

Beat: Health

## UN General Assembly high-level meeting on TUBERCULOSIS to take place in 2018

### WHO has been asked to work with the UN

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**USPA NEWS** - World Health Organization (WHO) has been asked to work with the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to conceptualize and plan the 2018 high-level meeting. The resolution also highlights the WHO Global Ministerial Conference on the fight against TB in the context of public...

World Health Organization (WHO) has been asked to work with the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to conceptualize and plan the 2018 high-level meeting. The resolution also highlights the WHO Global Ministerial Conference on the fight against TB in the context of public health Sustainable Development Goals, which will be hosted by the Russian Federation in Moscow on 16-17 November 2017.

'This is a tremendous and unprecedented step forward by governments and all partners engaged in the fight against TB,' said Dr Mario Raviglione, Director of the WHO Global TB Programme. 'The Ministerial Conference and the UNGA high-level meeting will be fundamental to drive efforts to end this top infectious killer. We look forward to working closely with the Office of the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to ensure the meeting results in bold and innovative solutions. For that, the engagement of all partners will be crucial for the success of these meetings.'

WHO in its report this year announced that TB was one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide in 2015, responsible for more deaths than HIV and malaria. In the same year, an estimated 1.8 million people died from TB, of which 0.4 million were co-infected with HIV. Worldwide, 10.4 million people fell ill with TB. The report highlighted the need for countries to move much faster to prevent, detect, and treat the disease if they are to meet global targets.

Source : United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution A/71/L.41 passed, calling for the UNGA to hold the first-ever high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis (TB) in 2018.

Ruby BIRD

<http://www.portfolio.uspa24.com/>

Yasmina BEDDOU

<http://www.yasmina-beddou.uspa24.com/>

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**Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.

3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA

(702) 943.0321 Local

(702) 943.0233 Facsimile

[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)

[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)

[www.gna24.com](http://www.gna24.com)