

## 11. Engaging parliamentarians in the fight against global TB

Friday, 4 December 2009, 13:30 - 17:00, Room Isla Mujeres 2

### Description

Parliamentarians have a significant role to play in both international development and TB control within their own borders. Those parliamentarians sitting within a government decide how and where health and development money is spent. Parliamentarians sitting in opposition parties can exert pressure on government to increase spending on health, including TB, and can review the work of the government to ensure TB has the priority it needs.

### Relation to Conference theme

Poverty is a strong indicator of risk of tuberculosis. Efficient TB control programmes are needed to prevent the spread of TB, especially in the vulnerable populations of the community (including the poor in developing countries). Strong political commitment is essential for control programmes to succeed.

### Target audience

Open to anyone working on TB (clinical and non-clinical) and interested in engaging parliamentarians

### Objectives

Overall objective: 1) To provide participants with practical methods of approaching, engaging and sustaining relationships with parliamentarians Specific objectives: 1) To understand why parliamentarians should be made aware of, and engaged in, the fight against TB 2) To understand how parliamentarians can be engaged in such activities 3) To provide participants with information on current activities taking place worldwide with parliamentarians 4) To provide participants with resources and contacts to help plan future work with parliamentarians.

### Expected Outcome

1) Greater global awareness of the role of parliamentarians in TB control 2) Awareness of activities currently taking place with parliamentarians and TB 3) Practical knowledge on how to engage parliamentarians 4) Working towards a 'global network' of Parliamentarians engaged in TB issues.

### Keywords

Tuberculosis; advocacy; parliamentarians; awareness; engagement

### Presentations

1. Methods to engage parliamentarians and current worldwide activities
2. Discussion: How can I involve parliamentarians in the work I am undertaking ?
3. Why involve parliamentarians in the fight against TB?
4. Panel discussion and Q+A session with parliamentarians and speakers
5. Groupwork 1: Organising national and international fact-finding trips for MPs
6. Groupwork 2: I can't even make contact with my MP ?

### Type of session

Workshop

### Scientific Section

Tuberculosis

### Duration: Half-day

Meeting open to all delegates

### Max. attendees: 40

### Coordinators

Deborah Laycock  
(UK)

Louise Holly  
(UK)

### Chair

Sheila Davis  
(UK)

Kydd-Wright Katy (Canada)  
Debbie Laycock (UK)

Sheila Davis (UK)

Sheila Davis (UK)

MPs and parliamentarians (UK)  
Debbie Laycock (UK)

Katy Kydd-Wright (Canada)

Sheila Davie (UK)  
Joel Mayowa (Nigeria)