Subject: Minutes of the third meeting of National TB-HIV Co-ordination Committee held on 1st April, 2015 at 6th Floor, Chanderlok Building, 36 Janpath, New Delhi-110001 –Reg.

The third meeting of National TB-HIV Co-ordination Committee was held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, NACO/GOI on 1st April, 2015 at NACO, New Delhi. The approved minutes of the meeting are enclosed herewith.

Encl: As mentioned

To,
1. Joint Secretary (AP), MOHFW/GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108
2. Deputy Director General (TB), Dte. GHS GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108
3. Deputy Director General, (Care, Support and Treatment), National AIDS Control Organisation, GOL, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001.
4. Nodal Person for HIV, (Attn: Dr. Seguy, Nicole S.) WHO India, RK Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029
5. National Professional Officer (TB) (Attn: Dr. AN Sreekumar), WHO India, RK Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029
6. Director, National Institute of Research in TB (NIRT), Chetpet Chennai 600031
7. Director, National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), 73, 'G'-Block, MIDC, Bhosari, Pune 411 026
8. Project Director, Karnataka State AIDS Control Society, Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, No.4/13-1, Crescent Road, High Grounds, Bangalore – 560001 Karnataka.
10. Civil Society Organisation Representative (TB), President, Global Health Advocates, 6, Badshaa Street, Hoamaimedu, Chennai 600094, Tamil Nadu
11. Civil Society Organisation Representative(HIV), President, Indian Network for Positive People (INP+) Flat No 10, 3rd Floor, Kash Towers, New No: 121, Old No: 94, South West Boag Road J.Nagar, Chennai 600017
12. National Program Officer (ART), NACO/MOHFW/GOI
13. National Program Officer (ICTC), NACO / MOHFW/GOI
14. Program Officer (HIV-TB) / NACO/GOI

Copy for Information to:
PPS to Addl. Secretary, NACO/GOI
Minutes of Meeting of National TB/HIV Co-ordination Committee (NTCC) held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, National AIDS Control Organization /GoI at New Delhi, on 1st April 2015.

The third meeting of NTCC was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. N.S. Kang, Addl. Secretary, National AIDS Control Organization /GoI on 1st April, 2015, as per the approved agenda at Annexure-I. Dr. R.S Gupta, Deputy Director General (BSD), NACO and Member Secretary NTCC welcomed all NTCC members and highlighted upon the objectives of the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting is placed at annexure-I and the list of participants is placed at Annexure-II

Following were the issues discussed and decisions taken by NTCC:

Action taken and decisions on relevant issues on agenda points of last NTCC meeting held on 9th July 2014. Dr. R.S Gupta, Deputy Director General (BSD)/NACO, presented the action taken based on the recommendations of NTCC meeting held on 9th July 2014.

Agenda Item 1: Progress on TB/HIV collaborative activities undertaken during 2014 & priorities for 2015.

Dr.S.D.Khaparde, DDG (TB/CTD), presented the progress on TB/HIV collaborative activities undertaken during 2014. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, (Director NIRT, Chennai), raised the issue of co-location of Integrated Testing & Counselling Centres (ICTCs) & Designated Microscopic Centre’s (DMCs). It was brought to notice of chairman that 57% of ICTC/F-ICTCs & DMCs facilities were co-located and co-location status in Southern states of India (e.g. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh) was proportionately high as compared to Northern, Central & Eastern states.

Recommendation by NTCC: Addl. Secretary NACO suggested BSD/NACO to ensure that new ICTCs/F-ICTCs should be opened at DMCs in future and vice-versa. All DMCs could be co-located & co-location of facilities (existing & new) should be increased, it was decided.

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, (Director NIRT, Chennai), raised the issue of high mortality rate (13%) among co-infected patients despite provision of ART to all such patients, she also mentioned the reasons of mortality as delay in diagnosis of MDR TB, delay in initiation of treatment & poor nutritional status / low BMI and reiterated the need to frame ‘Nutrition Policy’ for enhancing
nutritional support to co-infected patients. Nutritional support through corporate social responsibility measures and some of the best practices on nutritional support were shared by NTCC members e.g. Karnataka (ready mixes provided to MDR patients), Kerala (packed ration, advocacy and linkages to the already existing schemes), Bihar (provision of milk to TB patients by milk federations) etc.

Joint Secretary/NACO suggested that an Aadhar-based linkage for facilitation of easy availability of Social Welfare schemes will be more appropriate. NTCC members mentioned an Aadhar-based linkage was an opportunity and while collecting the information, issues of confidentiality and non-discrimination policy of NACO needed to be adhered to.

Recommendation by NTCC: A nutritional advocacy group for HIV/TB patients to be formed to study best practices and assess feasibility thereof.

DR R.S. Gupta, (DDG- TB /NACO), highlighted the issue regarding the challenges in integration of NIKSHAY (case-based) and SIMS (data entry based) system and also suggested for need of common monitoring system. It was recommended to have an online monitoring system in place which would also be able to track the patients.

Recommendation by NTCC: RNTCP-NIKSHAY should roll out the development of an online monitoring mechanism; a case-based web-based system for HIV/TB co-infected patients that provides access to NACO for information on TB-HIV patients.

Agenda Item 2: Update on HIV/TB Joint concept note under Global Fund New Funding Model.

Dr. Reshu Agarwal, (CTD), presented the update on HIV/TB joint concept note under Global Fund’s New Funding Model. During discussion Dr. R.S.Gupta, DDG/ BSD/NACO, mentioned that molecular testing machines (CBNAAT) can also be used for upscaling viral load testing. It was further informed that CBNAAT also has viral load configurations but for this, it needs different cartridge for viral load testing /EID /DNA PCR. Dr.Soumya Swaminathan informed about the availability of newer diagnostic like chip-based diagnostic devices for Malaria & TB.

Recommendation by NTCC: A meeting for use of newer diagnostics in HIV/TB to be held in co-ordination with Central TB Division.

Agenda Item 3: Exploring alternative approaches to improve the HIV-TB coordination for early detection of TB/HIV in Northern States.

Dr. Pauline Harvey, Director (CDC-DGHA), presented the CDC supported project proposal “Exploring alternative approaches to improve the HIV-TB
coordination for early detection of TB/HIV in 8 Northern States”. She highlighted the project details which included strengthening HIV-TB coordination mechanisms in eight Northern states (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand) which includes developing a strategic framework through a consultative approach, strengthen human capacity for TB-HIV coordination through training, implement plans to improve co-location and HIV-TB services & demonstrating innovative approaches to scale up Intensified Case Finding (ICF) of TB.

Recommendation by NTCC: CDC India to finalize the 2 states which are prioritized during 2015-16 in co-ordination with DDG/BSD.

Agenda Item 4: Involvement of Block health officers / Medical officer TB control (MOTCs), Public sector units (PSU) and Private practitioners for TB/HIV collaborative activities

Dr Rajesh Deshmukh, PO (HIV/TB)/NACO, presented the “Involvement of Block health officers / Medical officer TB control (MOTCs), Public sector units (PSU) and Private practitioners for TB/HIV collaborative activities.” He proposed that private sector already engaged with NACO and having ICTC/F-ICTCs can also be engaged to have DMCs as per revised RNTCP partnership schemes. Also, public sector units where MoUs have been done with NACP should also be involved for having ICTC & DMCs. It was deliberated that sensitization of Indian Medical Association (IMA) members to reduce the knowledge gap regarding HIV/TB was essential. PO (HIV/TB) proposed that a total of 660 second medical officers (MOs) at district TB centre (DTC) and 5694 medical officers TB control (MOs from general health system given additional responsibility for Tuberculosis control) were in place under the RNTCP program. These could be utilized for HIV/TB activities as MO (HIV/TB control). Dr. Sachdeva, Addl.DDG/TB, suggested that as 2nd MOs are already involved in TB/HIV activities, it was more important to involve Medical officer TB control (MOTCs) for TB/HIV activities.

Recommendations by NTCC:

1. Private Practitioners (PPs) sensitization for HIV/TB with Indian Medical Association (IMA) to be conducted.

2. Medical officers TB control (MOTCs) to be involved in TB/HIV collaborative activities at sub district level. A letter regarding the same can be sent jointly by DDG/TB & DDG/BSD/NACO.

3. Private practitioners (PPs) & Public sector units (PSU’s) already involved in RNTCP/NACP to be informed to have ICTC’s/ DMC’s in their settings. Letter can be sent jointly by NACP & RNTCP to involve PPs & PSUs who already have any one of the DMC/ICTC or F-ICTC facility.
The meeting was concluded by summarizing the following action points, before thanking all the member of NTCC:

1. **DO letter to Project Directors SACS (PDs) and District Magistrates regarding co-location of DMCs & ICTCs / F-ICTCs. New ICTCs/ F-ICTCs to be started at DMCs (Responsibility: BSD/NACO)**

2. **A Nutritional advocacy group for HIV/TB patients to be formed & best practices, feasibility to be assessed by the group. (Responsibility: BSD/NACO and CTD /Dte.GHS)**

3. **RNTCP-NIKSHAY should roll out the development of online monitoring mechanism; a case-based web-based system for HIV/TB co-infected patients and provide access for NACO to access online information on TB HIV patients. (Responsibility: CTD /Dte.GHS)**

4. **A meeting for use of newer diagnostics in HIV/TB to be held in coordination with Central TB Division. (Responsibility: BSD/NACO and CTD /Dte.GHS)**

5. **CDC India to finalize the 2 states in coordination with DDG/BSD which are prioritized during 2015-16 for CDC project. (Responsibility: CDC India)**

6. **Private practitioners (PPs) sensitization for HIV/TB with Indian Medical Association (IMA) to be conducted. (Responsibility: BSD/NACO and CTD /Dte.GHS)**

7. **Medical officer TB control (MOTCs) to be involved in TB/HIV collaborative activities at sub district level. A letter regarding the same can be sent jointly by DDG/TB and DDG/BSD/NACO. (Responsibility: CTD /Dte.GHS and BSD/NACO)**

8. **Private practitioners (PPs) and Public sector Units (PSUs) already involved in RNTCP/NACP to be informed to have ICTCs/ DMCs in their settings. Letter can be sent jointly by NACP and RNTCP to involve PPs & PSUs who already have any one of the DMC/ICTC or F-ICTC facility. (Responsibility: BSD/NACO and CTD /Dte.GHS).**
**Annexure I: Agenda of NTCC meeting 1st April, 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Speaker/Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am-10:10am</td>
<td>Welcome and Meeting Objectives &amp; action taken on NTCC meeting held on 09/07/2014</td>
<td>Dr. R.S. Gupta DDG/BSD/NACO</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10am-10:20am</td>
<td>Opening Address</td>
<td>Mr. K.B. Agarwal Joint Secretary NACO</td>
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<td>10:20am-10:30am</td>
<td>Address by the Chairman</td>
<td>Mr. N.S. Kang Addl.Secy. NACO/GOI</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am-10:50am</td>
<td>Progress on TB/HIV Collaborative Activities undertaken during 2014 &amp; priorities for 2015</td>
<td>Dr. S.D. Khaparde DDG TB / CTD Dr. K.S. Sachdeva Addl.DDG(TB) / CTD</td>
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<td>10:50am-11:00am</td>
<td>Update on HIV/TB Joint concept note under Global Fund New Funding Model</td>
<td>Dr. K.S. Sachdeva Addl.DDG(TB) / CTD</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am-11:20am</td>
<td>Exploring alternative approaches to improve the HIV-TB coordination for early detection of TB/HIV in Northern States</td>
<td>Dr. Pauline Harvey, Director, CDC – DGHA/Dr. Sampath CDC, India</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20am-11:40am</td>
<td>Involvement of Block health Officers /MOTCs, PSUs &amp; Private Practitioners for TB/HIV collaborative activities</td>
<td>Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh PO(HIV/TB)/NACO</td>
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<td>11:40am-11:50am</td>
<td>Any other points for discussion with permission of Chair</td>
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<td>11:50am-12:00pm</td>
<td>Closing Comments by chairman</td>
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Annexure II: List of participants in NTCC meeting on 01/04/2015

1. Mr. N.S. Kang Addl. Secy./NACO/MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

2. Mr. K.B. Agarwal Joint Secy./NACO/MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

3. Dr. R.S. Gupta, Deputy Director General, Basic Services Division, National AIDS Control Organization, MOHFW / GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

4. Dr. S.D. Khaparde, Deputy Director General (TB), Dte. GHS, MOHFW / GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108

5. Dr. Naresh Goel. Deputy Director General (Lab services and IEC)/NACO/MOHFW / GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

6. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Director, National Institute of Research in TB (ICMR), Chetput, Chennai 600031

7. Dr. K. S. Sachdeva, Additional Director General (TB), Dte. GHS, MOHFW / GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108

9. Dr. B. B. Rewari, National Program Officer (ART) DAC/MOHFW / GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

10. Dr. AN Sreenivas, National Professional Officer (TB), WHO India, R K Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029

11. Dr. Seguy Nicole Simone, Nodal person for HIV WHO India, R K Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029

12. Dr. R.R. Gangakhedkar, Director In-charge, National AIDS Research Institute (ICMR), 73, G-Block, MIDC, Bhosari, Pune 411026

13. Dr. Asha Hegde (NC PPTCT), NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

14. Dr. Joseph Williams, Project Director, VHS- CDC.
15 Dr. M.R. Parthasarathy, Specialist C&T, VHS- CDC

16 Dr. Pauline Harvey, Director, DGHA, CDC, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi Shantipath, Chanakyapuri New Delhi - 110 021.

17 Dr. H.L. Vijaya, Addl. Project Director, Karnataka State AIDS Control Society, Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, No. 4/13-1 Crescent Road, High Grounds, Bengaluru-560001, Karnataka

18 Ms. Jahnabi Goswami, Civil Society organisation Representative (HIV), President, Indian Network for Positive People (INP+), Flat No 10, 3rd Floor, Kash Towers, New no:121, old No:94, South West Boag Road, T.Nagar, Chennai 600017

19 Mr. Boby John, Principal Advisor, Civil Society organisation Representative – TB, President, Global Health Advocates, 6 Basha Street, Hoolaimedu, Chennai 600094, Tamil Nadu.

20 Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh, Program Officer (HIV-TB), NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

21 Dr. Manish Barmotiya, Program Officer (ART), NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

22 Dr. Reshu Agarwal, Manager, NPMU, CTD

23 Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Technical Officer (HIV/TB), NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001