

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 44th Union World Conference on Lung Health: Programme Highlights for Media

30th October – 3rd November 2013; Palais des Congrès, 2 Place de la Porte Maillot, 75017 Paris

The 44th Union World Conference on Lung Health is the largest annual meeting focusing on lung health issues as they affect low- and middle-income countries. The conference theme for 2013 is "Shared Air, Safe Air?", reflecting growing concerns about the need to improve or preserve the quality of the air we breathe for both healthy and vulnerable persons alike. The conference will also present the latest developments in the fights against tuberculosis (and the growing threat of multidrug-resistant TB), HIV, lung disease, non-communicable diseases and the global campaign for tobacco control. Plenary speakers are available for interview upon arrangement. Conference highlights of interest to media are listed below.

Date: Wednesday, 30 October 2013

Conference registration / press credentials are not required to attend the events on Wednesday.

- **Launch event: "DR-TB Drugs in the Pipeline"**

The Union and Médecins Sans Frontières will launch the 3rd edition of this report, which monitors the development of new drug treatments for multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) – a growing global threat to public health. This session will be held in English.

Time: 10:00–11:00

Venue: Room 234-235 M, Palais des Congrès

- **Press Conference: "The Challenge of MDR-TB – Globally, in Europe, and in France".**

French-English simultaneous translation will be provided. Speakers will include:

- **Dr Mario Raviglione**, Director, WHO Global TB Programme: "MDR-TB: The Global Overview"
- **Dr Masoud Dara**, TB and MDR-/XDR-TB Control Programme, WHO Europe: "The Situation in Europe"
- **Dr Arnaud Trebucq**, Department of TB and HIV, The Union: "Research on Short-Course Treatment Regimens for MDR-TB"
- **Prof Vincent Jarlier**, French National Reference Laboratory for TB: "The Situation in France"

Time: 12:45–13:45

Venue: Room 242B, Palais des Congrès

- **Pre-conference Symposium: "Accelerating impact: the transformative role of research to end tuberculosis"**

This annual day-long Stop TB Symposium is organised by the Stop TB Partnership and the World Health Organization. This session will be held in English.

Time: 09:00–18:00

Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès

- **Film Screening and Reception: AERAS Exposed TB film screening and panel discussion on the importance of innovative, long-term solutions to the TB crisis**

To attend, RSVP by email to: ranstine@aeras.org. Speakers will include:

- Kolleen Bouchane, ACTION Global Health Advocacy Partnership
- Lucica Ditiu, Stop TB Partnership
- Blessi Kumar, Global Coalition of TB Activists and Global TB CAB
- Kari Stoeber, Aeras
- Phumeza Tisile, XDR-TB Survivor

Time: 18:30 – 21:00

Venue: Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile, 3 Place du Général Koenig, 75017 Paris, France; Bagatelle Room

Date: Thursday, 31 October 2013

Press credentials are required to attend the sessions from Thursday through Sunday. Please stop at the Press Registration desk if you have not pre-registered.

- **Press Conference: “Air Pollution and Lung Health”.**

This session will be held in English. Speakers will include:

- **Prof Ross Anderson**, WHO Scientific Advisory Committees for the Review of Evidence of Health Aspects of Air Pollution (REVIHAAP) and Health Risks of Air Pollution in Europe (HRAPIE): “Indoor and outdoor air pollution and asthma”
- **Emmanuelle Beguinot**, Director, CNCT (Comite National Contre le Tabac): “Tobacco Control in France”
- **Tara Singh Bam, PhD, MPH**, Department of Tobacco Control, The Union: “Secondhand smoke and tobacco control”

Time: 12:45–13:45

Venue: Room 234–235 M, Palais des Congrès

Inaugural Session

French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

- **The Sir John Crofton Memorial Lecture: “Air pollution and asthma”**

Prof Ross Anderson, WHO Scientific Advisory Committees for the Review of Evidence of Health Aspects of Air Pollution (REVIHAAP) and Health Risks of Air Pollution in Europe (HRAPIE)

Time: 17:30–18:15

Venue: Grand Amphithéâtre, Palais des Congrès

- **Awards Ceremony**

Awards presented recognise outstanding contributions to combating TB and improving lung health: the Princess Chichibu Memorial TB Global Award, The Union Scientific Prize and The Karel Styblo Public Health Prize.

Time: 18:15–19:00

Venue: Grand Amphithéâtre, Palais des Congrès

- **Welcome Reception**

Time: 19:00–20:30

Venue: Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile, 3 Place du Général Koenig, 75017 Paris, France; Room Grand Lux/Grand Bagatelle

Date: Friday, 1 November 2013

Morning Symposia:

- Symposium: **“Critical issues and challenges for maximising the impact of Xpert MTB/RIF”**;
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Preventing HIV-related TB at the community level”**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 252 AB, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“How can tobacco control strategies improve HIV and TB patient outcomes?”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 241, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Climatic change and environmental air pollution: our rightful concern.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 342 A, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Tuberculosis and environmental migrants: preparedness and response to migration in disasters.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 251, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Reducing second-hand smoke exposure in the home.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 253, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Child pneumonia: new evidence and new possibilities to reduce child mortality.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 243, Palais des Congrès

Plenary Session: HIV and MDR-TB

French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

- **“Are we winning the battle against HIV?”**
Dr Diane Havlir, Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco; Chief of the HIV/AIDS Division at San Francisco General Hospital
- **“Is MDR-/XDR-TB a real threat in India?”**
Chandra Kishore Mishra, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India; responsible for health systems delivery in India, a country that accounts for 26% of all global cases of TB.
Time: 11:30 - 12:30
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès

Lunch break meeting: “The economic urgency and the pathway to eliminate TB”

Hosted by the Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (TBVI). A small lunch will be provided. Pre-registration before 29 October is essential; register at www.tbvi.eu/registration-form-2

This session will be held in English. Speakers will include:

- **Prof Roland Diel**, University Hospital Schleswig-Holstein and the Board of the German Central Committee Against TB: “The economic burden of TB in Europe”.
- **Dr Mario Raviglione**, Director, WHO Global TB Programme, “The pathway to eliminate TB: why we need new tools (including vaccines)”.
- **Claire Wingfield**, Global Health Technologies Coalition (GHTC): “Key financing challenges and opportunities to advance the development of new drugs and technologies”.
- **Prof Michel Kazatchkine**, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and former Executive Director of The Global Fund: Moderator.

Time: 12:45–14:15

Venue: Hotel Le Méridien Etoile, 81 Boulevard Gouvion-Saint-Cyr, Paris

Afternoon symposia:

- Symposium: **“MDR-TB in children and adolescent TB issues”**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 14:30 –16:30
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Healthy lungs, healthy children: using advocacy to improve child lung health.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 14:30 –16:30
Venue: Room 251, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Education and behaviour change approaches towards tobacco control: a growing need.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 14:30–16:30
Venue: Room 253, Palais des Congrès

Date: Saturday, 2 November 2013

Morning Symposia:

- Symposium: **“Recent progress in TB clinical trials”**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Rolling-out LED fluorescence microscopy: yield and challenges.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00 –10:00
Venue: Room 242 AB, Palais des Congrès

- Symposium: **“Feasibility of supply-side measure for tobacco’s endgame.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–10:00
Venue: Room 253, Palais des Congrès

Plenary Session: Asthma and Child Pneumonia

French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

- **“Asthma: the forgotten epidemic”**
Prof Innes Asher, Chair of Paediatrics and Head of The University of Auckland Department of Paediatrics: Child and Youth Health; Chair of the Global Asthma Network will underline that asthma kills more than a quarter of a million people every year.
- **“Pneumonia in children – still a major challenge to child health globally.”**
Heather Zar, Professor and Chair of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Director of the School of Child and Adolescent Health and Director of the Division of Paediatric Pulmonology at Red Cross Childrens Hospital at the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa; President of the Pan African Thoracic Society
Time: 11:30 –12:30
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès

Afternoon symposia:

- Symposium: **“HIV/TB Late-breaker session” (presenting the very latest research)**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 14:30–16:30
Venue: Room 252 AB, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“What do we know about the TB burden in globally mobile populations? The latest global evidence.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 14:30–16:30
Venue: Room 242 AB, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Economic burden of tuberculosis: study cases and implementation.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 14:30 –16:30
Venue: Room 342 A, Palais des Congrès

Date: Sunday, 3 November 2013

Meet-the-Expert Sessions

- **“Short course treatment for MDR-TB in Francophone Africa.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–09:00
Venue: Room Maillot, Palais des Congrès
- **“The future of TB vaccines.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–09:00
Venue: Room 242 AB, Palais des Congrès
- **“Challenges of implementing tobacco control in the context of new tobacco products with a focus on e-cigarettes.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 08:00–09:00
Venue: Room 243, Palais des Congrès

Morning Symposia:

- Symposium: **“HIV, TB, human rights and the law”**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 09:15 –11:15
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“The Union/CDC Late-breaker session” (presenting the latest TB research)**
French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.
Time: 09:15 –11:15
Venue: Room 252 A, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Controversies in TB: short course chemotherapy for all as a strategy to eliminate TB in a South Pacific island.”** This session will be in English.
Time: 09:15 - 11:15
Venue: Room 253, Palais des Congrès

Plenary Session: “Tobacco control in Africa: successes, obstacles and perspectives”

French-English simultaneous translation will be provided.

- **“Potential UNDP roles and opportunities”** – Dr Douglas Webb, Bureau for Development Policy at the UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- **“Tobacco industry aspects and obstacles”** – Dr Dorcas Kiptui, Programme Officer, Division of Non-communicable Diseases, Ministry of Health, Kenya; Bureau Member for the AFRO region in the Conference of Parties to the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control; member, steering committee, Centre for Tobacco Control in Africa.
- **“Successes and obstacles”** – Léné Segbo, Minister of Health, Burkina Faso
- **“Where is Uganda at in progressing FCTC implementation? What are the main obstacles? What is needed now?”** – Elioda Tumwesigye, Honorable Minister of State for General Duties, Uganda
Time: 11:30–12:30
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès

Afternoon symposia:

- Symposium: **“Getting to Zero: a roadmap for eliminating childhood TB.”**
This session will be in English.
Time: 14:00 –16:00
Venue: Room 342 A, Palais des Congrès
- Symposium: **“Unsafe air: where does it happen, how should it be managed and what are the ethical implications?”** This session will be in English.
Time: 14:00–16:00
Venue: Room 251, Palais des Congrès
- **Closing Ceremony and Reception**
Time: 16:00–17:00 (Ceremony); 17:00–18:00 (Reception)
Venue: Amphithéâtre Bleu, Palais des Congrès

HOW TO COVER THE CONFERENCE IN PERSON / USING ONLINE RESOURCES:

Complete details about the 44th Union World Conference on Lung Health may be found on the conference website at www.worldlunghealth.org. Download the conference programme at worldlunghealth.org/conf2013/images/1_Paris2013/Forms/Final_Prog_2013.pdf and the Abstract Book at <http://www.worldlunghealth.org/conf2013/index.php/programme/abstracts/abstract-book>

The inaugural session and plenary sessions will be available via streaming video at www.theunion.org. Daily news, photos and short videos will also be posted on this site during the conference.

Following the conference, webcasts of most sessions will be accessible from www.worldlunghealth.org

Press credentials permit working journalists to have access to all conference sessions except for closed meetings. Register in person at the Palais des Congrès beginning at 08:00 on Wednesday, 30 October (please bring a press card and/or 2-3 relevant published clips).

Advance online requests may be submitted until Sunday, 27 October. Please follow guidelines at worldlunghealth.org/conf2013/index.php/media/press-credentials

Journalists can follow the conference on Twitter: [@UnionConference](https://twitter.com/UnionConference) and Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheUnionLungHealth.

For more information, to arrange an interview with a speaker or to confirm your interest in attending, please RSVP to: Tracey Johnston at tjohnston@worldlungfoundation.org or Sabrina Beaubay at sbeaubay@worldlungfoundation.org

About the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union)

The mission of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) is to bring innovation, expertise, solutions and support to address health challenges in low- and middle-income populations. With nearly 15,000 members and subscribers from 150 countries, The Union has its headquarters in Paris and offices serving the Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America and South-East Asia regions. Its scientific departments focus on tuberculosis and HIV, lung health and non-communicable diseases, tobacco control and research. Learn more at www.theunion.org

About the 44th Union World Conference on Lung Health

Since the early 1920s, The Union has been convening international conferences to disseminate the latest research on tuberculosis and other related issues, such as HIV/AIDS, asthma, pneumonia, non-communicable diseases and tobacco control. Some 2,500 delegates from 125 countries attend the 5-day scientific programme. For complete details, go to www.worldlunghealth.org