

## Programme

### **Defeating meningitis by 2030 – developing a global roadmap**

Wednesday 27 February – Friday 1 March 2019 |  
WP1675

#### **An extended Technical Taskforce meeting**

##### **Context**

Meningitis remains a universal public health challenge in countries around the world - cases and outbreaks are highly dreaded. The global number of deaths due to meningitis was estimated at around 300,000 annually for 2015. Deaths from meningitis and sepsis in children under the age of five were estimated to be as high as deaths due to malaria, not accounting the devastation from sequelae. Progress in defeating meningitis lags behind other vaccine preventable diseases.

In May 2017, over 50 representatives from governments, global health organisations, public health bodies, academia, private sector and civil society called for a global vision to defeat meningitis by 2030. In September 2017, another 200 representatives from 26 African countries gathered in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso urging for the establishment of a global commitment and the implementation of urgent actions for equitable and sustainable access to meningitis vaccines.

The global fight against meningitis is fully aligned with WHO's new 13th General Programme of Work and captures the essence of WHO's three-fold mission:

- Promote health
- Keep the world safe
- Serve the vulnerable

Meningitis is a largely vaccine-preventable disease, and it can be further prevented with the advent of new vaccines. Meningitis is also an epidemic-prone disease, and as such deserves special attention given the potentially major impact on health systems, the economy and society as a whole due to the disruptive nature of meningitis outbreaks which are costly and challenging to control.

Over the next two years, WHO is coordinating the development of a global roadmap that sets a vision, provides a high-level overview and communicates direction, outlining priority areas for research and enhanced control activities, with goals and specific solutions to meet the desired milestones.

The scope of the roadmap will be global, with strategic goals, milestones and research priority activities tailored to each region. The main bacterial pathogens considered will include *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Haemophilus Influenzae* and *Streptococcus agalactiae* (Group B).

Building a partner coalition will be a cornerstone of the roadmap development strategy and endorsement.

A Technical Task Force of major technical partners historically invested in long-term meningitis control, particularly in the African region, with complementary focus and expertise, was convened to discuss the roadmap goals.

The members of the Taskforce agreed that the roadmap could be structured around five pillars: prevention and epidemic control; diagnosis and treatment; disease surveillance; support and aftercare for survivors and their families; and advocacy and information. Access and monitoring would be cross-cutting issues (Figure 1).

### **Objectives**

This dialogue meeting is deliberately designed as an opportunity for global experts to further develop the roadmap towards defeating meningitis by 2030.

It is envisaged that the meeting will help to develop a next draft of the global roadmap, and to map and agree the way forward to engage the stakeholders.

By necessity the meeting will be a high-level overview of key themes, with many essential topics being touched on lightly in order to bring a variety of views from different stakeholders together in one place in a unique way. In doing so it will start a process that leads to more detailed discussion and consultation that must follow.

### **Format**

This meeting is highly participative, in the Wilton Park style, and everyone is encouraged to contribute to the round-table discussions. There will be a mix of plenary sessions and breakout groups. Speakers listed on the programme are invited to make short presentations (10 minutes each) to be followed by discussion of the issues raised.

Discussion will be in English.

**In partnership with World Health Organization and Meningitis Research Foundation**

## **Wednesday 27 February**

**1500**

Participants arrive and tea available

**1600**

### **Welcome and introduction**

#### **Robin Hart**

Senior Programme Director, Wilton Park, Steyning

#### **Marie-Pierre Preziosi**

Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

1615-1715

## 1. The roadmap vision and goals

Discussion to review the proposed vision and goals for the roadmap. Participants will have read the task force meeting notes and baseline analysis before the meeting. Using this pre-reading, participants will discuss the five pillars and overarching goals.

**Chair: Robin Hart**

Senior Programme Director, Wilton Park, Steyning

**Overview of the roadmap**

**Marie-Pierre Preziosi**

Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

**James Stuart**

Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

Plenary.

Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- The vision and its three associated goals
- The five pillars
- The scope of the roadmap

1715-1730

Tea/coffee

1730-1900

## 2. Overcoming challenges in: prevention and epidemic control

**Aim:** To review the pillar Prevention and Epidemic Control and reflect on what it means for a range of regions, contexts and perspectives.

**Chair: Robin Hart**

Senior Programme Director, Wilton Park, Steyning

Plenary

1730-1800

**Session introduction**

**Richard Mihigo**

IVD Programme Coordinator, World Health Organization (WHO), Brazzaville

**Case studies**

**Perspectives on the goals and milestones**

**Ray Borrow**

Consultant Clinical Scientist, Public Health England (PHE), Manchester

**Priscilla Ibekwe**

Deputy Director, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, Abuja

Plenary introduction and case studies followed by a breakout session in pre-designated groups.

Breakout groups

1800-1900

Each breakout group will discuss:

- What do the goals/milestones mean for participants region/context/perspective?
- Are these goals the right ones?
- Are there any additional goals that are missing?
- Do the goals work to address a global challenge?

1900

Reception followed by dinner

## Thursday 28 February

0800-0845

Breakfast

0900-0915

### 3. Recap and reflection

Facilitators of the breakout discussions of session 2 to provide feedback to plenary.

0915-1045

### 4. Overcoming challenges in: diagnosis and treatment; disease surveillance

**Aim:** To review the pillars: 'Diagnosis and Treatment' and 'Disease Surveillance'. Reflect on what it means for a range of regions, contexts and perspectives.

Plenary

0915-0945

#### Session introduction

##### Myriam Henkens

International Medical Coordinator, Médecins Sans Frontières, Brussels

#### Case studies

##### Perspectives on the goals and milestones

##### Anne von Gottberg

Clinical Microbiologist, National Institute for Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg

##### Mamoudou Harouna Djingarey

Programme Area Manager, Infectious Hazard Management, Regional Office for Africa, World Health Organization (WHO), Brazzaville

Plenary introduction and case studies followed by a breakout session in pre-designated groups.

Breakout groups

0945-1045

Each group will discuss:

- Review ONE of the pillars: 'Diagnosis and Treatment' OR 'Disease Surveillance'
- What do the goals/milestones for this axe mean for participants region/context/perspective?
- Are these goals the right ones?
- Are there any additional goals that are missing?
- Do the goals work to address a global challenge

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1300

### 5. Overcoming challenges in: support and aftercare for survivors and their families; advocacy and information

**Aim:** To review the pillars: 'Support and Aftercare for Survivors and their Families' and 'Advocacy and Information'. Reflect on what it means for a range of regions, contexts and perspectives.

Plenary

1115-1200

#### Session introduction

##### Imran Mirza

Health Specialist, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), New York

Case studies:

##### Perspectives on the goals and milestones

##### Sam Nye

Executive Director, Confederation of Meningitis Organisations (CoMO), Bristol

**Rob Dawson**

Director of Communications, Advocacy and Support, Meningitis Research Foundation (MRF), Bristol

**Maria Kett**

Honorary Reader in Disability and International Development, University College London (UCL), London

Plenary introduction and case studies followed by a breakout session in four predesignated groups.

**Breakout groups  
1200-1300**

Each group will discuss:

- Review ONE of the pillars: 'Support and Aftercare for Survivors and their Families' OR 'Advocacy and Information'
- What do the goals/milestones mean for participants region/context/perspective?
- Are these goals the right ones?
- Are there any additional goals that are missing?
- Do the goals work to address a global challenge?

**1300-1445**

Lunch (available 1300-1400) and free time to explore Wiston House gardens and informal conversations. Facilitators to meet at 1430.

**1445-1515****6. Feedback and reflection**

Facilitators of the breakout discussions in sessions 4 and 5 to provide feedback to plenary.

**1515-1645****7. Achieving the goals: session 1**

How will the goals be achieved? Participants will be asked to develop **key activities** to achieve the goals in one of the five pillars: 'Prevention and Epidemic Control'; 'Diagnosis and Treatment'; 'Disease Surveillance'; 'Support and Aftercare for Survivors and their Families'; 'Advocacy and Information'.

**Plenary  
1515-1530****Session introduction****Vinny Smith**

Chief Executive Officer, Meningitis Research Foundation (MRF), Bristol

Plenary introduction followed by a breakout session in five predesignated groups.

**Breakout groups  
1530-1645**

Each group will discuss key activities under one pillar:

- What key activity needs to be taken to achieve each goal?
- What are the main barriers?
- What are the facilitating factors?

**1645-1715**

Tea/coffee

**1715**

Group photograph

**1715-1845**

Free time for side meetings, reflection

**1900**

Reception followed by dinner

## Friday 1 March

0800-0845

Breakfast and checkout

0845-1015

### 8. Achieving the goals: session 2

How will the goals be achieved? Participants will be asked to develop **key activities** for one of the five pillars, selecting a different one from the first session: 'Prevention and Epidemic Control'; 'Diagnosis and Treatment'; 'Disease Surveillance'; 'Support and Aftercare for Survivors and their Families'; and 'Advocacy and Information'.

Plenary  
0845-0900

#### Session introduction

**Olivier Ronveaux**

Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

Short plenary introduction followed by breakout session in five predesignated groups.

Breakout groups  
0900-1015

Each group will discuss goals under one pillar (different from session 1):

- What key activity needs to be taken to achieve each goal?
- What are the main barriers?
- What are the facilitating factors?

1015-1045

Tea/coffee

1045-1115

### 9. Feedback and reflection

Facilitators of the breakout discussions (session 7 and 8) to provide feedback to plenary.

1115-1200

### 10. Roadmap implementation

Roadmap implementation: coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation, communication plan, business case (financing), risk mitigation

#### Chair and session introduction:

**LeAnne Fox**

Chief of the Meningitis and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta

Discussion in plenary. Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- What are key mechanisms that should be in place to ensure an optimal implementation of the roadmap?
- What else is needed to implement the plan?

1200-1300

### 11. Roundup session and next steps

What needs to happen in the coming months?

#### Session introduction

**Marie-Pierre Preziosi**

Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

**James Stuart**

Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO), Bristol

Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- What needs to happen next (2019) in the roadmap process?
- Region/country specific issues
- Who do we need to engage to take the process forward?

Completion of online eQuestionnaire, identifying personal next steps

**1300**

Lunch

**1400**

Participants depart

**1415-1600**

Invited Taskforce members will convene to discuss next steps

**This is an invitation only conference.**

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