

## SUMMARY SHEET

Agenda Nr. 2.05-7.0	Subject	Technical Assistance needs
For Information	For Discussion	<u>For Decision</u>

### Introduction

The increased financial resources for TB control provide an opportunity to accelerate response to tackle the epidemic. A total of 182 countries were implementing the DOTS strategy and piloting or scaling-up new approaches. Over 20 million patients have been treated worldwide under DOTS, with global case detection reaching 52% by the end of 2004 and treatment success rates more than 80%. However, progress is not sufficient to achieve global TB targets and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Many countries are encountering difficulties in scaling up programme implementation.

Essentially, Stop TB partners are facing an unfunded mandate. Lead technical agencies in the Stop TB Partnership such as WHO, KNCV, and The Union, have reallocated resources from limited budgets to try to meet the increasing demand for technical assistance (e.g. GFATM grants, human resource crisis, health system strengthening) but the lack of additional funding is restricting their capacity to provide the support that countries need.

### Summary

It is proposed that the *STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition* comprised of major technical partners of Stop TB Partnership needs to be established to ensure adequate technical support is readily available to countries to strengthen capacity to absorb external funding and implement effective TB control programmes. The strategic direction for the *STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition* activities over the next decade will be provided in the second Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015) which will be launched in January 2006 and which builds on the proposed Stop TB Strategy.

The *STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition* support will focus on 22 high TB burden countries, high prevalence TB/HIV and MDR-TB countries and will address the following three main activity areas:

1. Country support and assistance to GFATM grants implementation:
  - Strategic and technical support to countries
  - Capacity building at global, regional and national levels
2. Monitoring the implementation of TB control, and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals
  - Monitoring implementation of the second Global Plan to Stop TB and progress towards targets
  - Monitoring financial flows
3. Operational research and policy development

## Summary continued....

Financing of the *STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition* could be channelled via the Stop TB Partnership Trust Fund. It can reduce the transaction costs for donors and carries low administrative overhead. It also could enhance coherent coordination of technical cooperation for a large range of recipients. A monitoring and coordinating mechanism for the *STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition* will be established and the report on the progress of implementation will be provided on a 6-monthly basis to the Stop TB Partnership.

## Decisions requested from the Stop TB Coordinating Board

- Endorse the establishment of the STOP TB Technical Assistance Coalition
- Advise and assist the Coalition in fund raising

## Next steps and time frame

WHAT	WHO	WHEN	FOCAL POINT
Technical Assistance	Technical Partners (WHO, IUATLD, KNCV, CDC etc)	Ongoing	DOTS Expansion WG