A GUIDE FOR ADVOCATES SUPPORTING COUNTRY INTERVENTIONS AT THE UN HLM ON TB

During the High Level Meeting on TB, member states will have the chance to make an intervention during the plenary segment portion of the agenda. Representatives of states can take up to 3 mins to make a statement, while representatives of blocs of nations can take up to 5 mins. As advocates, you have the opportunity to communicate to decision makers in your capitals and at UN Missions in New York about what you want to hear from your government on this world stage. We want member states to show up and make strong interventions that include a statement for the public record, an ask of the community, and a meaningful commitment to action. Read on to learn more, as well as see real world examples from the 2018 HLM and advocates working to get their country to make a stand at the upcoming #2023TBHLM.

1. MAKING A STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

This means that your government should acknowledge the state of TB within the nation, inclusive of key response successes to be proud of and challenges in need of additional attention at home and abroad.

Example from Kenya at the 2018 HLM: Kenya is among the 30 high-burden countries...Despite gains against the TB epidemic in Kenya in 2017, an estimated 169000 people fell ill with the disease, and only about 50% were tested and enrolled in treatment...TB is therefore not only a medical problem, but a social and economic one.

Example from advocates working on the 2023 HLM in Canada: As seen across the world, Canada's longstanding efforts to reduce and eliminate TB suffered a serious setback as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ability to offer crucial services, particularly to Indigenous communities, was compromised as resources were redirected to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. We have more work to do in the fight against TB at home and abroad.

2. MAKING AN ASK

This means that your government should celebrate national or partner leadership in the fight and call on other nations or partners to follow suit.

Example from Antigua and Barbuda at the 2018 HLM: We call on countries to follow the WHO End TB Strategy and the Global Plan to End TB...more importantly at the global level we call on the international community to exceed the US 1.4 billion annual funding gap for TB interventions and the additional US 1.3 billion for research.

Example from advocates working on the 2023 HLM in Indonesia: Indonesia has committed to nation wide programmatic scale up of the new six month, all oral BPaL regimen in 2024. We call on all countries to rapidly adopt new WHO recommended treatments for drug-resistance TB too.

3. MAKING A COMMITMENT TO ACTION

This means that your government should make a strong and NEW commitment to action that will drive impact at home or abroad.

Example from the US at the 2018 HLM: Today I am pleased to announce that we are reaffirming our commitment with the release of an unprecedented strategic plan for TB research.

Example from advocates working on the 2023 HLM in India: Today we announce a national roadmap to end TB in India by 2025.