

SUMMARY SHEET		
Agenda Nr. 2.05-16.0	Subject	International Standards for Tuberculosis Care
For Information	For Discussion	<u>For Decision</u>
<p>Introduction: The <i>International Standards for Tuberculosis Care</i> describe a widely accepted level of care that all practitioners, public and private, should follow in dealing with patients who have, or are suspected of having, tuberculosis. The Standards are intended to facilitate the engagement of all care providers in delivering high quality care for patients of all ages, including those with smear-positive, smear-negative, and extra-pulmonary tuberculosis, tuberculosis caused by drug-resistant organisms, and tuberculosis combined with HIV infection. The focus of the Standards is primarily on non-NTP providers. In addition to presenting the standards themselves, it is intended that the document will serve as a companion for the Patients' Charter, describing patients' rights and responsibilities.</p>		
<p>Summary The document was drafted by a steering committee of 28 members representing a broad range of perspectives. Subsequently there has been substantial additional input by organizations and individuals. The document has been endorsed by WHO (via the STAG), KNCV, The Union, ATS and CDC (the TBCTA organizations). It is comprised of an introduction and 18 standards in 3 areas: diagnosis, treatment, and public health responsibilities. Each standard is backed by a review of existing evidence and the final section is a listing of research needs identified in the process of reviewing the existing evidence. In the diagnosis-related standards, the emphasis is on microbiological evaluation of persons who are suspected of having tuberculosis. Treatment standards emphasize the use of a standardized, internationally-recommended regimen administered using a patient focused approach and supervision that is mutually agreeable to the patient and provider. The public health responsibilities specified are that the evaluation of high-risk contacts (children and persons with HIV infection) should be ensured and that all cases should be notified to the NTP. A plan for dissemination and implementation has been developed and will be discussed.</p>		
<p>Decisions requested from the Stop TB Coordinating Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorsement of the Standards for the Partnership. 2. Provide advice on gaining further endorsements, dissemination, implementation and evaluation 		
<p style="text-align: center;">Next steps and time frame</p> <p>Following finalization, endorsements will be sought from NTPs and a broad range of organizations especially professional societies academic institutions, NGOs and donor agencies. Pilot trials of dissemination and implementation are planned for 4 countries during the coming year. Actual implementation will vary from country to country but will focus on involvement of professional societies and academic institutions.</p>		

Stop Partnership

WHAT	WHO	WHEN	FOCAL POINT
1.			