



8/19/08 TB WIRE

STOP TB USA was formerly known as the National Coalition for Elimination of Tuberculosis (NCET). Please pass this information on to your colleagues who are interested in TB elimination.

START PLANNING FOR THE MAJOR TB MEETINGS!

The World's major TB meetings are conducted by the International Union Against TB and Lung Disease (IUATLD) and by the American Thoracic Society (ATS). Below is information about these upcoming meetings. If you have never attended one of these sessions, they are a good place to learn the very latest about TB and also an excellent place to meet and network with colleagues from around the nation and the world. (Editor's note: There is still plenty of time to think about preparing abstract submissions for the annual IUATLD North American Region (Vancouver) and the ATS (San Diego) meetings listed below. Remember - Agency and academic officials are usually more likely to approve official travel to major meetings where their agency or institution's achievements, science and work can be presented.)

39th UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH: REGISTRATION OPEN

The 39th Union World Conference on Lung Health of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), will be held at the Palais des Congrès in Paris, France, from 16 to 20 October 2008. **The theme of the Conference is "Global threats to lung health: the importance of health system responses."**

This Conference will address how best the lung health community can help identify and eliminate the system-related barriers to the effective prevention of lung health threats and put in place both the much-needed public health measures and the appropriate medical care for the affected. Such measures will go from building a well-functioning surveillance system to equipping health facilities with the necessary technology and providing them with competent lung health workers for proper care.

Sessions will include the following topics: Response of health systems to MDR/XDR-TB; Health systems and human resources: Contribution of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; Chest radiography in the diagnosis of tuberculosis and other lung diseases for clinical and epidemiological purposes; Recent advances in TB drug Development Nutrition and TB: from molecular considerations to population health interventions; Controversial topics in MDR-TB management; Patient and provider education: successful models for strengthening TB programmes and public health systems; TB infection control: Country experiences and health systems response; Health system response for human resources: ensuring the TB workforce is present, competent, supervised, and supported; TB-HIV community activism: Key components of a health systems response; Surveillance and information systems to monitor TB-HIV programme activities in resource-limited settings; Tuberculosis vaccine research: Strengthening capacity in endemic countries; What animals can teach humans about tuberculosis; Delivering effective TB treatment to children: the challenges; Innovative approaches to increasing HIV prevention, care and treatment among TB patients; TB in migrant populations: ensuring equitable and effective access to TB diagnosis and care; Implementing the three I's: scaling up intensified case finding, isoniazid preventive therapy and infection control for TB for people living with HIV; Control of TB transmission in health care facilities: reducing the global threat to lung health?; Improving access to quality TB diagnosis for the

poor; MDR and XDR-TB: epidemiology, case finding, treatment and assessing impact of interventions; Establishing Tuberculosis vaccine research: strengthening capacity in endemic countries; Surveillance and information systems to monitor TB-HIV programme activities in resource-limited settings; Effective and responsive TB laboratory diagnostic systems in high burden countries; and, Engaging communities against TB and TB-HIV in Latin America: a PAHO initiative.

For more information about registration, hotels, etc., please go to the IUATLD Conference website at: <http://www.worldlunghealth.org/Conf2008/website/index.php>

IUATLD NORTH AMERICAN REGION MEETING – Vancouver, Canada 2/26-28/2009

The 13th Annual Conference of the North American Region of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) will be held **February 26-28, 2009, in Vancouver, Canada** at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel. The meeting Abstract Committee is calling for submission abstracts for poster and oral presentations of research on all aspects of tuberculosis control, including epidemiologic, clinical, basic science, nursing, social, behavioural, psychosocial and educational studies. Abstracts must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines. The deadline for abstract submission is October 31, 2008. For additional information, please contact the meeting website at:

http://www.bc.lung.ca/lungdiseases/tuberculosis_iuatld.html or download the call for abstracts at:

<http://www.bc.lung.ca/lungdiseases/uiatld-pdfs/08callforabstracts-letter.pdf>

ATS 2009 · SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – 5/15-20, 2009

The annual American Thoracic Society International Conference will be held **May 15-20, 2009, in San Diego, California**. Electronic submission of abstracts on all aspects of respiratory disease (including basic and clinical science, epidemiology and social, biobehavioral, psychosocial and educational aspects) are welcome for presentation at this conference. Membership in the ATS is not a prerequisite for participating in the program. The size limit for the abstract is 2179 characters (including authors, institutions, title, body, e-mail address, funding sources, tables and figures and spaces in between words). **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2008 (11:59 pm Central Time)**. Additional information about abstract submission is available on the ATS website at:

<http://www.thoracic.org/sections/meetings-and-courses/international-conference/2009/call-for-abstracts.html> We will include information in the **STOP TB USA WIRE** about meeting registration as soon as it is available.

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL ARTICLES ON EXTENSIVELY DRUG RESISTANT TB

Three up-to-date articles on XDR –TB are available free on the New England Journal of Medicine website. They include an editorial article by WHO's Dr. Mario Raviglione entitled: **Facing Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis — A Hope and a Challenge**. This editorial is available at:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/359/6/636?query=TOC>

The second and complete article by Dr. Carole D. Mitnick, et al, is entitled **Comprehensive Treatment of Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis**. This article is available at:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/359/6/563?query=TOC>

The third article (letter to the editor) by Drs. Edward D. Chan, Matthew J. Strand, and Michael D. Iseman, entitled **Treatment Outcomes in Extensively Resistant Tuberculosis** is at:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/359/6/657-a?query=TOC>

ENSURING INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN TB TREATMENT STUDIES

We have been asked to pass on the news that the article “**Ensuring the Involvement of Children in the Evaluation of New Tuberculosis Treatment Regimens**” has been published on the PLoS Medicine website today. t <http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1371/journal.pmed.0050176>. This is open access, and interested persons are encouraged to share this link with anyone interested in reading, reproducing or distributing the paper.

If you wish to receive the **STOP TB USA** messages at a different e-mail address, or if you no longer wish to receive these messages, please reply to jseggerson@tbcoalition.com