. ALL. #ENDTB” since its launch in 2018, in collaboration with Stop TB Partnership, and The Global Fund. This special initiative will continue to bring together countries and stakeholders to redouble efforts and accelerate the TB response.

An overview of targets for the period 2023-2027 are outlined below, that focus on, enabling universal access to quality, WHO-recommended TB prevention and care, advancing research especially into new TB vaccines, strengthening engagement and accountability across sectors beyond health, and on linkages to the broader health agendas on AMR, UHC and pandemic preparedness. The new targets have informed preparations and intergovernmental negotiations on the political declaration of the 2023 UN High-Level Meeting on TB.

OBJECTIVES	TARGETS
 <p>Universal access to WHO-recommended TB treatment for all</p>	<p>90%</p> <p>people reached with TB treatment between 2023- 2027 (End TB Strategy target is ≥ 90% by 2025)</p>
 <p>Universal access to WHO-recommended rapid diagnostic tests for all</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>of people diagnosed with TB were tested initially with a WHO recommended diagnostic test (End TB Strategy target is ≥ 90% by 2025)</p>
 <p>Universal access to TB preventive treatment for all</p>	<p>90%</p> <p>reached with TB preventive treatment between 2023- 2027 (End TB Strategy target is ≥ 90% by 2025)</p>
 <p>Financial risk protection for vulnerable people with TB (process indicator)</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>All (eligible) people with TB, have access to health and social benefits package so they don't endure financial hardship because of TB disease</p>
 <p>License a new TB vaccine to accelerate TB incidence decline (process indicator)</p>	<p>>1</p> <p>Licensing of at least one new TB vaccine within five years</p>
 <p>Sustained and adequate financing for TB services and TB research and innovation (process indicator)</p>	<p>Reaching US\$22 billion</p> <p>annually by 2027 US \$5 billion per year for research by 2027</p>

WHO MULTISECTORAL ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK



Ending TB requires concerted action by all sectors to provide the right services, support and enabling safe environment in the right place, at the right time. TB is mainly concentrated in settings beset by poverty and other social and economic challenges and in the most vulnerable populations. Poverty, undernourishment, poor living and working conditions, among others, affect how people fall ill, develop TB and cope with the demands of treatment (including medical, financial and social), and influence the health outcomes they face. Thus, progress in combating TB and its drivers cannot be achieved by the health system alone and requires firm political commitment at the highest level, strong multisectoral collaboration (beyond health), and an effective accountability system.



MULTISECTORAL ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS TO END TUBERCULOSIS BY 2030

The multisectoral accountability framework to end TB (MAF-TB) was developed and launched by the WHO's Global TB Programme in 2019 to accelerate the multisectoral response to the TB epidemic at global, regional and country levels and to reach the targets and milestones of the WHO End TB Strategy and the target of ending the epidemic by 2030. It addresses accountability under four components: commitments, actions, monitoring and reporting, and review. WHO is supporting countries, regional entities and partners, in the adaptation and use of the Framework and strengthening of mechanisms, and producing guidance, support and resource mobilization.

[Read the document](#)

ADAPTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF WHO'S MULTISECTORAL ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK TO END TB (MAF-TB): BEST PRACTICES

The compilation of best practices includes case studies on adaptation and implementation of WHO's Multisectoral Accountability Framework to end TB (MAF-TB) to support effective collaboration and accountability of governments and stakeholders at the global, regional and country levels to propel progress towards ending the TB epidemic. It includes case studies on adaptation and implementation of the MAF-TB at the national and local level from all six WHO regions, and brings together a wide variety of country and stakeholder experiences and lessons learnt that can serve as a role model for other countries.

[Read the document](#)

OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE: ADAPTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF WHO'S MULTISECTORAL ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK TO END TB (MAF-TB)

The importance of a multisectoral approach has been a cross-cutting theme in political commitments to end TB since the development of the WHO End TB Strategy. This Operational guidance reinforces the links between two major parts of MAF-TB – global, regional and national (including local) MAF-TB. The main aim of the guidance is to facilitate and promote the adaptation and implementation of MAF-TB at national and local levels. Using the Operational guidance is an inclusive and participatory process that involves engaging relevant stakeholders before determining the actions to be taken.

[Read the document](#)

ENHANCED CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT TO END TB

About one-third of people who develop tuberculosis (TB) globally are not reached by current health services or systems. The engagement of affected communities, TB survivors and civil society in the TB response has grown since the first United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on the fight against TB. They are driving national advocacy campaigns on human rights and the elimination of stigma, treatment literacy and psychosocial support. Increased investment is required to strengthen and sustain their participation in service delivery, research, as well as in monitoring and reporting on progress made in the TB response.

The WHO Civil Society Task Force on TB (CSTF) and WHO's Director-General have released a joint statement highlighting key priorities for Member States and other stakeholders to inform preparations for the UN Multistakeholder hearing and second United Nations General Assembly high level meeting (UNHLM) on TB.

The joint statement calls on Member States, partners, international agencies, and communities to join forces to collectively drive a response that matches the scale of the TB epidemic, and emphasizes the need for the following actions:

- 1 Mobilize sufficient and sustainable financing for ending TB.**
- 2 Ensure accelerated people-centered actions, with bold strategies and based on the latest approaches ensuring universal access to TB prevention and care (drawing on lessons from the response to the COVID-19 pandemic).**
- 3 Strengthen the engagement of civil society, TB-affected communities, and TB survivors as equal partners in all aspects of the national TB response with strong primary health care.**
- 4 Encourage all sectors and stakeholders to work together and establish and maintain a high-level multisectoral accountability mechanism in all high TB burden countries. This is aligned with WHO's multisectoral accountability framework.**
- 5 Accelerate the development of safe and effective TB vaccines and facilitate their equitable global access, once available. The WHO Director-General and CSTF encouraged participation of Member States at the highest possible level of Heads of State, with representation of communities in each delegation for the second UNHLM on TB.**



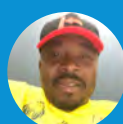
**JOINT STATEMENT: WHO
DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND THE CIVIL
SOCIETY TASK FORCE ON TB FOR
THE 2023 UN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING
ON TUBERCULOSIS**



**SOCIAL LISTENING COMMUNITY
FEEDBACK: TOGETHER WE CAN
END TB!**

WHO CIVIL SOCIETY TASK FORCE ON TB

The WHO Director-General and CSTF encouraged participation of Member States at the highest possible level of Heads of State, with representation of communities in each delegation for the second UNHLM on TB.



Bertand
Kampoer



Evaline
Kibuchi



Harry
Hausler



Jeffry
Acaba



Paran
Winarni



Tenzin
Kunor



Amir
Khan



Yuliya
Chorna



Roger
Kamugasha



Chamreun
Sok Choub



Jamilya
Ismoilova



Blessina
Kumar



Nyan Win
Phyo



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: PROGRESS AND WAY FORWARD



A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR TUBERCULOSIS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

TB research and innovation is essential to achieve global TB targets for reductions in TB incidence and TB deaths. Based on evidence from science, between 2018 and 2022, WHO has recommended interventions that shorten the duration of preventive treatment for TB infection to one month; treatment of drug-susceptible TB for children and adults to four months; MDR/RR-TB treatment to six-months (all-oral regimen), as well as new tests for TB infection and disease.

In 2020, Member States adopted a global strategy for TB research and innovation to set out key steps that Governments and non-State actors could undertake to increase public spending on TB research, ensuring that the benefits of TB research are shared equitably and commitment to create policy and regulatory frameworks favorable to advancing partnerships and collaborations needed to expedite research.



AN INVESTMENT CASE FOR NEW TUBERCULOSIS VACCINES

The research and development pipeline for new TB vaccines, diagnostics and medicines have moderately expanded in recent years. In 2018, there were at least 20 medicines, 12 vaccines and several diagnostics in clinical development. By mid-2023, the number of medicines and vaccines had increased to 28 and 16, respectively. The diagnostics pipeline was robust in terms of the number of technologies used but progressed slowly. Effective vaccines are critical to achieve rapid reductions in TB incidence and mortality.

In 2022, WHO launched an investment case to support health and economic argument for the rapid development and deployment of effective new vaccines.

The 2023 political declaration of the high-level meeting on TB and the WHO Director-General flagship initiative “FIND.TREAT.ALL. #EndTB”, 2023-2027 call for the rapid development, introduction and use of new TB vaccines. Accordingly, WHO is establishing a TB vaccine accelerator council to fast track the development and availability of new TB vaccines.

The funding target for TB research set at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against TB was \$2 billion per year; to date, annual funding has reached only \$1 billion. The Stop TB Partnership's Global Plan to End TB (2023–2030) estimates that US\$ 5 billion annually is required at minimum to meaningfully drive the development of improved tools to prevent, diagnose and treat TB.

To close the funding gap, stakeholders, including governments, the biomedical industry, other funders of healthcare research and civil society, should test and implement innovative models of financing, and novel methods of rewarding public health research and development.



© WHO / Blink Media - Nana Kofi Acquah

TB IN NUMBERS



**TUBERCULOSIS IS
ONE OF THE TOP
INFECTIOUS KILLERS
IN THE WORLD**



10.6 MILLION PEOPLE FELL ILL WITH TB


6 MILLION
MEN


3.4 MILLION
WOMEN

Including

1 MILLION
CHILDREN

People living with HIV
accounted for
6.7% of the total

1.6 MILLION
DIED FROM TB
(Including 187 000 TB deaths
among people with HIV)



**TB IS ALSO THE
LEADING CAUSE
OF DEATHS AMONG
PEOPLE WITH HIV**

and a major cause of
antimicrobial resistance
related deaths

≈0.5 MILLION PEOPLE DEVELOPED
MULTIDRUG-RESISTANT TB



Only about **36%**



of those needing MDR-TB treatment were enrolled on it



74 MILLION LIVES
SAVED (2000-2021)

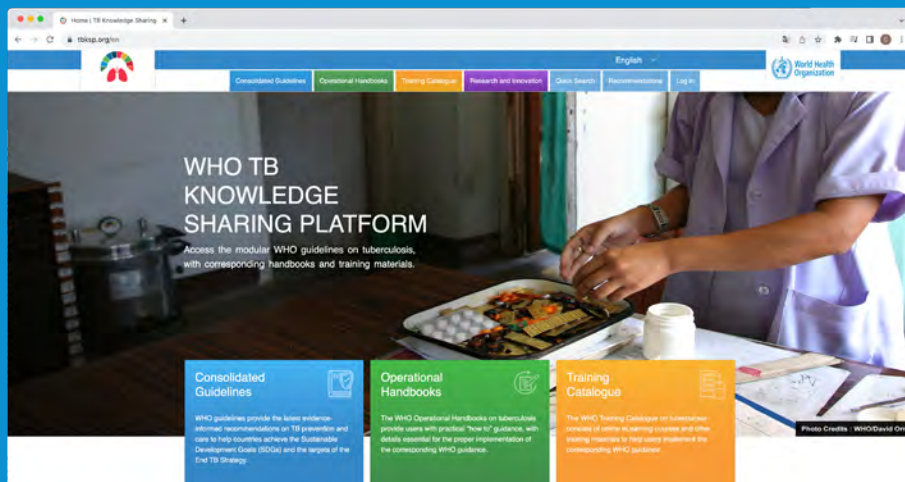


**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
HAS REVERSED YEARS OF PROGRESS
MADE IN THE FIGHT TO END TB**



KEY DIGITAL RESOURCES

TB Knowledge Sharing Platform: Modular WHO guidelines on tuberculosis with corresponding handbooks and training materials



End TB Channel: WHO Online End TB Course series

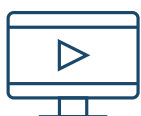
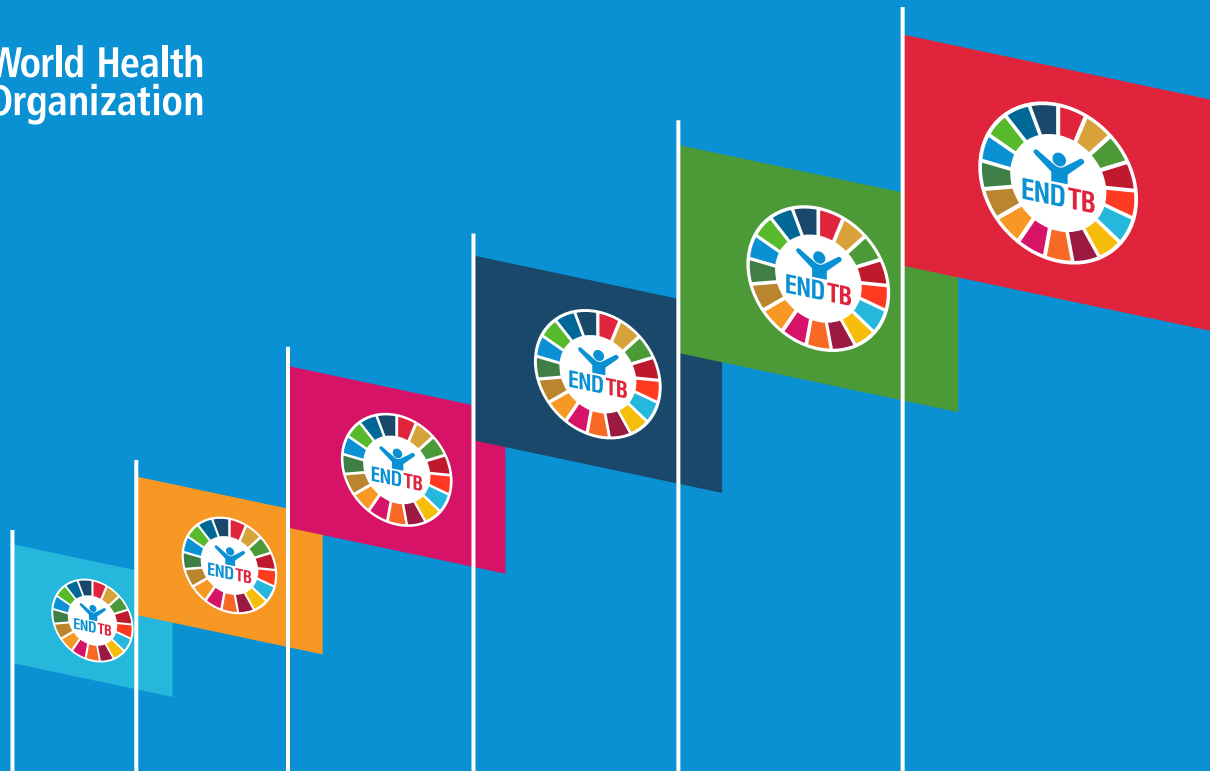


WHO Global TB Report App





World Health
Organization



HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WEBSITE

- <https://www.who.int/activities/preparing-for-the-un-high-level-meeting-on-the-fight-against-tuberculosis--2023>
- <https://www.un.org/en/ga/78/meetings>



VENUE

United Nations Headquarters
405 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017, USA

