The International Tuberculosis Course is organized by the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) in collaboration with the Tanzania National Tuberculosis / Leprosy Programme.

1. JUSTIFICATION

Tuberculosis continues to be a major public health problem in many low income countries. The ability to successfully attack the problem of tuberculosis has been demonstrated in many national programmes. This course is offered in an attempt to disseminate information regarding tuberculosis control which has been developed within the context of a National Tuberculosis Programme.

The National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme in Tanzania has been shown to successfully find and treat cases of tuberculosis in the whole country through diagnosis based primarily on sputum smear microscopy and treatment centered on directly observed chemotherapy in the intensive phase of treatment. This programme provides the site for training in practical methods of tuberculosis control for countries with limited resources.

2. OBJECTIVES

The successful student in this course will, at the completion of the course, have a basic understanding of the size and trend of the tuberculosis problem in a community, how this is determined and what influenced it. Moreover, the student will have a good understanding of how to approach the problem at the community level to bring it under control. The student will have the theoretical basis for such an approach and will have practical experience within an operating programme to show how this is accomplished. Moreover, the student will discover how the activities of tuberculosis control can be integrated with those to control other diseases, in relation to the overall health care structure of a country.

The specific aspects of tuberculosis control with which the student will gain experience are case-finding (based upon sputum microscopy) and its evaluation, chemotherapy and its evaluation, and the evaluation of the size of the tuberculosis problem.

3. CONTENT AND CONDUCT OF THE COURSE

The course will be carried out with an emphasis upon the theory of tuberculosis control which will be taught primarily through lectures and discussion, and the conduct of a national tuberculosis programme under field conditions which will be taught primarily by practical field experience in the sputum microscopy laboratory, at the district tuberculosis centre and in the hospital.

The following topics will be discussed during the course:

A. Bacteriologic basis of tuberculosis control and the laboratory network:
   - Tuberculosis bacteriology
   - Tuberculosis diagnosis: laboratory methods with an emphasis on acid-fast microscopy
   - Organization of the mycobacteriology services
   - Setting up a microscopy network
   - Quality assurance for sputum smear microscopy
   - Surveillance of anti-tuberculosis drug resistance

B. Clinical presentation and diagnosis
   - Pulmonary tuberculosis in adults
   - Clinical manifestations of tuberculosis in children
   - Extra-pulmonary manifestations of tuberculosis
C. Epidemiologic basis of tuberculosis control
   Exposure to tubercle bacilli
   Infection with tubercle bacilli
   Tuberculosis
   Death from tuberculosis

D. Interventions for tuberculosis control and elimination
   Chemotherapy of tuberculosis
   BCG vaccination of the un-infected
   Preventive therapy for the infected

E. Principles of tuberculosis control
   Principles of a national programme
   Structure, personnel, budgeting, management and supplies
   Recording and reporting of cases
   Choice of cost-effective treatment regimens
   HIV infection and the tuberculosis programme
   Evaluation of programme performance indicators

4. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The training is addressed specifically to individuals involved in the conduct of national tuberculosis programmes. The course can accommodate a limited number (maximum of 25) of participants. Preference is given to those participants who are destined to have a role in the actual conduct of tuberculosis programmes in low income countries at national or intermediate level.

5. FURTHER DETAILS OF THE COURSE

The course is held in Arusha, Tanzania. Participants will be expected to arrive in Arusha for the Tuberculosis Course no later than the day before the course.

Prospective students will either require sponsorship by their governments or organizations to qualify for the course or be prepared to meet all expenses personally, including airfare and per diem for the course.

The course is situated at the:
CEDHA Centre (Centre for Educational Development in Health Arusha)
P.O. Box 1162
Arusha, TANZANIA
Tel:    +255-27 254 82 81
Fax:    +255-27 254 40 88
E-mail: cedhatz@cedha.ac.tz

Formal aspects of the course will be conducted usually between 08:30 and 16:00 with a break at midday for lunch. The course will operate from Monday to Friday and students are free to make their own arrangements for entertainment or shopping after-hours and on weekends.

The co-ordinators will assist as much as possible where arrangements must be made, but the responsibility for activities outside the usual conduct of the course is primarily that of the student.

The CEDHA Centre in Arusha provides reasonable access to shops and markets in beautiful natural surroundings.

Course participants coming from countries with a low prevalence of malaria are advised to take prophylaxis according to the recommendations of the health authorities in their home countries. Participants are also required to be in possession of a valid certificate of vaccination for yellow fever.

The climate in the area is moderate to warm, rain showers may be expected during the course; participants should bring clothing which is light, and also a sweater or jacket in case of cool evenings.
Registration

- Applicants are requested to submit **by 31 August 2014** an online application, a curriculum vitae (PDF format) and a written confirmation from their sponsor (PDF format), using the following link: [http://registration.theunion.org/useraccount/?curserv=Cours](http://registration.theunion.org/useraccount/?curserv=Cours)

  *NB: please do not submit an application without guaranteed sponsorship, your application would be disregarded!*

- Results of the selection process will be communicated to all applicants **by 30 September 2014**.

- All participants will be responsible (either independently or through a sponsor) for financing their tuition fee, as well as travel, visa, travel insurance, airport transportation, accommodation and per diem.

  **Tuition fee:** 3000 Euros

  **The cost of accommodation** at the CEDHA Centre, including breakfast and lunch, but not including dinner or Sunday lunch, is 950 Euros for the entire course.

  The total sum of 3970 Euros is to be paid to The Union - one month before the beginning of the course.

  In addition to the cost of accommodation at the Centre, participants are advised to bring cash equivalent to US$ 30 per day for the cost of meals in the evening and on Sundays, and of incidentals.