



INDIA
भारत

73rd UNGA

High Level Meeting on Fight Against Tuberculosis

India Statement

By

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September 26, 2018

Mr President,

Thank you for convening this meeting.

India aligns with the G-77 statement.

This first-ever UN High Level Meeting is an opportunity to build consensus to work together.

Mr President,

Prime Minister Modi has shown personal commitment to tackle TB head-on. India plans to achieve the SDG target of ending TB epidemic by 2025, five years ahead of the deadline. To reach this ambitious goal, India has started implementing the National Strategic Plan and has increased allocation for TB control by 54% over last year.

We have adopted a patient-centred and community-based model. Our TB strategy is based on collaboration between the governments and all stakeholders and is customized to local contexts. It addresses the social determinants of TB through multi-sectoral response. We are partnering with private sector to improve access to TB care.

Our strong commitment is also translated into fostering international cooperation.

The 2016 "Delhi Call for Action to End TB in the WHO South East Asia Region by 2030" inspired actions for ending TB in the South East Asia region. The Delhi End TB Summit held in March this year brought together leaders, partners and all stakeholders from across the globe.

Mr President,

Equitable access to affordable medicines, diagnostic tools and technologies remains a concern. We must address all barriers against access to medicines and new technologies, including through use of flexibilities provided in WTO TRIPS Agreement and the Doha Declaration.

We need innovative partnerships to develop newer drugs, vaccines and diagnostics. India has established a TB research consortium to accelerate such efforts. Successful development of rapid molecular TB tests by using indigenous, affordable technology herald the potential that India holds for the future.

We remain committed to global efforts to end TB. India, being the largest manufacturer of TB drugs, will continue to promote access to affordable medicines.

We thank the Permanent Representatives of Antigua & Barbuda and Japan for facilitating the negotiation process of the Political Declaration endorsed today. It mirrors several of our concerns, priorities and commitments, and is a useful guide for future action.

I thank you.

Jai Hind