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This year, the group launched a clean air advocacy initiative, Inspire: Health Advocates for Clean Air – a global coalition of clinicians, public health professionals, and organisations mobilised for clean air action.

TOBACCO CONTROL SECTION

MPOWER RESEARCH ON TOBACCO CONTROL

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A tool to assess the status of MPOWER in order to generate and summarise research priorities in tobacco control at country level is also in progress, which will include the long neglected 'gender' component in public policies.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM TOBACCO INDUSTRY INTERFERENCE IN HEALTH POLICIES

This working group aims to promote children’s right to health by strengthening the implementation of WHO FCTC policies, with a focus on preventing tobacco industry interference in public health policy-making. The group also aims to increase awareness among communities about the negative impact of tobacco on children’s health.
The Union’s scientific sections and working groups offer members an opportunity to affiliate with others who share the same interests and collaborate on research, publications and projects. One of their principal activities is to propose sessions and contribute to the planning of the Union World Conference on Lung Health. They also participate in the governance of The Union through the General Assembly.

**TUBERCULOSIS SECTION**

Throughout 2019, the Tuberculosis (TB) Section – with its Sub-Sections and Working Groups – organised a series of member webinars. Membership Engagement Teams, member advisory groups who offer advice and support to Union projects, worked jointly with staff on the Challenge TB project in India and DETECT Child TB in Uganda.

The TB section developed a quality of care survey for National TB Programme leaders, and has helped ensure that a quality of TB care track forms part of the scientific programme for the 50th Union World Conference.

**WORKING GROUPS**

**TB CONTROL IN PRISONS**

The group published and disseminated the compendium ‘Good Practices in Prevention and Care of TB and Drug-Resistant TB in Prisons’, featuring 31 examples from 15 countries which may be used to scale up effective interventions globally.

**TB AND MIGRATION**

This group focuses on TB among migrants, from epidemiology and risk factors in countries of origin, during transit and after arrival in countries of destination, to their potential return. The group supports this emerging and under researched field through webinars, symposia, conferences and scientific papers and has a role in informing policy within The Union.

**TB INFECTION CONTROL**

In consultation with key stakeholders in high TB burden countries, the group developed process indicators for administrative controls essential in the monitoring and evaluation of TB infection control in health facilities, such as the Finding, Actively, Separating, Treating (FAST) strategy. Group members hosted webinars disseminating their work, which will also be presented at the 50th Union World Conference.

**GLOBAL INDIGENOUS STOP TB INITIATIVE GROUP**

Members worked with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to support strengthening TB programmes for Indigenous people in Latin America at the International AIDS Society Conference in Mexico City.

At the 50th Union World Conference, the group will present an oral abstract session and host a panel discussion within the Community Connect, focussing on reducing TB burden among Indigenous people locally and globally.

**TB AND MENTAL HEALTH**

The working group published in the *International Journal for Tuberculosis and Lung Disease* (IJTLD) the results from a survey of National Tuberculosis Programme directors from 26 mostly high-burden countries which found significant receptivity to TB and mental health integration if training were available. The group is collaborating with United for Global Mental Health, a UK-based advocacy organisation, to promote TB and mental health integration globally. Finally, the group is working...
to develop a toolbox of mental health resources for The Union Courses website.

**DRUG-RESISTANT TB**

The group presented a member webinar on proposed new endpoint definitions for drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) and undertook a survey of members to assess progress in roll out of the nine-month regimen and bedaquiline and delamanid.

**TB AND ETHICS**

Members of the group published papers on topics related to TB and ethics in relation to: persons with severe mental illness; whole genome sequencing; migration; and treatment and prevention of multidrug resistant TB (MDR-TB). Moreover, two manuscripts are in preparation that stem directly from the groups meeting at the 49th Union World Conference.

The group has also contributed to two symposia at this year’s Union World Conference.

**SUB-SECTIONS**

**TB BACTERIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**

The sub-section organised a member webinar on the topic of ‘Providing clinical guidance on interpretation of drug resistance testing using use for first- and second-line line probe assays (LPA) interpretation and reporting.’

The sub-section has also contributed to four symposia, eight oral abstract sessions and six poster sessions during the 50th Union World Conference.

**TB NURSES AND ALLIED PROFESSIONALS SUB-SECTION & TB EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP**

The sub-section and associated working group are developing a process to encourage increased regional member engagement, the progress of which will be presented at the sub-section meeting during the 50th Union World Conference. The sub-section will also host an educational materials session in the Community Connect.

**ZOO NOTIC TB SUB-SECTION & CREATING GLOBAL AWARENESS OF ZOO NOTIC TB WORKING GROUP**

To mark the World TB Day in Nigeria, and towards actualising the ‘Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis’, the Programme Secretary of the Sub-Section organised a public health campaign on ‘the dangers of consuming TB infected meat and meat products’ in one of the largest abattoirs in Nigeria. More than 200 abattoir workers, government officials, academics, physicians, veterinarians, journalists and the general public were present.

**HIV SECTION**

The HIV section expanded to include TB-diabetes mellitus (TB-DM), which is increasingly important for TB care and prevention as the burden of diabetes continues to rise, particularly in countries with high rates of TB.

The section organises the annual Late-Breaker Session on TB-HIV and TB-diabetes for the Union World Conference, as well as other HIV related aspects of The Union, including the awarding of the Stephen Lawn Prize.

**ADULT AND CHILD LUNG HEALTH SECTION**

This year, the section collaborated closely with The Union’s Director of Lung Health to create the Union’s Strategic Plan for Lung Health 2020–2025. Two broad themes emerged as priorities: lung health across the life course; and lung health and well-being after TB.

Linking to the two broad themes of The Union’s Strategic Plan for Lung Health, the section organised member webinars on ‘Lungs past and future: recognising and treating respiratory disease arising in early life’ and ‘Post TB lung disease – current state of the science.’
WORKING GROUPS

POST TUBERCULOSIS LUNG DISORDERS
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