

156th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, 22-26 June 2015

CE156.R2
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RESOLUTION

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PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS

THE 156th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Having reviewed the proposed *Plan of Action for the Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis* for 2016-2019 (Document CE156/16),

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Directing Council adopt a resolution along the following lines:

PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS

THE 54th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Having considered the *Plan of Action for the Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis* (Document CD54/__) which proposes accelerating the control efforts in order to advance toward ending the tuberculosis epidemic, and to achieve proposed targets for 2019 of the PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019;

Recognizing the important achievements made in tuberculosis control in the Region of the Americas—reflected in the early achievement of the tuberculosis-related targets set in the Millennium Development Goals—thanks to the efforts of the Member States to implement DOTS (directly observed treatment, short course) and the Stop TB Strategy;

Aware that in spite of the achievements, tuberculosis remains a serious public health problem in the Region of the Americas, with more than 280,000 estimated new cases each year, of which more than 65,000 are not diagnosed or reported;

Aware that tuberculosis control in the Region currently faces new challenges linked to the epidemiological transition that the population is experiencing, such as an increase in noncommunicable diseases conducive to tuberculosis infection and disease (such as diabetes mellitus, mental illness, and harmful addictions), the persistent transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS) and forms of multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis, rapid urbanization with increased social and health inequities in the poor populations of peripheral areas, and the lack of necessary economic resources to target tuberculosis control activities in the most disadvantaged populations;

Considering Resolution WHA67.1 of the World Health Assembly, which adopts the Global Strategy and Targets for Tuberculosis Prevention, Care, and Control After 2015, which includes ambitious goals to end the tuberculosis epidemic, introducing health sector interventions with a multisectoral approach, technical innovation, and adequate financing;

Recognizing that this Plan of Action is a platform for the implementation of the Global Strategy,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the *Plan of Action for the Prevention and Control of Tuberculosis* (Document CD54/___).
2. To urge the Member States, taking into account their contexts, needs, and priorities, to:
 - a) confirm tuberculosis control as a priority in health programs;
 - b) renew their political commitment with the consequent allocation of sufficient financing and the human resources necessary to achieve the goals set in the national plans;
 - c) consider this Plan of Action when updating their national strategic plans, which will guide the implementation of the Global Strategy in accordance with their national contexts;
 - d) strengthen specific measures relating to tuberculosis control in the health sector, in accordance with international standards for tuberculosis care as framed in the Strategy for Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage, and with the primary health care strategy;

- e) take an interprogrammatic and multisectoral approach to tuberculosis control, as proposed in the Global Strategy;
 - f) introduce specific tuberculosis control interventions in vulnerable urban populations in accordance with the PAHO/WHO framework for tuberculosis control in large cities;
 - g) facilitate protective measures to prevent poverty caused by disease in people affected by tuberculosis and their families, through their affiliation in existing social protection programs in the countries;
 - h) involve communities, people affected by the disease, civil society organizations, and national and international technical and financial partners in activities to prevent and control the disease.
3. To request the Director to:
- a) provide technical assistance to the Member States in the preparation of national strategic plans that incorporate the Global Strategy with the necessary adaptations to national contexts;
 - b) advise on the implementation of the national strategic plans;
 - c) evaluate the achievement of targets proposed in this Plan for 2019;
 - d) promote the incorporation of new technologies and drugs for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis;
 - e) report to the Governing Bodies on the progress of the implementation of the Plan of Action and the achievement of its targets.

(Second meeting, 22 June 2015)