



Congressman Donald Payne

Tenth District - New Jersey

For Immediate Release
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MEDIA ADVISORY · MEDIA ADVISORY · MEDIA ADVISORY

World Health Organization to Launch New Report on the Global Threat of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

Washington, DC – Congressman Donald M. Payne, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, will be hosting a press conference for the launch of the World Health Organization's (WHO) report "Anti-Tuberculosis Drug Resistance in the World." New data and findings from the largest WHO survey ever carried out on drug-resistant TB will be released on **February 26, 2008 at 11am.**

The report is the first by WHO since extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB) – a virtually untreatable form of tuberculosis – was documented as a public health threat.

Tuberculosis kills around one and a half million people a year and is second only to HIV/AIDS as the world's leading infectious killer. This survey reports on the worldwide threat posed by forms of TB that have developed resistance to standard drugs in more than 80 countries.

"Anti-Tuberculosis Drug Resistance in the World" also charts the scale of the multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) problem and includes a list of countries reporting the highest recorded rates of drug resistance.

The survey features, the first ever, analysis on XDR-TB, plus an updated list of countries with confirmed XDR-TB cases.

WASHINGTON, DC NEWS CONFERENCE:

WHEN: 11am Tuesday February 26

WHO: Speaker: Dr. Mario Raviglione, Director, Stop TB Department, WHO
Chair: Hon Donald M. Payne, Member of Congress, Chairman House Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health

WHERE: B-318 Rayburn House Office Building, US Congress

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TELEPHONE NEWS CONFERENCE CALL:

WHEN: 1pm Tuesday February 26 (Washington time)

WHO: Dr. Mario Raviglione, Director, Stop TB Department, WHO &
Abigail Wright, Principal Author, Stop TB Department, WHO

HOW: Call +1-888-373-5705 (USA & Canada); +1-719-457-3840 (International)

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GENEVA:

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LONDON:

Tuesday February 26:
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Wednesday February 27:
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