

Agreements



International Workshop on TB Control in Prisons

(San Pedro Sula, Honduras
11-13 August 2003)



1. Political support should be obtained for undertaking tuberculosis control within the prison system.
2. Each country will present its Action Plan for TB control in Prisons to health authorities, the social-security administration and prison authorities.
3. TB control in prisons and Action Plans should complement the components of the DOTS strategy in accordance with the national protocols of each country.
4. It is necessary to obtain support from NGOs, donor agencies and other institutions who participate in TB control at the country level, in order to carry out the Action Plans.
5. The TB problem in prisons, as well as its control, should be undertaken as a joint activity between the Ministries responsible for such activities (prison authorities and Ministry of Health) of each country.
6. A joint plan for periodic monitoring and evaluation of the Action Plan should be developed by prisons, the Ministry of Health, and other institutions.
7. Local projects should be developed at the municipal, provincial and state level in order to guarantee the execution of the Action Plan.
8. An IEC Plan* should be a priority for the successful implementation and continuation of the Action Plan, guaranteeing the participation of health staff, prison staff, inmates, their families and the community.
9. The exchange of experience and information should be promoted between countries and through the efforts of the PAHO Regional Program and the Gorgas TB Initiative.
10. A Regional Meeting should be held once a year to evaluate the progress made towards the implementation of Action Plans developed in San Pedro Sula.
11. The location of the next meeting will be in the country that has demonstrated the most progress towards the implementation of its Action Plan.

Participating Countries

Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama; and, as invited guests, Mexico, Guyana, and Peru.

As of 15 September 2003, Action Plans were received from each participating country, with the exception of Honduras (which already has one) and Brazil.

Note: Everyone present at the Workshop participated in formulating the Agreements, although these only concerning the participating countries (as represented by the Chiefs of their TB Programs and their Prison Directors), not the guests who participated in the Workshop to present their national experiences.

* Information, Education, and Communication Plan.