



3/9/09 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.

FROM ATS: TB APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

This information is from STOP TB USA Partner, the American Thoracic Society (ATS):

The House of Representatives passed the 2009 Omnibus appropriations bill that includes the CDC TB funding, but there are not enough votes to pass it yet in the Senate. The final amount in the House bill was \$143.9 million or an increase of 2% to 2.5%. Attempts to pass the Bill in the Senate will continue. Current health programs including the CDC TB programs have been funded since October 1 by continuation appropriations. A new continuation appropriation was passed again for that purpose. (Last Friday, March 6, 2009 the President signed it into law. It continues appropriations until this Wednesday, March 11.) The Senate is expected to take up the 2009 Omnibus appropriations bill again on Tuesday of this week.

It is expected that the President will present a more detailed 2010 budget at some time around March 30th and we will know then what the Administration is recommending for TB in 2010.

Now is a good time to educate members of the House and Senate by sending letters to remind them that: "Congress passed the *Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Act (P.L. 110-392)* in September on unanimous bipartisan votes. The new law will strengthen domestic TB control through increased funding for CDC's Division of TB Elimination (DTBE) and intensified efforts to combat TB among high risk populations and along the U.S.-Mexico border. The new law also provides a reinvestment into the development of new TB diagnostic, treatment and prevention tools. We urge you to put the U.S. back on the path to TB elimination by providing \$210 million for CDC's domestic TB program, as authorized under the Comprehensive TB Elimination Act, in the FY10 Labor-Health and Human Services Appropriations bill."

DR. HAZEL SWANN – LONG TIME TB CONTROLLER FOR WASHINGTON, DC

We have learned that Hazel Marie Swann-Jones, M.D., the former Director of Tuberculosis Control for Washington, DC, died on February 24, 2009. She is survived by her two children, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Dr. Swan was well known in the TB community for her great humor, her careful interest in her patients, and her immense compassion for all those who were struggling with life.

WORLD TB DAY MARCH 24

The annual events on World TB Day commemorate the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *M. tuberculosis*, the bacteria that causes TB. STOP TB USA and key partners continue to plan for World TB Day, which is officially on March 24 of each year, although the celebrations and

activities often occur on other days around that date. We will soon be reporting on additional plans for World TB Day.

To keep up to date on the planned activities, check the WORLD TB DAY websites of our partners which are now up and running:

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/WorldTBDay/default.htm>

CDC is also posting and regularly updating plans for World TB Day activities in the 50 states at this site: <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/WorldTBDay/2009/activities.htm>

GLOBAL STOP TB PARTNERSHIP: http://www.stoptb.org/events/world_tb_day/2009/

The GLOBAL STOP TB PARTNERSHIP is also posting and regularly updating plans for World TB Day activities from around the entire world at this site: <http://www.worldtbday.org/>

The **ATLANTA TB WALK** will be held the Saturday before World TB Day: In Atlanta, CDC and the National TB Controllers Association will again collaborate to sponsor the annual "TB Awareness Walk" planned for Saturday, March 21, 2009 in Grant Park in Atlanta. Registration for this event and the distribution of t-shirts start at 8:00 am and we will be walking by 9:00 am. They are inviting all to join in for this event. **STOP TB USA** will have a walking group there! For those who can attend, we encourage you to register online at www.tbwalk.org as soon as possible. (If you are not already part of a group, sign up for the **STOP TB USA** group!) There is no registration fee and free t-shirts will be provided. If you will be in Atlanta, sign up!!

MAJOR UPCOMING TB and TB-RELATED MEETINGS

ATS 2009 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The American Thoracic Society (ATS) 2009 Conference will be held in San Diego, California, May 15-20. There are an expected 175-200 TB-related presentations and posters which make it one of the world's major tuberculosis conferences. If you have not seen the Preliminary TB-related agenda for this conference, and you would like to see it, please e-mail jseggerson@tbcoalition.com.

REGISTRATION: ATS 2009 International Conference Registration can be done by internet, mail, fax or phone. For additional information regarding this conference (registration, hotels, etc.), please see the following website:

<http://www.thoracic.org/sections/meetings-and-courses/international-conference/2009/register.html>

For general information about the conference see: www.thoracic.org/go/international-conference

Advance registration must be done by March 24, 2009, in order to be eligible for the reduced Early-Bird rate. Registrations will be accepted and processed after that at the higher registration fee.

2009 U.S. NATIONAL TB CONFERENCE - June 15-18, 2009

The 2009 National TB Conference, will be held June 15-18, 2009, at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme for this year's conference is "*TB Elimination – It Takes a Village.*" Invited participants for the 2009 conference include state and big city TB Controllers, TB Nurse Consultants, TB

Program Managers, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination (DTBE) field staff, TB laboratory staff, and Regional Training and Medical Consultation Centers (RTMCC) leadership. The deadline for conference registration is **Friday, May 1, 2009**, and the conference registration fee is \$400. To register for the conference and for more information, go to following website:

<https://www.signup4.net/public/ap.aspx?EID=2004221E&OID=130>

OTHER TB MEETINGS IN ATLANTA THE WEEK OF JUNE 15-18, 2009

Monday June 15: 8:00 am – 2:30 pm: The National TB Nurse Coalition Education Annual Meeting.

Monday June 15: 8:00 am – 2:30 pm: National Society of TB Clinicians Annual Meeting

Monday June 15: 8:00 am – 2:30 pm: Tuberculosis Laboratory Meeting

Monday June 15: 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm: National Tuberculosis Controllers Association Annual Meeting

CDC also plans to hold meetings for its TB Field staff (Medical Officer and Public Health Advisors) on Monday, June 15.

For additional information on the above meetings go to the following website:

<https://www.signup4.net/public/ap.aspx?EID=2004221E&OID=110>

Tuesday, June 16 at 12:30 pm: The **STOP TB USA** Annual Meeting is scheduled for 12:30 pm in Atlanta on June 16 at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel. This meeting will be open to all and no registration will be necessary. Topics and the agenda for this meeting will be announced as the date approaches.

40th UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH

This is the first opportunity in years for TB partners in the Western hemisphere to attend a nearby Union World Conference on Lung Health which is normally held in Europe. The conference will be held December 3-7, 2009, in Cancún, Mexico. Cancún is easily accessible from the U.S. and there are expected reasonable air fares from the U.S. mainland. Updated information on the conference (registration, etc.) will be posted on this website as it becomes available.

The deadline for submitting abstracts for presentation at this 40th Union World Conference on Lung Health is on 15 March 2009. You must submit and abstracts before this deadline. The link for accessing the online abstract submission system is: <http://www.worldlunghealth.org/Conf2009/abstracts/>

Submission and technical guidelines are available for consultation on the site.

In accordance with the theme of the conference “**Poverty and Lung Health**,” they are particularly interested in attracting abstracts on the following broad topics: **tuberculosis**, asthma, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS, tobacco related and all other lung diseases as well as the health consequences of air pollution.

All submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Programme Committee. Those abstracts that are selected will then be allocated to one of the following session formats: thematic slide presentation, poster discussion session and poster display session. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their abstracts before the **end of June 2009**. Selected abstracts will be published in the Abstract Book of the conference as a supplement to the International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IJTLD).

Should you have any queries or difficulties in submitting your abstracts please do not hesitate to contact: scientific2009@theunion.org .

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 jsegerson@tbcoalition.com

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