

To:
Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

CC:
Dr. Assad Hafeez, Chairman of the WHO Executive Board
Dr. Bernhard Schwartländer, Chef de Cabinet, World Health Organization
Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Deputy Director-General for Programs, World Health Organization

11 December 2017

Open letter regarding need for transparent, thoughtful process to determine the next WHO Global TB Program Director

Dear Dr. Tedros,

As advocates, survivors, representatives of affected communities, civil society organizations, and others invested in the fight to end tuberculosis (TB), we thank you for your attention to TB so far and your openness to hearing from civil society. With new tools to address TB, the momentum of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Ministerial Conference and plans for a United Nations High-Level Meeting on Tuberculosis in 2018, we are at a historical juncture for TB.

We understand that the WHO is undergoing a process for appointing a permanent director for the WHO Global TB Program to replace Dr. Mario Raviglione, who retired on 30 November 2017. We believe that a competitive, open process is needed to identify an experienced, change-oriented leader that is needed to drive forward evidence-based guidance and advance human rights in this pivotal moment on TB. In your curriculum vitae as a candidate for Director-General of the WHO you mentioned your strong track record “championing open and transparent communications to ensure everyone’s voice is heard.” As such, we urge you to lead a transparent process that gives full consideration to a range of candidates from diverse backgrounds and perspectives, to identify the best leader for WHO’s work with a range of constituents to end TB. This would include an opportunity to solicit the input of various stakeholders, including civil society, into the selection process.

We look forward to your response and to a fair, open process to identify the best candidate for this important role.

Sincerely,

Organizational endorsements

Treatment Action Group, USA
GCTA (Global Coalition of TB Activists), Global
Stop TB Brasil - Parceria Brasileira contra a Tuberculose, Brasil
RESULTS Canada, Canada
ACREOD, Afghanistan
KHANA, Cambodia
APCASO, Thailand
STOP TB Partnership – Tajikistan, Tajikistan
Good Health Educators Initiative, Nigeria
Saglamliga Khidmat Public Association, Azerbaijan
Radanar Ayar Rural Development Association, Myanmar
Wote Youth Development Projects, Kenya
National Coalition Of People Living With HIV in India, India
Empower India, India
Center for Change and Community Development, Nigeria
Caring Souls Foundation, INDIA
KANCO, Kenya
Fund for Global Health, USA
Moxafrica, UK
Observatório Tuberculose Brasil/ Ensp /Fiocruz, Brasil
Fórum ONGs TB RJ, Brasil
Rainbow TB Forum, India
Paner Hiv positive women network, India
Bolivian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (REDBOL), Bolivia
ARASMIN, INDIA
Grupo Hospitalar Conceição, Brazil
FATAL-RS (Fórum de Articulação contra Tuberculose e Álcool do Rio Grande do Sul), Brazil
Juntos por la Vida, Chile
Treasureland Health Builders Initiative, Nigeria
Stronger than TB, Ukraine
Centro de Educação Sexual CEDUS, Brazil
Ben Newman Hope Care Foundation, Ghana
Community monitoring committee for tuberculosis research, Brazil
Community and Family Aid Foundation, GHANA
Grassroots Poverty Alleviation Program, Kenya
Hope for Future Generations, Ghana
GLAPD_Africa, DR Congo
Rede Paulista de Controle Social da Tuberculose, Brazil
Global TB Community Advisory Board, Global
ACTION global health advocacy partnership, Global
Touched By TB, India
RESULTS Japan, Japan
International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, France

Individual endorsements

Khairunisa Suleiman, TB CAB, TB Activist, Kenya
Mandy Slutsker, ACTION Secretariat, USA

Jennifer Furin, Harvard Medical School, United States
Nalwanga Resty, Uganda Network of Young People Living With HIV&AIDS,
Uganda
Suraj Madoori, Treatment Action Group, USA
Jeffrey R. Starke, M.D., USA
Gagik karapetyan, WVUS, USA
Peter Wiessner, Germany
Alberto Colorado, Americas TB Coalition, United States
Brian Citro, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, USA
Ezio Távora, REDE-TB, Member of the Brazilian National TB CAB (CCAP TB
BRASIL), Member of the Global TB CAB, Brazil
Ataulhaq Sanaie, Find&Treat/UCLH, United Kingdom
Antonio Ernandes Marques da Costa, Comite Comunitaria de Acompaamento de
Pesquisa, Rio de Janeiro
Giselle Israel, Brazil
Choub Sok Chamreun, ACT! AP, Cambodia
Julio Croda, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
Blessina Kumar, GCTA, India
Tushar Nair, GCTA, India
Vikas Panibatla, TB Alert India, India
Ibrahim Umoru, Good Health Educators Initiative, Nigeria
Aung, Myanmar Health Sector Coordinating Committee (Country Coordination
Mechanism), Myanmar
Mukhtarli Elchin, Saglamliga Khidmat Public Association, Azerbaijan
Parvana Valiyeva, Support to Health Public, Azerbaijan
Chingiz Ramazanli, Towards TB Free Future Public Organization, Azerbaijan
Manojkumar Pardeshi, National Coalition Of People Living With HIV in India,
India
Zack Amata, Center for Change and Community Development, Nigeria
Yana Morenets, GCTA, Ukraine
Nana Gleeson, BONELA, Botswana
Roger Paul Kamugasha, GCTA, Uganda
Virginia Perrucho, Brazilian National TB CAP, Brazil
Carlos Augusto da Costa, Forum da Cidadania, Brazil
Mercy Annapoorani, Blossom trust, India
Tiemi Arakawa, Brazil
Sim, Fiocruz, Brazil
Fatima Scarparo Cunha, Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Roberto Targa-Ferreira, MD, Pulmonologist and TB specialist, Brazil
Domingos Alves, Center of Information and Informatics in Health (FMRP-USP),
Brazil
Valeria Rolla, Fiocruz, Brazil
Juliana Maira Watanabe Pinhata, Instituto Adolfo Lutz, Brazil
Pedro Silva, Rede TB, Brazil
Ifesinachi Sam-Emuwa, Treasureland Health Builders Initiative, USA
Erick Okioma, Kenya
Helenice Oliveira, Brazil
Benjamin Dzivenu Tsikata, Ben Newman Hope Care Foundation, Ghana

Valdes Roberto Bollela, FMRP-USP Ribeirao Preto School of Medicina University
of São Paulo, Brazil
José Carlos Veloso, Brasil
Jose Mauricio, Comite Tuberculose, Brazil
Erick Okioma, Victory Post Test Group, Kenya
Alphonse Otiato, Grassroots POverty Alleviation Program, Kenya
Evaline Kibuchi, Stop TB Patnership-Kenya, Kenya
Marcos Moreira, Grupo Pela Vidda, Brazil
Izaide Santos, Brazil
Miguel Hijjar, Fiocruz, Brazil
Anete Trajman, State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Naimov Safarali, Tajikistan
Anna Christina Tojal Da Silva, Brazil
Silvana Spindola de Miranda, Brazil
Miguel Hijjar Fiocruz, Brazil
Hector Jave, Peru
Mauricio Goncalves, Fundacao de medicina tropical, Brazil
Sueli Santiago Baldan, Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil
Iracema forni, Hfse, Brazil
Rhea Lobo, GCTA, India
Thomas Joseph, Consultant, South Africa
Shamim Mannan, India
Pubudu Parhirana, Sri Lanka
Albert Makone, Zimbabwe