

Eastern Partnership Ministerial Conference on Tuberculosis and Its Multi- Drug Resistance (MDR)

Riga, Latvia, March 30 - 31, 2015 (National Library of Latvia, Ziedoņa hall)

March 30, 2015

9:00-9:30 Arrival, registration

Opening Session

9:30-10:00 Welcoming speeches

Mr. Andris Piebalgs, Advisor to the President of Latvia
Dr. Guntis Belēvičs, Minister for Health of Latvia (tbc)
Ms. Marina Carzol, Former TB patient (Romania)

10:00-10:30 Tuberculosis is still a health threat in Europe: are we doing enough to address the epidemic?

Key speaker:

Dr. Marc Sprenger, ECDC Director

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

Panel I: Challenges to promote research on TB

Co-chair:

Dr. Lucica Ditiu, Executive Secretary, STOP TB Partnership

11:00-11:20 New scientific developments in TB control

Key speaker:

H.E. Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister for Health of South Africa

11:20-12:30 Panel discussion

Panelists:

Prof. Mike Catchpole, ECDC chief scientist

Dr. Manica Balasegaram, Executive Director, Access Campaign, Médecins Sans Frontières

Ms. Line Matthiessen, Head of Fighting Infectious Diseases and Global Epidemic Unit of the DG Research and Innovations

Prof. Frank Cobelens, MD, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation

Dr. Knut Lonroth, Medical Officer WHO headquarters

12:30-12:45 Discussions

12:45-14:45 Lunch

12:45-14:45 Technical Briefing/Side event organized by CHAFEA (hall – Jūra, language - EN)

Panel II: TB in vulnerable populations

Co-chairs:

Dr. Marc Sprenger, ECDC Director

Dr. Tonka Varleva, Director of the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Programme with the Bulgarian Ministry of Health (tbc)

14:45-15:15 Addressing the needs of vulnerable populations

Prof. Michale Kazatchkine, UNSG Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS

Video message of **Dr. Eric Goosby**, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Tuberculosis

15:15-16:35 Panel discussion

Panelists:

Prof. Ibrahim Abubakar, Head of Tuberculosis at Public Health England (UK)

Dr. Vaira Leimane, Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre of Latvia for Research and Training on MDR-TB Management (LV)

Mr. Lilian Severin, NGO Act for Involvement (Moldova)

Mr. Dimitry Pinevich, 1st Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Byelorussia (Byelorussia)

Mr. Timur Abdulaev, Global Coalition of TB Activists

16:35-17:00 Discussions

17:00 Closing of Day 1

19:00 Dinner (Heads of Delegations)

March 31, 2015

8:30-9:00 Arrival, registration

Opening Session

9:00-9:45 Strategy and targets to fight tuberculosis in the European Region now and in the future

Dr. Guntis Belēvičs, Minister for Health of Latvia

Dr. Vytenis P. Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety

Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe

Panel III: Financing of sustainable TB response

Co-chair:

Mr. Andrew Jack, Financial Times

9:45-10:00 Economic analysis and sustainable measures for TB control

Key speaker:

Dr. Hans Kluge, Director of the Division of Health Systems and Public Health, and Special Representative of the Regional Director to prevent and combat MDR-TB in the WHO European Region

- 10:00-10:45 Panel discussion
Panelists:
Ms. Maria Kirova, Head of Department, Asia, Europe, Latin America & the Caribbean - The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Mr. Ingus Alliks, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Welfare of Latvia
Mr. Saro Taturyan, Head of State Health Agency (Armenia)
Mr. Richard Bergstrom, Director-General, European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations
a.o.
- 10:45-11:00 Discussions
- 11:00-11:45 Coffee break
- 11:00 Family photo (Heads of Delegations)
- 11:15-11:45 Press conference

Panel IV: Inter-regional approach to combat TB

Co-chairs:

Mr. John F. Ryan, Acting Director for Public Health, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission

Dr. Masoud Dara, Programme Manager Tuberculosis and M/XDR-TB control programme, WHO

- 11:45-12:00 Cross-border spread of TB in the EU and neighbouring countries
- 12:00-13:00 Panel discussion
Moderator:
Mr. Peter O'Donnell, European Voice
Panelists:
Dr. Vytenis P. Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety (tbc)
Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe
H.E. Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister for Health of South Africa
Dr. Anders Nordström, Ambassador for Global Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden (tbc)
a.o.
- 13:00-13:15 Discussions
- 13:15-14:45 Adoption of the Riga declaration
Mr. Andris Piebalgs, Advisor to the President of Latvia
- 14:45 Closing of conference
- 14:50 Lunch