

Message from
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on the occasion of

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World Tuberculosis Day



On this World TB Day, we are reminded that tuberculosis remains one of the deadliest infectious diseases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

One person falls ill every 34 seconds, and someone dies every six minutes.

Too many are diagnosed late—or not at all. Service gaps and treatment interruptions fuel transmission and drug resistance, while the cost of care pushes families into hardship.

Meaningful gains have been achieved: from 2020 to 2024, over 2.8 million people were diagnosed and placed on treatment, with more than 90% successfully treated.

But this progress is fragile. Without sustained investment and accountability, gains can quickly reverse.

**The time to accelerate is now.
Yes, we can end TB.**