

STOP TB NEWS

April 2008

"I AM STOPPING TB"

World TB Day highlights collective commitment

This year's [World TB Day](#) (24 March) kicked off a two-year campaign celebrating the lives and stories of people affected by TB: women, men and children who have taken TB treatment; nurses; doctors; researchers; community workers—anyone who has contributed towards the global fight against TB.

[Statements from around the world](#)—including messages of support from UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva—highlighted global support for the collective commitment of millions of individuals to stopping TB.

Stop TB partners across the globe held [events](#) such as sports days, conferences and rallies on or around 24 March 2008. And the slogan for the 2008-2009 campaign—"I am stopping TB"—was displayed everywhere on banners and posters tailored to local tastes and concerns (see [photo gallery](#) and the [materials](#) section of the [World TB Day 2008 web site](#)).

On World TB Day in New York, the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to Stop TB, Dr Jorge Sampaio, along with senior representatives from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Global Health Council, the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics, and Becton, Dickinson and Company participated in a roundtable discussion at Columbia University under the theme of "TB Today: Old Enemy, New Hurdles" ([webcast](#)). Later that day, they [rang the Closing Bell](#) at the [New York Stock Exchange](#).

In the UK, a new coalition was launched on World TB Day to raise awareness of TB through coordinated media activities and campaigns, and to ensure that fighting TB remains a high political priority for the UK government. The [UK Coalition to Stop TB](#) involves high-profile private sector, civil society and public sector organisations.

WHO report shows slowing on progress on TB case detection

In the run-up to World TB Day, the [World Health Organization](#) released the *Global Tuberculosis Control 2008* report on 17 March. The new data released in the report show a slowdown in the progress on diagnosing people with TB in 2006 compared to the previous five years, mainly attributable to some national programmes being unable to keep up the rapid pace that they had sustained during the previous five years.

"We've entered a new era," said WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan at a press conference in Geneva. "To make progress, firstly public programmes must be further strengthened. Secondly, we need to fully tap the potential of other service providers. Enlisting these other providers, working in partnership with national programmes, will markedly increase diagnosis and treatment for people in need."

Dr Chan was joined at the press conference by the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Stop TB Dr Jorge Sampaio, [UNAIDS](#) Executive Director Dr Peter Piot, [Global Fund](#) Executive Director Dr Michel Kazatchkine, WHO Assistant Director-General Dr Hiro Nakatani, WHO Stop TB Department Director Dr Mario Raviglione, Stop TB Partnership Executive Secretary Dr Marcos Espinal and Dr

2009 Stop TB Partners' Forum: Host city announced

The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat has announced that the third [Partners' Forum](#), scheduled for 23–25 March 2009, will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"Brazil is stopping TB. We have a high burden of TB in our country but are striving to get diagnosis and treatment to people who need it. And in March 2009 we will host the third Stop TB Partners' Forum. Please join us," said Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in a statement on World TB Day.

The Forum serves as a vehicle for bringing partners together to renew their commitment and intensify their efforts to reach the targets set out in the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015. Between 800 and 1 000 delegates are expected to attend, including the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to Stop TB, Stop TB Ambassadors and high-level representation from high-burden and donor countries, multilateral organizations, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, affected communities, foundations, corporate sector as well as the research and academic communities.

US premiere of "Chopin and The Nightingale" to benefit TB

"Chopin and The Nightingale", a dramatic reading with music in six acts for narrator, two sopranos and piano, will premiere in the US at the Marcella Sembrich Opera Museum, Bolton Landing, New York on 25 and 27 July 2008 as a benefit for the [Icons of Europe](#) TB Fund.

Opera composer Richard Wargo, curator of the museum and recognized as "a fresh new voice in American opera", will direct the performance—co-produced by Icons of Europe—as a key component of the local Chopin festival.

Chopin suffered from tuberculosis. When Jenny Lind, The Swedish Nightingale, sang for Chopin in 1848-1849, he felt better and called her "my nurse". Jenny Lind also raised funds to fight the disease.

"We believe that great culture captures the imagination and stimulates a global discussion of a societal issue such as the re-emergence of TB in the 21st century", said Icons of Europe president Jens A. Jorgensen.

PUBLICATIONS

Recent Publications

February 2008

TB Tips in Spanish: *La tuberculosis: información y consejos para vencer la enfermedad*

This short booklet by Paul Thorn is full of practical advice, suggestions, guidance and information in an easy-to-read format for people with tuberculosis.

[Link to PDF file](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

May 2008

6-7 May	Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board	Cairo	Info
19-24 May	World Health Assembly	Geneva	Info

June 2008

9 June	HIV-TB Global Leaders' Forum	New York	Info
10-12 June	UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AIDS	New York	