

**STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTHCARE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
AND
THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
FOR
REDUCING TUBERCULOSIS IN KAZAKHSTAN**

I. PURPOSE

The Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MOH) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (collectively the “Participants” and individually a “Participant”) share the mutual goal of improving the cost-effective delivery of healthcare services in Kazakhstan, particularly with respect to reducing the burden of tuberculosis (TB), with a focus on ending the spread of multi-drug and extensively-drug resistant TB (DR-TB).

This Statement of Partnership (“SP”) sets forth the mutual understanding of the Participants to work together to achieve this shared goal during the next five years. The specific purpose of this SP is to outline the Participants’ understanding regarding USAID’s potential provision of assistance to support the implementation of the Republic of Kazakhstan’s National Plan to Fight TB (NTP) for improved TB control. This assistance is expected to be provided through USAID-funded health activities which currently include USAID’s Promoting the Quality of Medicines, Challenge TB, Stop TB Partnership, other national-level and regional 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 Kazakhstan under the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Kazakhstan Regarding Cooperation to Facilitate the Provision of Assistance, signed on May 20, 1992 (“the 1992 Framework Agreement”), and the Participants intend activities under this SP to be subject to the 1992 Framework Agreement.

II. SHARED OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

To achieve this goal, a substantial number of interventions are needed in multiple technical areas. The Participants understand that the specific approaches outlined below may be altered based on new evidence. With this understanding and flexibility in mind, the Participants intend to jointly address the following key technical areas that are critical to ending TB in Kazakhstan:

1. Build the technical capacity of staff to implement TB activities at national and sub-national levels.
2. Implement innovative, proven, and effective strategies and tools for improving TB and DR-TB case finding, treatment outcomes and patient-centered care to meet National Plan to Fight TB targets;
3. Improve the programmatic management of DR-TB;
4. Improve the availability of and access to quality and effective TB and DR-TB laboratory diagnostic services, including rapid molecular diagnostics;
5. Ensure availability of commodities for diagnostics and quality drugs for treatment of TB and DR-TB;
6. Strengthen private sector, non-government and community engagement for TB control;
7. Improve monitoring and evaluation systems, use of data for decision making; and
8. Enhance operational research aimed to support the achievement of Kazakhstan's National Plan to Fight TB goals and targets.

In this context, the Participants intend to:

1. Jointly plan TB projects, including jointly planning project launch and dissemination events;
2. Monitor progress, share information, analyze and evaluate data;
3. Meet on a regular basis to adjust the specific activities to be carried out and provide the necessary guidance to implementing partners;
4. Participate in a regular (e.g., semi-annual and annual) performance review process, technical reports and reporting of the both Participants to jointly review performance data and develop recommendations on ongoing cooperation.

III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS

A. USAID

In support of achieving the goal/objectives outlined above, USAID intends to carry out the following activities:

1. Provide technical assistance to strengthen capacity of staff to conduct activities that contribute to the achievement of targets outlined in the National Plan to Fight TB;
2. Provide expert and advisory assistance to support implementation of the National Plan to Fight TB;
3. Assist with the improvement of monitoring and evaluation systems and the quality of data collection and analysis; and
4. Report regularly on USAID-funded projects' progress, challenges and results.

B. Ministry of Health

In support of achieving the goal/objectives outlined above, Ministry of Health intends to carry out the following activities:

1. Conduct Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) meetings with international organizations on HIV and TB to monitor and coordinate ongoing anti-tuberculosis activities implemented by international partners, including USAID funded activities in the country;
2. Ensure activities are guided by WHO recommendations and contribute to meeting the national TB targets for Kazakhstan as presented by the STOP TB Partnership at the UN General Assembly in September 2018;
3. Ensure effective drug management systems;
4. Engage TB experts as consultants to support the implementation of the National Plan to Fight TB implementation; and
5. Share TB data to further the joint objectives outlined in this SP.

To measure progress towards the goal/objectives, the Participants intend to identify outcomes including, but not limited to the following:

1. Improved laboratory diagnostics for TB and DR-TB cases;
2. Improved TB and DR-TB notification for all forms of TB;
3. Increased DR-TB case enrollment without delay, and on appropriate treatment;
4. Improved DR-TB treatment outcomes; and
5. Improved ability to finance healthcare services related to DR-TB.

IV. GENERAL INTENTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The Participants intend to carry out their respective activities under this SP 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 SP and its objectives without, to the extent compatible with applicable laws, disclosing any information shared by one Participant with another that it has designated as non-public or proprietary.

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

Nothing in this SP 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 SP may be modified by written consent of the Participants.

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

This SP 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 notice to the other Participant of its intent to do so.

VI. NOTICES AND POINTS OF CONTACT

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

a. In the case of Ministry of Health, Republic of Kazakhstan:

Ms. Lyazat Aktayeva,
Vice Minister
Ministry of Health, Republic of Kazakhstan
House of Ministers, 8 Mengilyk Avenue, Entrance # 5
Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan 010000
[REDACTED]

b. In the case of USAID:

Mr. Christopher Edwards,
USAID/Central Asia
Mission Director
U.S. Agency for International Development
41 Kazibek Bi Street
Almaty, Kazakhstan 050010
[REDACTED]

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.

This Statement of Partnership is prepared in Kazakh, Russian and English. In the event of ambiguity or conflict between the versions, the Participants intend the English language version to apply.

Signed in Nur-Sultan, in duplicate, this 07 day of 08 2019.

**Ministry of Healthcare of the
Republic of Kazakhstan**

**United States Agency for
International Development**



Lyazat Aktayeva
Vice Minister

Christopher Edwards
Mission Director, Central Asia

