

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
AND
THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FOR
REDUCING TUBERCULOSIS IN UZBEKISTAN**

I. PURPOSE

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoH) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (collectively the “Participants” and individually a “Participant”) share the mutual goal of ending the spread of tuberculosis (TB), especially multidrug and extensively-drug resistant (DR) varieties of TB, through improving the cost-effective delivery of healthcare services and access to quality diagnosis, treatment and care in Uzbekistan.

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) sets forth the mutual understandings of the Participants to work together to achieve these shared goals. The specific purpose of this MOU is to outline the Participants’ understanding regarding USAID’s potential provision of assistance to the Republic of Uzbekistan’s National TB Program (NTP) for reducing TB in Uzbekistan. USAID intends to provide this assistance through USAID-funded health activities which currently include USAID TB Control, Challenge TB, Promoting the Quality of Medicines, Health Information Systems, other national-level and regional health systems strengthening activities, as well as potential future TB-related activities (collectively referred to herein as “the Projects”) that seek to achieve the same or similar goals.

The Projects are a key component of the United States Government’s technical and economic assistance program in Uzbekistan under the *Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Republic of Uzbekistan Regarding Cooperation to Facilitate the Provision of Assistance*, signed in Tashkent on March 1, 1994 (“the 1994 Framework Agreement”) and the Participants intend activities under this MOU to be subject to the 1994 Framework Agreement.

II. SHARED OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

To achieve the goal of reducing TB and ending the spread of DR varieties of TB in Uzbekistan, the Participants intend to make a concerted effort to jointly address the following key technical areas that are critical to reducing TB and ending the spread of DR varieties of TB in Uzbekistan:

1. Enhance the leadership and technical capacity of the Ministry of Health’s TB program at national and sub-national levels to effectively coordinate, guide and manage the implementation of TB control activities;

2. Implement innovative, proven and effective strategies and mechanisms for improving TB case finding and treatment outcomes to meet national strategic plan targets.
3. Improve the strategic management of DR-TB;
4. Ensure uninterrupted availability of commodities for diagnostics and treatment of TB that have adequate international quality assurance;
5. Improve the availability of and access of the population to quality and effective TB laboratory diagnostic services;
6. Strengthen private sector engagement and community systems critical to reducing TB;
7. Support the National TB Program to improve data collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data for country's decision making, and commitment by both Participants to develop shared targets; and
8. Enhance results monitoring, evaluation, and operations research.

III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Each Participant to this MOU intends to carry out the following activities:

A. USAID

Subject to the availability of funds to USAID for this purpose, the satisfaction of all applicable U.S. legal and programmatic requirements and the Participants' continued mutual collaboration to achieve the MOU's objectives, USAID intends to:

1. Participate in a joint annual action planning process between the MOH, all other relevant partners, to assess results and to come to consensus on TB interventions by the MoH and by USAID-funded activities;
2. Provide technical assistance as necessary to strengthen capacity and achieve results;
3. Provide financial and in-kind support to the MOH, subject to funds availability, to conduct specified activities consistent with the joint annual action plan;
4. Assist the National TB Program with the improvement of monitoring and evaluation systems and the quality of data collection and analysis; and
5. Instruct its implementing partners to report on project progress, challenges, and results.

B. MOH

The MOH intends to:

1. Include the commitments and targets decided at the High Level Meeting on TB at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, in the Uzbekistan National TB Program Strategy and in the National Concept of Healthcare System Improvement 2019-2025;
2. Convene a high level group (such as an Inter-Ministerial Task Force on TB Control) to establish and monitor a Multisectoral Accountability Framework for TB involving all key stakeholders (WHO, Global Fund, National TB Program, and others);

3. Support an uninterrupted supply of quality assured TB drugs and an effective drug management system;
4. Improve the capacity to collect, analyze, and publicly report data for performance monitoring and evaluation;
5. Adopt and implement relevant national guidelines and policies; and
6. Convene, participate in, and document a joint annual action planning process between the MOH, all other relevant partners, and USAID, to assess results and come to consensus on TB interventions by the MOH and by USAID-funded activities.

Jointly, the Participants intend to carry out the following activities:

1. To develop a joint annual action plan between the Participants and other stakeholders (WHO, Global Fund, National TB Program, and others) for reducing TB in Uzbekistan;
2. Identify outcomes to measure progress towards that goal;
3. Monitor progress by establishing joint monitoring visits, share releasable information and data, review results, and evaluate and report on progress;
4. Meet no less than once each quarter, or as needed based on mutual decision, to define the specific activities to be carried out and provide the necessary guidance to implementing partners;
5. Jointly plan and organize any launch or dissemination events related to the Projects' activities; and
6. Participate in regular (e.g., semi-annual and annual) performance reviews to jointly review performance data, technical reports and accountability records from both Participants.

IV. GENERAL INTENTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The Participants intend to carry out their respective activities under this MOU in conformity with their respective legal and policy authorities.

The Participants intend to join efforts and to maintain a close working relationship in order to achieve the objectives of this collaboration.

The Participants intend to respect each other's policies, as appropriate, with the mutual understanding that the Participants intend to publicize their collaboration under this MOU and its objectives without disclosing any information shared by one Participant with another that it has designated as non-public or proprietary, except where required by applicable law.

The Participants intend to coordinate with each other on all press releases or public statements regarding partnership activities under this MOU.

Nothing in this MOU imposes any legal rights or obligations under international or domestic law or constitutes any commitment of funds or obligations on either Participant.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This MOU may be modified by written consent of the Participants.

This MOU is intended to become effective on the date of signature of both Participants and is intended to remain operative for five years.

This MOU may be discontinued by mutual consent of the Participants or by either Participant individually at any time, but a Participant should endeavor to provide thirty (30) days' prior written notices to the other Participant prior to such discontinuation.

VI. NOTICES AND POINTS OF CONTACT

Any notices pursuant to this MOU should be given in writing and delivered to the following point of contacts:

a. In the case of MOH:

Mrs. Nargiza Nusratovna Parpieva
National Center of Phthisiopulmonology
Director, Chief Phthisiatrician
Ministry of Health
Republic of Uzbekistan
1 Majlisiy Street, Tashkent
Uzbekistan 100086



b. In the case of USAID:

Mr. Gary Robbins
USAID/Central Asia
Uzbekistan Country Office Director
U.S. Embassy, Tashkent
3 Maykurgan Street, Tashkent
Uzbekistan 100093



Each Participant may elect to designate a technical point of contact for day-to-day Project-related issues by written notice to the other at the address indicated above.

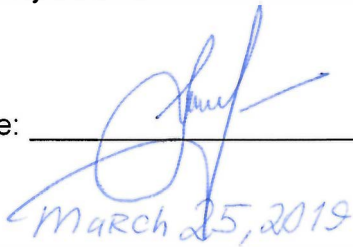
Signed in Tashkent, in duplicate, this 25th day of March 2019, in the English and Russian languages.

**Ministry of Health of the Republic of
Uzbekistan**

**United States Agency for International
Development**

Baxodir Kaxramonovich Yusupaliyev
Deputy Minister

Date: _____


March 25, 2019

Christopher W. Edwards

Christopher W. Edwards
Regional Mission Director
USAID/Central Asia

Date: March 25, 2019

Witness

Alan D. Meltzer

Alan D. Meltzer
Charge d'Affaires a.i.
U.S. Embassy Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Date: March 25, 2019