

Message by  
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**24 March 2025**

# World Tuberculosis Day

**Tuberculosis remains a major public health challenge in the Eastern Mediterranean region, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.**

**In 2023 alone, the region recorded 936,000 new TB cases and nearly 86,000 deaths.**

**Every 34 seconds, someone falls ill with tuberculosis, and every six minutes, another life is lost.**

**These deaths are avoidable because TB is a curable disease.**

**In our region, treatment programmes have a success rate of over 90%, but 3 out of 10 cases remain undetected and untreated, less than half of new patients use rapid molecular tests that can detect resistance to antibiotics, and preventive treatment remains rare.**

**All of this fuels transmission and impedes tuberculosis control.**

**On World Tuberculosis Day, I urge Member States to take decisive action.**



Eastern Mediterranean Region

