

Priorities for activities of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease

Mainz, 13 June 1994

The general aims of the IUATLD are ‘the prevention and control of tuberculosis, lung disease and related community health problems’ (Article I in the Constitution). The following statement outlines the key activities and method of organization by which these aims are achieved.

A. **Key activities** include the following:

1. **Education** is directed at health-care providers, decision makers and the public at large. It is carried out through dissemination of information, training and public education.

1.1 **Dissemination of information** is carried out through the following activities:

- conferences, courses and publications (Article II, paragraph 3)
- scientific statements issued by IUATLD
- joint meeting, reports and recommendations with the World Health Organization and other international health organizations and institutions (Article II, paragraph 2)

1.2 **Training of health-care professionals** is provided by courses, seminars and publications.

These activities are designed to develop expertise among those in charge of planning and implementing programs against tuberculosis and for the promotion of lung health.

1.3 **Public education** is undertaken at the international level and in collaboration with the Constituent Members.

These activities fulfill Article II, paragraph 4 of the Constitution in their aim to raise awareness among health care professionals, policy makers, politicians and the general public of issues related to tuberculosis and lung health.

2. **Technical Assistance** is provided according to the constitution requirement to assist the IUATLD Constituent Members (Article II, paragraph 1). The aim of this assistance is to exchange technology, skills and knowledge between technically advanced and developing countries as well as among developing countries themselves, for the purpose of promoting, within the priorities of each country, national self-sufficiency in developing, implementing and evaluating programs for tuberculosis control and promotion of lung health. International collaboration is necessary for the development of national expertise for planning and management of such programs.

3. **Research** is carried out in the fields of specialization of the IUATLD within the organization, in collaboration with its affiliated Research Units and in cooperation with external research institutions and organizations.

- 3.1 **Research Units** affiliated with the IUATLD are designed to answer questions of international relevance
- 3.2 **Members and scientific groups** within the organization may initiate research with a view to promoting collaborative links among the members and with external groups.
- 3.3 A **Documentation Centre** is available to provide essential information to those carrying out research in the fields of tuberculosis and lung health.

B. **Organization and funding** of the activities described in the forgoing section must take account of the category of the activities. The activities are coordinated by the Secretariat, through the Coordinating Committee of Scientific Activities, under the direction of the Executive Committee and Council.

1. **Core activities** in support of the Constituent, Organizational and Individual Members, include: dissemination of information, through publication of *Tubercle and Lung Disease*, the Newsletter, training manuals and other materials; coordination of programs on research and other activities; and planning of scientific meetings, including an Annual Meeting and a World Congress every 2-4 years. These shall be supported from funds collected from these members as annual dues.
2. **Other activities** of the IUATLD are additional to those under section B.1 for the support of, and paid for by, Constituent, Organizational and Individual Members. In consequence, there must be sufficient funds and reserves to sustain any such activities and projects. They must be planned, approved and funded in such a manner that they pay for the specific activity as well as all related costs within the Secretariat.