



1/27/09 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.

UPDATE FROM THE AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY: FY 2009 TB APPROPRIATIONS

We have been asked to pass on this ACTION ALERT from STOP TB USA Partner, the American Thoracic Society:

Details of the Senate economic stimulus bill were released today. Although the bill includes \$400 million for HIV/AIDS and STD testing, the language does not include TB as the House bill language did. (The House bill provides \$355 million for the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD's and TB). Senate committees are finalizing the bill and will send it to the Senate floor within the next week or so. Following this step, members of the House and Senate Appropriations and Finance and Ways and Means committee's will work out the differences between the 2 bills. It is during this process that we may be able to ensure that TB is included in the final bill and that the DTBE will get some of this funding.

Advocates in the states of CA, WA, LA and TX are asked to contact Sens. Feinstein, Murray, Landrieu and Hutchison to request that the final economic stimulus bill include the House bill language which directs funding to the Center for HIV/AIDS, STD's and TB, and if possible, if a specific allocation of \$60 million can be provided for domestic TB. Reference the FY09 authorization level of \$200 million for domestic TB authorized under the Comprehensive TB Elimination Act, enacted in October 2008. The FY08 funding level was \$140 million, so an allocation of \$60 million in the stimulus package would bring us to this level.

IUATLD REGIONAL CONFERENCE: 2/26-28/09 - Vancouver, Canada

Reminder: There are now some good airfares and still plenty of time to register for the 2009 Conference of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) - North American Region that will take place in Vancouver, BC, Canada, on February 26 - 28, 2009. The meeting theme is: *Reaching the Unreached: Eliminating TB among Indigenous and Marginalized Populations*. The conference will begin at 4:45 pm on Thursday, February 26, and end at 5:00 pm on Saturday, February 28. The preliminary program, registration forms and hotel information are all available now at:

http://www.bc.lung.ca/lungdiseases/tuberculosis_iuatld.html

Prior to the IUATLD meeting, STOP TB Canada will host a North American STOP TB meeting beginning on Thursday, February 28, beginning at 8:00 am and U.S. attendees are invited. We will also have a thorough update and discussion on FY U.S. 2009 & 2010 TB-related domestic and global appropriations and related advocacy and education efforts at a special STOP TB USA session at noon on

February 28 prior to the IUATLD North American Region Conference. The STOP TB meetings will be open to all interested parties.

TB PUBLIC HEALTH POSTER SESSION SCHEDULED FOR ATS 2009 SAN DIEGO.

NOTE FROM CDC: The 2009 International Conference of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) will be held in San Diego, California May 15-20, 2009. For general information regarding the conference, please see <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/meetings-and-courses/international-conference/2009/index.html> Important scientific programs at this conference will offer the latest information in clinical science, basic science, and translational aspects of respiratory disease and public health education. Sessions will be held for tuberculosis as well as asthma, sleep apnea, lung transplantation, lung injury, lung development, pediatric pulmonology, genomics, and proteomics. Topics in this important public health and scientific conference will be presented in symposia, clinical tracks, seminars, and poster sessions and oral presentations of original research.

As in past years, the ATS 2009 conference will feature a public health poster session of special interest to tuberculosis (TB) control entitled: Tuberculosis Control Strategies. Due to the great interest at the joint poster discussion session last year, we are happy that this session will again be jointly sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and the Canadian Tuberculosis Committee (CTC). Dr. Kashef Ijaz (CDC) and Dr. Kevin Elwood (CTC and British Columbia TB Program) will be co-chairpersons for the poster session.

This public health poster forum will take place on Sunday, May 17th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The forum will focus on innovative techniques that are helping to meet the challenges of TB prevention, control, and elimination in the United States and Canada. The TB public health poster sessions have always been well attended at past conferences. The poster presentations are excellent, the discussions lively, and the session provides a great opportunity to meet others involved in TB control.

Please consider developing an abstract for poster presentation on a significant or innovative aspect of your area TB control program for this joint 2009 poster forum. This is an excellent opportunity for you or someone in your program to exchange information about an effective strategy or intervention that may be useful to other colleagues. Techniques that are associated with improvements in TB control practices would be especially appropriate for poster presentation during this session. We are interested in posters regarding:

- Updated policies/procedures and successful activities for conducting TB-related contact investigations, including successful treatment completion in contacts identified with tuberculosis infection. Posters detailing the use of programmatic and epidemiologic data to develop and update policies and procedures will be especially welcome.
- Successful activities for the evaluation and treatment of immigrants and refugees.
- Reports of tuberculosis outbreaks, including surveillance and program activities related to detection and control of outbreaks, MDR TB outbreaks, and the development and use of outbreak response plans.
- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in high-risk populations, such as African-American communities, foreign-born persons, aboriginal populations, homeless persons, or populations along the U.S./Mexico border.
- Innovative and successful interventions to increase adherence and completion of treatment for tuberculosis disease and infection.
- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in persons with HIV-infection.

- Successful activities or interventions to prevent and eliminate tuberculosis in persons incarcerated in correctional facilities.
- Successful training and education materials, courses, or sessions for tuberculosis program staff, public and private healthcare providers, or successful educational efforts developed for patients with tuberculosis infection or disease.
- Successful efforts to comprehensively evaluate and improve tuberculosis prevention and control programs.
- Successful implementation of the use of new diagnostic tests for latent TB infection or TB disease.

This year we are again asking for electronic submission of the poster abstracts. Since this session is jointly sponsored by CDC, PHAC, and CTC, rather than the ATS, these abstracts will not be published in the ATS conference book. However all abstracts will be printed and handed out at the session. Instructions for abstract submission, related forms, and a sample abstract are attached. **Please use the attached electronic form to describe your proposed poster.** Abstracts should be submitted to Dr. Kashef Ijaz at kijaz@cdc.gov. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is March 13, 2009. We will make notifications regarding acceptance of abstracts by April 10, 2009.

Unfortunately, we may have to limit the number of accepted posters because of anticipated space and time restraints. Posters will be selected based on quality, date of receipt, innovation, and potential for application elsewhere. For further information, submitters from the United States should contact Dr. Kashef Ijaz at kijaz@cdc.gov or by telephone at (404) 639-5314. Submitters from Canada should contact Dr. Edward Ellis at Edward_Ellis@phac-aspc.gc.ca or by telephone at (613) 948-2153.

Please forward this announcement to clinicians, public health nurses, and others in your program area who may be interested in submitting a poster abstract.

ATS 2009 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Later this week, **STOP TB USA** will send out via e-mail the detailed preliminary TB-related agenda for the American Thoracic Society 2009 International Conference to be held in San Diego. Including the above mentioned poster session, there are an expected 200 or more TB-related presentations and posters which make it one of the world's major tuberculosis conferences.

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ELIMINATION OF TB TO MEET MARCH 3-4

The Advisory Council for the Elimination of Tuberculosis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will meet on March 3-4, 2009, in Atlanta at 8 Corporate Square, Conference Room A/B/C. These are open and public meetings. Topics will include updates on: the TB cooperative agreement funding formula for health departments; Foreign-born TB guidelines; CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine's activities, Drug Resistance Surveillance in Mexico; and TB-related laboratory activities. There will also be updates from the African-American Workgroup and the Joint ACIP/BCG Workgroup.

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

STOP TB USA
 1911 Olde Village Run
 Dunwoody, GA 30338
 Tel: 202-494-2448

