

May 8 & 9, 2018 – Consultation meeting, Geneva

- We recognize TB to be a challenge for achieving several of the SDG goals in all of our countries, and that innovation in tackling TB opens possibilities for equitable and sustainable growth
- We express with deep concern the issue of market failure in which pharmaceutical companies are not producing new diagnostics, medicines and vaccines required to combat TB. The existing TB product development pipeline is too limited and too slow to warrant the timely development of critical tools required to fight the disease.
- We recognize also that TB R&D suffers from fragmentation of efforts, which may further lead to duplication of work, monopolistic practices, leading to inability to offer accessible innovation to patients and health care providers in quick and flexible ways.
- We also recognize that effective implementation of R&D requires common understanding among various sectors in each country (multi-sectoral collaboration) in line with each country's national goals, to enable the various building blocks of innovation, including development of human capital, resources, and institutions in health-research, health, and non-health sectors.
- Recognizing that the BRICS have critical role to play in addressing this need, we commit to carry forward the vision of accelerating research and innovation, through the BRICS cooperation mechanisms, and implement ambitious goals and blueprints, with the aim of enabling BRICS to play a leading role in the end TB response
- We agree to work more collaboratively among ourselves, including through transfer of technology, to improve knowledge and share experiences and information, including genomics to improve clinical care and advance patient centered innovations, to reduce duplications in new research and evaluation mechanisms, and increase the efficiency of resources.
- We further agree to strengthen transnational cooperation to finance, enable and conduct research needed to transition us from being consumers to suppliers of affordable and accessible innovative tools required to fight the disease. We conclude that we should work together to accelerate the development of rapid point of care diagnostic, safer and more effective pre and post exposure vaccines (POI and POD), shorter, safer and more effective treatment regimens (for all forms of TB, including latent TB), and generate evidence on the effective adoption of innovative interventions to address environmental, social and biological determinants of the disease, so that we can make informed decisions about the adoption and use of new technologies.
- We welcome the establishment of a collaboration platform for TB research amongst the BRICS. In this regard, BRICS countries will increase domestic funding for TB research, investing in infrastructure to facilitate collaboration, creating platforms for BRICS research that enable the development of common protocols, facilitating international research collaborations and impact on accelerating the translation of TB research into clinical practice. We decide to kick off and advance the process by creating the initial linkage through a WHO TB genomics platform and affirm our commitment to the eventual realization of the larger vision as early as possible by building on ongoing collaborative undertakings.
- We positively value strong support from the WHO in coordinating future collaborative projects, in line with public health goals