

**Fifth committee**  
**Programme Budget for the Biennium 2018-2019**  
**Programme Budget Implications**  
**Draft Resolution "Scope, Modalities, Format and Organization of the High-Level Meeting on the**  
**Fight Against Tuberculosis"**  
**The First Resumed Session of the Seventy Second Session**  
**27 March 2018**  
**India Statement**

Thank You Mr. Chairman,

We align our statement with the statement delivered by Egypt on behalf of G77. We would like to thank Mr. Pedro Guazo, Acting Deputy Controller, as well as Mr. Babou Sene, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary, for presenting their respective reports to the Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

According to WHO, Tuberculosis is one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide, responsible for more deaths than HIV and malaria. Worldwide, an estimated 10.4 million people fall ill with TB every year of which an estimated 1.8 million people die. The need for countries to move much faster to prevent, detect, and treat the disease is strongly felt now than ever before.

The Government of India has attached very high priority to tackle this issue. Earlier this month, Prime Minister Modi launched the TB-free India campaign to eradicate the disease by 2025 in the Delhi End TB Summit. Prime Minister Modi said that the global efforts to eliminate tuberculosis would be successful with a change in approach to achieve the goal. The TB-free India campaign will undertake activities in a mission mode for eradicating the disease by 2025. USD 100 million per annum will be provided for nutrition support to the patients suffering from the disease. An India TB Research Consortium has been set up to facilitate technology and innovation in this field to better the drugs, diagnosis and treatment of the disease and to boost research.

Mr. Chairman

We support the initiative and attach great importance to the Organization of the United Nations High Level Meeting on the fight against TB that will be held on the 26th of September 2018. We feel that this High Level meeting will help mobilize global efforts to address this serious global health challenge.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.