

Follow-up on JCB47 recommendations

| Recommendations / Decisions | | Follow-up action |
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| 1. | Welcomed the report on risk management and continues assessment of risks. Recommended that potential risks are continuously monitored, and risks are added as needed. | The recommendation has been fully implemented. We now continuously monitor risks and have updated the format of the Risk Management Report to include an Outlook section with the most recent updates. This change is reflected in the Risk Management Report 2024 and Outlook 2025, which have been submitted to the JCB for review and approval. Furthermore, due to WHO's response to the financial situation in early 2025, the potential impact on TDR has been considered. Consequently, certain risks have been reactivated and upgraded, and risk responses have been scaled up accordingly. |
| 2. | Welcomed the update on recruitment of the Director TDR and acknowledged the advanced set of skills required to lead the Programme. Recommended that WHO allow a period of overlap between the terms of the outgoing and incoming Director to allow for smooth transition. | The selection of the new Director proceeded according to WHO processes, including evaluation by a Special Panel comprising the Chair of JCB, members of the Standing Committee, and co-sponsor representatives. The selection panel made a formal recommendation to the Director General in November 2024. However, the appointment has been delayed due to an ongoing WHO reorganization. The Standing Committee of TDR convened several times in 2025 to propose actions that the appointment is made as soon as possible to avoid any disruption to TDR's operations and the quality of science. As a result, the WHO Director General approved the extension of the current Director's term until the end of June. The appointment of the new Director remains pending. |

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| <p>3. Recommended that TDR further explore how health and migration related issues can be addressed through the current TDR priorities by engaging with research and health communities in the countries most affected.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TDR collaborated with WHO on the development of the Global research agenda on health, migration, and displacement. • TDR has extensive experience in tackling health issues related to migration. Whether it is providing solutions for diagnosing and treating malaria in undocumented workers from Guyana and Suriname or addressing health and rights issues of migrant populations in Latin America. These efforts are integral to TDR's ongoing strategy. Some specific examples include: • The Clinical Research Leadership Programme supported a researcher from Sudan who, upon returning home, focused on leishmaniasis at Khartoum University. This work is pioneering innovative solutions to the internal migration challenges imposed by the conflict situation. • The SORT IT Programme, in collaboration with various countries, has actively advanced discussions in this field. This effort culminated in the submission of a funding proposal to the NovoNordisk Foundation, which is currently under review. If approved, it will enhance integrated care for TB, cardiometabolic disease, and disabilities among displaced and migrant populations in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. • The WARN-CARN TB networks are conducting research to better understand migrant movements in the West and Central African regions. They are analyzing the impact of transborder movements on treatment continuity. This analysis is nearing completion and will be published soon. The TB networks plan to use the findings to propose new approaches and strategies for TB control among migrant populations. |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the VL portfolio, migration has been highlighted as a key research theme. Information on transborder migration is incorporated into the ongoing epidemiological analysis in Eastern Africa to support VL elimination efforts. This issue is particularly pertinent to pastoralist populations in the region. • In response to an open call, two projects addressing malaria in migrant populations have been endorsed. Additionally, a special issue on "Malaria in Mobile and Hard-to-Reach Populations" is being prepared for the Journal of Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease. This special issue, slated for release around the end of June 2025, already includes six accepted articles. |
| 4. | Recommended that JCB members and observers and the TDR Secretariat enhance efforts to diversify and increase the resource base of TDR's budget. | Over the past year, significant efforts have been made to diversify the resource base of TDR's budget. We engaged with new potential donors as well as working to establish a process to work with the WHO Foundation, which has broader access to philanthropy, foundations, the private sector, and high-net-worth individuals. For the first time in decades, we secured a grant from France and successfully unlocked grants from donors by collaborating as co-applicants with partner institutions. The current very tight situation following the government of the USA cutting dozens of billions of dollars in funding to development aid and health research, makes the competition very acerbic. |