

# 2019 Annual Report





# Table of Contents

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Introduction	3
Targets for 2017 – 2020	4
Our year in numbers	5
Our year in highlights	6

*Global TB Caucus would like to thank the many partners who have contributed to the Caucus' success in 2019. The Caucus and its staff rely upon the wider TB community for information and support, and its willingness to provide these does not go unnoticed.*

*Lastly, we would like to thank the members of the Global TB Caucus. Being a politician is a tough job with hundreds of competing demands, and often for little thanks. No member of the Global TB Caucus will win an election because of their work on TB, none are paid for their work with us, and yet hundreds of representatives around the world give their time and effort to this cause. Thank you.*

*The Global TB Caucus Secretariat*



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# 01 Introduction

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Throughout human history, no infectious disease has killed more people than tuberculosis (TB). In 2018, 1.5 million people worldwide died from the disease, 10 million people fell ill with the disease, and nearly half a million people fell ill with drug-resistant TB. It kills as many people each year as HIV and malaria combined, and yet, it is a neglected disease: largely ignored by donors, and under-funded by high-burden countries.

The future of the epidemic could be grim unless urgent action is taken now. Research commissioned by the Global TB Caucus (GTBC) has estimated that TB will cost the world USD\$1 trillion in lost economic output by 2030 if the world continues at its current rate of progress. There is a moral, social and economic imperative to take action on TB.

The GTBC is a unique international network of political representatives with support in more than 150 countries. Led by its members for its members, with the support of a dedicated Secretariat, the members of the Caucus work collectively and individually to end the TB epidemic.

The Caucus' specific focus is on supporting a global cadre of elected decision makers who are engaged on TB, informed on the challenges of the disease, prepared to use their role to act as interlocutors between civil society and governments, and prepared to take substantive action against the epidemic. Members of Parliament offer a unique ability to hold governments to account and amplify the voices of those who otherwise might not be heard.

However, a large part of the success of the Caucus relies on the engagement of national civil society organizations, who become focal points and work with the Caucus to provide national expertise.

Parliamentarians also hold governments to account through the creation of national TB caucuses which are independent networks of Members of Parliaments within the countries. These caucuses are a powerful channel to raise awareness on TB, and consequently on the UNHLM Declaration targets.

Following the UN High Level Meeting on TB held in 2018, the fight against TB has gained more arguments and the TB community has more instruments to push for coordinated efforts. Building on this momentum, the GTBC is working even harder to take the outcomes of the Declaration agreed in the occasion back to national Parliaments for its implementation.

In this update you will find news on our achievements in 2019, globally, regionally and nationally.



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## 02 Targets for 2017 – 2020

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Our mission is to build a sustainable political response to TB. We have three organisational priorities for 2017-2020 which will help us achieve that target. They are:

### **FROM CENTRALLY DIRECTED TO LOCALLY LED**

- Appointed and trained advocacy focal points in each Global TB Caucus key country (G20 or WHO long list High TB burden countries (HTBC)s).
- The establishment of links between National TB Caucuses and at least 10 national Stop TB Partnership platforms, bringing together stakeholders in priority countries.

### **GREATER REACH AND A STRONGER NETWORK**

- National TB Caucuses in 75% of G20 countries.
- National TB Caucuses in 75% of WHO HTBCs
- Representation of the Global TB Caucus in at least 130 countries around the world.

### **SHAPING THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA**

- Reference to TB on the agenda and in the communique of a G20 meeting.
- A meeting of Health Ministers from each of the High TB Burden Countries and an accompanying Declaration on TB.

### **THE KEY OUTCOMES WE AIM TO SEE IN 2020 ARE:**

- Unlocking new funding from at least one major donor for TB- related programmes.
- Securing increased funding for TB control in all WHO HTBCs.
- Improved integration of TB and HIV programmes from major donors.
- Improvement of policies against the Stop TB Partnership's benchmark 'Out of Step' Report and WHO Regional End TB strategies in all WHO HTBCs.



## 03 Our year in numbers

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### WHAT WE ACHIEVED:

93

the number of countries where MPs reported taking parliamentary action on the UNHLM TB targets

50

the total number of national TB caucuses in the world

6

the number of countries where MPs reported national TB or aid budget increases

18

the number of countries where MPs reported national multisectoral responses led from heads of state or from the ministerial level

87

the number of national CSOs that the GTBC connected with MPs in their countries

159

the number of countries that the GTBC is present in



## 04 Our year in highlights

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*Please find below our key achievements of the year, grouped by region.*

### Global

#### Achievements

- **In October, The Global Fund Replenishment targets were achieved**
  - The Global Fund to fight AIDS/HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria achieved its targets of raising USD 14 billion for its next three-year cycle. From all international resources dedicated to TB, 65% comes from the fund.
  - Parliamentarians played a major role in securing increased investments through meetings with government authorities, motions in parliament, letters to Heads of State and other initiatives to support the Global Fund Replenishment campaign.
  - Of the 59 countries that pledged, 43% of them had a national caucus, and 69% we have a member in.
- **G20**
  - Over the last three years, G20 leaders have recognised the importance of tackling TB for a proper public health response and committed to increase joint efforts to reach the international targets agreed by UN Member States. This year, under Japan's presidency, Leaders and Ministers of Health once more acknowledged the importance of addressing TB both in the AMR and UHC agendas and renewed their commitments to reaching the UN HLM on TB targets.
  - For the Global TB Caucus' G20 TB Campaign in 2019, which the secretariat led on the global stage, the aim was to help ensure that TB stayed firmly on the AMR agenda, and that commitments to TB research and development funding were maintained and increased. The Caucus would like to thank all its members for the countless efforts, in special our co-chair Rt Hon Nick Herbert from the UK, Hon Gisela Scaglia from Argentina, Hon Warren Entsch from Australia, and all the MPs who were engaged in the G20 campaign, with a special acknowledgement to Hon Keizo Takemi, Chair of the Stop TB Partnership Promoting Parliamentary Federation.
- **World Health Organization TB report 2019**
  - More people received life-saving treatment for tuberculosis (TB) in 2018 than ever before, largely due to improved detection and diagnosis. Globally, 7 million people were diagnosed and treated for TB - up from 6.4 million in 2017 – enabling the world to meet one of the milestones towards the United Nations political declaration targets on TB. WHO's latest Global TB Report says that 2018 also saw a



reduction in the number of TB deaths: 1.5 million people died from TB in 2018, down from 1.6 million in 2017. The number of new cases of TB has been declining steadily in recent years. However, the burden remains high among low-income and marginalized populations: around 10 million people developed TB in 2018.

- The fight against TB remains chronically underfunded. WHO estimates the shortfall for TB prevention and care in 2019 at US\$3.3 billion, even if it has doubled from 2006. International funding (which is critical for many low- and middle-income countries) amounts to US\$0.9 billion in 2019, with 73% coming through the Global Fund. The largest bilateral donor is the US government, which provides almost 50% of total international donor funding for TB when combined with funds channeled through and allocated by the Global Fund. There is an urgent need for funding of TB research and development, with an annual shortfall of US\$1.2 billion.
- The BRICS countries account for 53% of the available funding in 2019, and 95% of their funding is from domestic sources. In India, domestic funding quadrupled between 2016 and 2019.
- Seven high TB burden countries are on track for 2020: Kenya, Lesotho, Myanmar, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The Caucus has members in six of these seven countries, all of which have consistently been reported as highly engaged in our 6 monthly assessments of MPs activities and MPs reporting. In addition, National Caucuses exist in four of these seven countries. The Caucus engagement in Kenya, South Africa, Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe has been very strong over the last few years; these countries have true champions in parliament advocating for better policies and sufficient funding for the TB response.

## Americas

### Achievements

- **In May there was a Bilateral visit to Brazil and Argentina**
  - Aiming to impact on the G20 agenda with a TB campaign for the group, MPs Gisela Scaglia (Argentina) and Chico D'Angelo (Brazil) paid each country a visit and met with government authorities from the Ministries of Health, Foreign Affairs and Finance to discuss the language of the G20 leaders' declaration and the importance of addressing TB as part of the UHC and AMR response, as well as the Global Fund Replenishment.
- **In May there was a Bilateral visit to Mexico**
  - As part of the G20 campaign and with the mission to engage new parliamentarians in Mexico, Hon Luis Gallo (Uruguay) visited Mexico City and met with different parliamentarians from the Senate and the Deputies' Chamber and agreed on the relaunch of the National Caucus. It was also an opportunity to meet with government authorities from the Ministers of Health and Foreign Affairs and agree on priorities for a proper coordinated TB response.
- **In August there was a Bilateral visit to Chile**
  - As part of the Global Fund replenishment campaign, Hon Gisela Scaglia



(Argentina), together with Hon Juan Luis Castro (Chile) held meetings with authorities from the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Health to present the important link from the HLM on TB commitments on finance and the Global Fund replenishment campaign. This was an initial step to engage Chile as a potential donor to the Fund.

- **In September, the GTBC held the Americas TB Summit**
  - On September 16th and 17th, nine MPs from across the region met in Rio to discuss key post UN HLM on TB strategies and how MPs can work together regionally and nationally to ensure governments are held to account to the promises they made. (Link to video: <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalTBCaucus/videos/2535901173167248/>)

## Francophone

### Achievements

- **In September, the GTBC participated at UN High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage**
  - Hon Aurelien Simplicite attended the UN High Level Meeting on UHC in New York. During the meeting, The Central Africa Republic member of parliament and Chairman of the Health, Social Affairs and Labour Committee of the Pan-African Parliament Hon. Aurélien Simplicite gave a speech mentioning that parliamentarians must urge governments to systematically analyse each UN declaration and resolution and monitor their implementation, to ensure that concrete actions are taken during the budget exercises by each of the standing parliamentary committees. This is a clear way to effectively support budgets for health, education, the environment, etc., and urge governments to consider integrating priority health areas such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, nutrition, non-communicable diseases, maternal mortality reduction, vaccination, water and sanitation, to facilitate joint resource mobilization.
- **In November the Chad TB Caucus was launched**
  - Thanks to the engagement of Hon Pierre Ngayap (Cameroon) and civil society representatives, the Chad parliament officially launched the Chad TB Caucus on the 7th of November at the National Assembly of Chad in NDjamena. The Caucus was launched in the presence of the Minister of Health , Prof. Mahamoud Youssouf Khayal and the President of the National Assembly, Dr Haroun Kadi. Hon Dr Malloum Kadre will chair the Caucus that counts already 21 members.

## Europe and Central Asia

### Achievements

- **In February the Danish TB Caucus was launched**
  - On 27th February, Peder Hvelplund and Flemming Møller Mortenson, two Danish members of the Global TB Caucus, hosted a parliamentary hearing on TB in the Danish Parliament. The hearing brought together a number of stakeholders in the TB response including parliamentarians, civil society, and academics, to discuss





the future parliamentary response to TB in Denmark. The meeting was a great success, not only uniting a number of different stakeholders, but also resulting in the launch of a Danish TB Caucus, which will help to galvanise parliamentary engagement on the issue of TB throughout the Scandinavian countries.

- **In May there was a Bilateral visit to Belarus**
  - Hon Jamshed Murtazaqulov, from Tajikistan, and Dr Tsira Chakhaia, from the GTBC Secretariat, traveled to Minsk to meet with MPs and civil society representatives in the country, in partnership with TBEC.
- **In June the GTBC held the EECA Summit**
  - From the 20th to the 21st of June, MPs, the Global Fund, STOP TB Ukraine, MSF and TBEC gathered in Kyiv (Ukraine) for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia TB Summit, in order to enhance a sustainable political response to TB in the region.
- **In September there was a Trilateral visit to the Netherlands**
  - Hon Serhiy Kiral, from Ukraine traveled to the Hague to meet with Hon Anne Kuik to draw attention on the UNHLM targets and the work that needs to be done to achieve them in the region.
- **In September, the Caucus supported CSO training**
  - In this period the Global TB Caucus undertook several activities to support capacity building and the establishment of a sub-regional civil society network. In September, Kate Thompson, Western Europe Manager supported the TB Europe Coalition knowledge exchange training for CSOs in Europe. She also participated in the first meeting of the South and East Europe Regional TB and HIV Community Network

## **Africa**

### **Achievements**

- **In February there was a Bilateral visit to Tunisia**
  - The Africa TB Caucus attended the first quarterly Pan African Parliament plenary session of the permanent committees on gender, family, youth and people with disability & on health, labour and social affairs, under the 2019 African Union entitled: “refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons: towards durable solutions to forced displacement in Africa”. This was an opportunity to raise TB as a migration issue and find political solutions for this important phenomenon.
- **In March there was a Bilateral visit to Rwanda**
  - Hon Stephen Mule attended the African Regional TB Summit Post-UNHLM from the 4th to the 6th March, that aimed to accelerate efforts in finding all people with TB , as part of the Africa Health Agenda International Conference (AHAIC) 2019.
- **In April the National TB Caucus in Eswatini was launched**
  - The caucus was officially launched in April 2019 at the Eswatini National Assembly, by Hon Minister of Health Senator Lizzy Nkosi, in the presence of Hon Moshoeshe Fako (Lesotho) and Hon Chris Kalila (Zambia). This launch brought the Africa Region to a total of 19 national caucuses.
- **In May there was a Bilateral visit to Kenya**



- The Africa TB Caucus, in partnership with Stop TB Kenya, welcomed the chair of the Health Committee of South Sudan, Hon. Catherine Peters for a 1-day bilateral visit to Kenya, with the objective of strengthening the relationship with the country and agree on efforts to launch a National Caucus very soon.
- **In June the EAC Summit was held**
  - On the 24th of June, 11 MPs gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, to meet and build the EAC TB community, which will be key in delivering a global response to TB over the upcoming years.
- **In July the GTBC supported CSO Training**
  - In July, the Global TB Caucus supported two CSO trainings in South Africa and India, around building capacity for political advocacy and how to comprehensively engage with Members of Parliament for a more coordinated national response to TB.
- **In August the Africa Summit was held**
  - Praia (Cape Verde) hosted the Africa TB Summit, from 5th to 7th of August, where over 50 MPs, including 10 senior members of the Africa TB Caucus, got together to raise awareness on TB within the Pan African Parliament and agree on key steps to reach the international TB targets (link to the video: <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalTBCaucus/videos/516838972425727/>)

## Asia Pacific

### Achievements

- **In May there was a Bilat to Vietnam**
  - Hon Alexander O'Connor, Assistant Minister of Health for Fiji, and Hon Myoung Su with a delegation of Korean MPs visited Hanoi and Hai Phong in Vietnam between the 8th and 11th of May 2019. The purpose was to establish relationships with Parliamentary colleagues in Vietnam, discuss Parliamentary coordination at regional platforms including the APEC and APPFGH, and strengthen ties with the Korea delegation.
- **In August there was a Bilateral to Korea**
  - Hon Warren Entsch was supported by Stop TB Korea to attend a meeting with Hon Kim Se Yeon (Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Health and Welfare) as well as the high-level symposium co-hosted by the Global Fund and the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 26th and 27th of August 2019. The objectives of the meetings were to highlight the need for an institutional political response to TB in Korea and to discuss and emphasise for an increase in funding for global TB from the government of Korea. This meeting was also an initial step to incorporate the Korea TB Caucus as a sub-committee of the Health and Welfare committee of The National Assembly of The Republic of Korea.
- **APPFGH meeting in Fiji**
  - Along the side-lines of the 5th Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Forum on Global Health (APPFGH), Members of Parliament from the Asia Pacific region came together to discuss the importance of political engagement on TB. The session on



“Advocating for Stronger Parliamentary Action on Tuberculosis” was co-hosted with the WHO WPR Office with key support being provided by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services of Fiji as well as the Fijian Speaker of Parliament. The TB Side Event led to the signing of the Joint Statement.

- The Global TB Caucus co-hosted a breakfast meeting for MPs from the Pacific Islands to initiate a discussion on the launch of a Pacific Islands TB Caucus. During the breakfast meeting, MPs from the Pacific Islands supported the establishment of Pacific Islands TB Caucus.
- **In September there was a meeting in Indonesia**
  - In September 22nd - 27th, Tushar Nair, Asia Pacific Regional Manager of Global TB Caucus conducted staff travel to Jakarta, Indonesia. The purpose of this meeting was to establish partnerships with Stop TB Partnership Indonesia (STPI) as the Focal Point in Indonesia, re-establish connection with House of Representatives of Indonesia and also other stakeholders to contribute to ending TB in Indonesia. All stakeholders engaged supported the idea to establish National TB Caucus in Indonesia. Three Members of The House of Representatives joined the Caucus.
  - In September 25th, Global TB Caucus and Stop TB Partnership Indonesia conducted an Advocacy Meeting of Tuberculosis Partnership Forum. This meeting aimed to collect multi-stakeholder support from community organizations for political advocacy related to TB.
- **Union Conference (October)**
  - The 50th Union World Conference on Lung Health took place in Hyderabad, India, from 30 October to 2 November 2019. The Global TB Caucus held several agendas including: Asia Pacific Caucus Meeting, TB Legislation Workshop and Key Partners Meeting.

