

Time for Change: New Approaches for Managing Drug-Resistant TB in Regions with High HIV Rates

Speaker Highlights

Mario Raviglione

Dr. Mario Raviglione was appointed director of the Stop TB Department in 2003. He joined the World Health Organization in 1991 as an associate professional officer sponsored by the Italian Government, to work on TB/HIV and TB epidemiology in Europe. Later, he became responsible for setting up the global drug-resistance surveillance project and the new TB surveillance and monitoring system. Between 1999 and 2003, he was coordinator for Tuberculosis Strategy and Operations globally, taking charge particularly of surveillance and program monitoring; operational research on community and private practitioner involvement in TB control; TB/HIV interaction; MDR-TB management in developing countries; and DOTS expansion worldwide. Currently, as director of the Stop TB Department of WHO, he is responsible for strategies and policies and works through a network of TB experts at all levels of the WHO.

He has had more than 150 articles published in influential health journals and books. As a leading expert in TB, he has served as a visiting professor in various medical schools and also lectures at international health conferences on global TB issues. He has been a member of the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board since its establishment in 2001. He graduated from the University of Turin in Italy in 1980, and later trained in internal medicine and infectious diseases in New York (where he also was Chief Medical Resident at Cabrini's Medical Center) and Boston, where he was appointed an AIDS Fellow at Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School. He is a recipient of the Princess Chichibu TB Global Award for his achievements in TB control.

Cynthia Eyakuze

Cynthia Eyakuze is the Director of Public Health Watch, a project of the Open Society Institute's Public Health Program. Eyakuze came to OSI in October 2007, after working for eight years at Family Care International, an NGO based in New York. Most recently, Eyakuze served as the Director of the Francophone Africa Program for Family Care International. In that capacity, Eyakuze directed large programs on HIV/AIDS, adolescent health and maternal health in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, guided fundraising efforts, managed a team (in New York and in-country) of technical and program staff, and led strategic planning and organizational development. Prior to that, Eyakuze was a Program Associate with the International Program of the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) and with WEDO (Women's Environment and Development Organization), where she coordinated advocacy efforts at the UN and with UN agencies, and carried out research on government implementation of the agreements reached at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) and at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). Eyakuze holds a Masters of Arts degree from Bryn Mawr College, and a Masters of Public Health (epidemiology) from Columbia University. She grew up in Tanzania, Congo (Brazzaville), Swaziland, and Burundi.

Alasdair Reid

Alasdair Reid is currently the HIV/TB Adviser to UNAIDS, assisting the organization in strengthening joint HIV/TB programming by building knowledge and capacity within the Secretariat and by strengthening the capacity of co-sponsors, partners, and countries to respond to the TB epidemic among people living with HIV. Trained as a medical doctor in Scotland, Reid specializes in internal medicine and infectious diseases. He developed his interest in public health while managing a district TB control program and investigating the impact of HIV on a rural district hospital in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. He consolidated this with a Masters in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and field work in inner-city London. Following this, Reid worked for four years in the Stop TB department of the World Health Organization, developing collaboration between TB and HIV programs to reduce the global burden of HIV-related TB. His experience includes global HIV/TB policy development and implementation at the country level; global monitoring and evaluation of collaborative HIV/TB activities; long-term planning for global control of HIV-related TB; and development and support of a global partnership to address HIV-related TB (the TB/HIV Working Group of the Stop TB Partnership).

Rhehab Chimzizi

Rhehab Chimzizi holds a Masters Degree in Community Health from the Liverpool University, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. He is the National TB/HIV Coordinator for Malawi's National TB Control Programme. He has been in this post since 2003. From 1999-2002, he was a Project Coordinator for the ProTEST project in Malawi, a WHO coordinated pilot initiative in Malawi, South Africa and Zambia to pilot the feasibility of implementing joint TB/HIV services. From 2000 to date, Rhehab has actively contributed to the development of various World Health Organization policies and guidelines for the implementation of collaborative TB/HIV activities.

Gregg Gonsalves

Gregg Gonsalves is the HIV/TB Coordinator for ARASA, the AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa. Through his program at ARASA, Gonsalves works to strengthen and support the empowerment of people living with HIV/AIDS and their communities and to build a cadre of knowledgeable leaders across the region as the basis of a broad social mobilization around the right to health. Prior to joining ARASA, he was the Director of Treatment and Prevention Advocacy at Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) in New York and a Policy Director for the Treatment Action Group (TAG). Gonsalves has worked on behalf of people with HIV since 1990, first as a member of ACT UP/Boston and then ACT UP/NY. He founded TAG in 1992 with a dozen other former members of the Treatment and Data Committee of ACT UP/NY.