

Proposal for the Partners' Forum 2008

The principle of holding a Partners' Forum in 2008 was agreed at Jakarta (11th Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board meeting). The budget for the Partners' Forum was set at US\$ 365,700 and included in the 2006-2007 workplan. It is proposed that this budget rolls forward into the 2008-2009 workplan. Additional support will be sought from interested donors.

Background

The first Partners' Forum was held in 2001 in Washington DC, hosted by the World Bank. The second was held in New Delhi in 2004, hosted by the Government of India. The 2001 Partners Forum was attended by approximately 200 high level representatives. The 2004 Partners Forum attracted 350 participants, including more than 20 ministers or vice-ministers. Both meetings were held entirely in plenary.

1. The key outcome of the 2001 Partners Forum was the "branding" of the Partnership. This event, along with the launch of the first Global Plan and GDF, put the Stop TB Partnership on the map as a vital force in the fight against TB, gave it the stature of a major global movement, and generated momentum for advocacy through a flurry of attention in the prestige press and other media.
2. The major outcomes of the 2004 Partners Forum were the birth of a patient activist movement for TB, and a rapid acceleration of TB control efforts in several countries (e.g. India, Indonesia and China).

Vision

For 2008, we envisage an open, transparent and dynamic forum. We aim to assess progress, recognize and address weaknesses and inspire partners to achieve the targets set out in the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015).

Objectives

The purpose of the 2008 Partners' Forum will be to ensure the Partnership is fully fit and able to deliver The Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015). The Forum will be the focal point and framework to leverage ever more political and financial commitment and momentum for implementation of the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015).

In particular, we will aim to:

- Leverage political commitment and boost funding for implementation of TB programmes at donor and national level to meet the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015), MDG and Partnership targets;
- Systematically strengthen the engagement of constituencies and communities in the implementation of the Global Plan;
- Report on trends in implementing Global Plan;

- Influence TB control policy in participating endemic countries through bilateral Coordinating Board meetings;
- Report on and strategise on how best to implement the recommendations of the 2nd Stop TB Partnership external evaluation
- Provide a marketplace for connecting partners and enhancing our network of mutual support.

Identification of a Partners' Forum "Host City"

The Secretariat proposes to select the host city through a nomination process to be led by either Member States or partner agencies. Proposed host cities will be screened according to pre-established selection criteria. Such a process will ensure equal opportunities to all potential host cities and contribute towards creating excitement and momentum in the run up to the Forum.

The Secretariat will issue a call for nominations among Member States and partner agencies.

Member States and/or partner agencies interested in submitting a nomination on behalf of a proposed host city will elaborate on the following characteristics (which will be used as criteria to assess suitability to host the event):

1. Proposed Dates
2. Government Commitment - Potential
3. Media opportunities (local/regional/global)
4. Transportation Infrastructure & Accessibility
5. Venue Options
6. Accommodation
7. Security Situation
8. Corporate Sector Environment
9. Visa and other "access" issues

The selection process will be managed by a "Host City" Selection Committee, established for the purpose, under the auspices of the Coordinating Board. The Selection Committee will weight the criteria and rank nominated host cities. The Selection Committee will present the winning "host city" and date to the Executive Committee who, on behalf of the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board, will formally endorse the winning city.

The host city will benefit from the custom of a major high profile/conference event generating considerable revenue from hotel bookings etc but would also be an opportunity to generate media attention to showcase the city and be a chance for political advocacy and social mobilization within the country.

SEE ANNEX 1 - Questionnaire

Working Agenda

A] CALENDAR

Proposed Calendar (week of Partners' Forum)	
Monday	Coordinating Board
Tuesday	Coordinating Board
Wednesday	Field trips (as appropriate)
Thursday	Partners' Forum
Friday	Partners' Forum

B] PARTNERS' FORUM AGENDA

Day 1: Consultation and Dialogue with Partners

9.00 – 10.00 Opening

- Welcome – Head of State/host government
- Opening - National TB Ambassador
- Address WHO Director General
- Address - UN Secretary General Special Envoy
- “State of the Partnership” Address by Executive Secretary
- Statements by World Leaders

10.00-11.00 Assessment

- Assessing and recognizing progress against the targets/in key countries
- Identifying weaknesses

11.00-11.30 Family Photo and Coffee

11.30-13.00 Evaluation

- Is the Partnership “fit for purpose”?
- How can the Partnership take the recommendations of the External Evaluation and build the partnership for the future?
 - Breakout sessions (governance, working groups, technical assistance, resource mobilization and advocacy, community engagement)

13.00-14.30 Lunch

14:30-16.30 Building Constituencies for a Stronger Partnership

- Break-out sessions - how can the constituencies work better to deliver on the Global Plan and on the recommendations of

the External Evaluation (corporate, NGOs, technical agencies, community etc)

16.30-18.00 Feedback

- Input from break out sessions into the “declaration”

18.00 - Cocktail Reception

Day 2: Ministerial and Representatives forum

09.00-10.00 Opening Addresses (by Ministers and other Representatives)

10.00-12.30 High-Level Panel Discussions & Debates with Partners

- Amplifying the Partnership & Leveraging Impact at Country Level
- Future Potential and Perspectives

12:30-14.00 Lunch/ Press event

14.00-16.00 TB Financing Summit

16.00-17.00 Recognition Ceremony

17.00-18.00 Adoption of the Declaration/Closing Ceremony

Evening: Communication & Advocacy Event

- Concert, art exhibition, fireworks etc

CJ ADDITIONAL PROPOSED FEATURES

- The Secretariat would propose to run E forums, prior to the Partners Forum, on the key topics to be discussed in the breakout sessions. Outcomes of the E forum would be introduced at the outset of the breakout sessions in order to set the stage for the discussions and enable partners unable to participate in the Forum to have a voice.
- There will be an electronic match-making system devised so that partners attending the Forum can easily identify and arrange to meet with others for the purpose of furthering their mutual interests in fighting TB.
- Connections with the local business community, NGOs and the affected community would be actively encouraged through an exhibition and market place.
- A “Speakers Corner” will be established to facilitate open and transparent discussion
- The Secretariat will facilitate training sessions on key issues, as demanded by partners, in parallel to the main conference sessions (resource mobilization, media training, ACSM planning, drug management etc)
- Other meetings can be programmed in satellite - all Working Groups, sub-groups and taskforces may plan to meet.

- Coordinating Board members will be requested to undertake a calendar of advocacy meetings on a bi-lateral basis with key partners and participating agencies/countries.
- Key sessions of the Partners' Forum will be broadcast / streamed via the website.

Participants

Traditionally, the Partnership has invited Ministers of Health, Finance, Planning and (where relevant) Justice of high burden countries, the Coordinating Board members, a representative (normally the head) of each partner agency/organisation (of which there are now over 500), and other key "targeted" participants on a strategic basis. A limited number of developing country participants (including all high level affected country representatives) are provided with financial support. It is proposed that this balance be maintained with an anticipated participation of 600-800.

Questions for the Coordinating Board

Does the Board endorse select the process of selecting the host city by "bidding and nomination"?

Can the Board nominate 3 or 5 volunteers to serve on the Selection Committee?

Does the Board endorse the proposed working calendar/agenda for the Partners' Forum?

Annex 1]

3rd Stop TB Partnership

"Host City" Questionnaire and Nomination Format

HOST CITY:

Nominated by:

1. Date

Theme: The Partners' Forum 2008

Questions:

- When would you propose to host the Partners' Forum in your city?
- Does the proposed date conflict with any major events, national holidays scheduled at city and/or country level?

2. Government commitment

Theme: Political and financial support of the national and local Government

Questions:

- Describe how you intend to ensure the participation to the Forum of National Government representatives such as Ministers of Health, of Development/Foreign Affairs and of Justice/Social Affairs
- Describe how you intend to involve local and regional government representative to participate to the Forum.
- Describe how you intend to involve National Government representatives in advocating for the participation of representatives from key countries.
- What type of financial support can be provided by the National Government?
- What type of financial support can be provided by the local and regional Governments?

3. Media operations

Theme: The presence of press/media will ensure international exposure of the Partners' Forum

Questions:

- Please report on the number of foreign correspondents residing in the proposed host city.

- If there is a limited international press and media community presence in the proposed host city, how would you suggest the financial cost of transportation and accommodation for journalists be covered?

4. Transport

Theme: Transportation Infrastructure

Questions:

- Is there an international airport close to the proposed host city?
- Is the airport a recognized national or international hub?
- Please report on the number of scheduled international daily and weekly flights to major hubs.
- Is there a functioning local public transport system? Elaborate
- Can private vehicles be hired? Elaborate

5. Venues

Theme: Venue Options

Questions:

- The conference venue should have a capacity of at least 600-800 people. What venue options exist/recommended?
- Does the venue have extra services? (Modern audio-visual equipment, extra rooms for satellite meetings, open spaces for exhibitions, translation facilities and a press conference room).
- Does the venue have high-speed internet connection/internet café that can be opened to participants?
- Prestigious, serviced venues are needed for formal high-level meetings involving Government officials, VIPs, and high-ranking officials. Are these available? Is the proposed host city willing to provide the use of those venues?
- Venues for advocacy activities such as exhibitions might be required in addition. Please inform us of how the proposed city could make museums and galleries available.

6. Accommodation

Theme: All Standards of Accommodation Required.

Questions:

- Please report on the number of international standard hotels available in the proposed host city (by star rating).
- What other accommodation will be open to participants?
- Give an indication of "average" nightly accommodation costs.

7. Safety and Security

Theme: Safe and Healthy Environment

Questions:

- What UN Security Phase is the proposed host city?
- Has the host city gone beyond "phase 1" at any point in the previous year?
- Is the host city/government willing to provide discreet but efficient security for VIPs, Government Reps and UN officials?
- Please tell us about any potential environmental risks of hazards faced by the proposed host city (earthquakes, monsoon floods etc)

8. Corporate Sector Environment

Theme: Engaging the Corporate Sector

Questions:

- Please tell us about any opportunities you can foresee/propose to enable Stop TB to engage the local and international corporate sector for the purpose of attracting new partners and to support fundraising?

9. Visas

Theme: Access Issues

Questions:

- Please report on regulations related to entry visas together with health and vaccination requirements.
- Are there any restrictions applied to participants from any individual country?

10. Nomination Statement

- Please tell us why you are nominating this city as a potential host for the 2008 Stop TB Partners' Forum.