19 May 2016

European TB Summit - Bratislava

Dear Ms Halsboe,

I hope this email finds you very well. My name is Matt Oliver. I am the Head of the Secretariat at the Global TB Caucus, an international network of parliamentarians who work together on public health, infectious diseases, and specifically TB.

To date we have over 1,300 members of parliament in our network, drawn from 120 countries. Some of these members are hosting a special European TB Summit in Bratislava at the end of June to discuss the challenges that infectious diseases, and particularly drug-resistant TB, pose to Europe as a whole. So far representatives from 20 countries have confirmed that they will attend.

This is particularly relevant today given the UK government's publication of a new report on the threat of drug-resistance: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-36321394. TB is a major component of this threat, representing an estimated 1 in 4 of all deaths from drug-resistance worldwide over the decades to come.

Accordingly, they have asked me to invite you to join them at the Summit given your experience on foreign affairs and development cooperation issues. If you are unable to join, we would be more than happy to extend the invitation to your Vice-Chair or any other members of the Committee.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Very best wishes,

Matt

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The Global TB Caucus Secretariat is hosted by the Stop TB Partnership in Geneva, a UNOPS registered organisation, and benefits from the ongoing support of a number of different organisations around the world.



