

# “AIDS Mortality and TB: Civil Society Dialogue”

**Date:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

**Time:** 09:00 - 10:00 am

**Venue:** F-room, RAI Amsterdam Convention Centre

*Refreshments and snacks will be served*

Approximately one third of people beginning treatment for HIV have advanced disease with severe immune suppression, (CD4<200) putting them at very high risk of opportunistic infections (OIs) and death. In 2015 alone, 1.1 million people died of AIDS despite Test and Start policy. The same opportunistic infections (OIs) are associated with AIDS yet there is a lack of OI treatment and diagnosis.

Tuberculosis is the leading cause of death among people living with HIV/AIDS. A course of TB preventive therapy significantly reduces risk and all PLHIV need access to it, yet scale up has been slow in many countries. While the disease is also curable there are many factors that make this less possible in low to low-middle income countries where the TB is still a problem. In many countries, advanced methods for rapid diagnosis for TB are still underutilized.

At the 2017 International AIDS Society (IAS) conference in Paris, a group of activists issued a call for action for Advanced Disease. The aim of this gathering is to review the scope of progress on some of the demands made, engage dialogue regarding gaps, opportunities and future possibilities to mobilise further action. By working together we can make much faster progress reducing the vulnerability to OIs in all PLHIV, regardless of CD4 count.

This event will be a short, to-the-point, informal strategy session to share lessons learned and map out opportunities for further influence and collaboration.

We expect maximum 40 participants by invitation only.

## Proposed Agenda

09h00 Welcome and Chair and Overview:

- *Amanda Banda, HIV Advocacy Coordinator, Africa, MSF*

09h05 Speakers:

- *Maurine Murenga, Activist, Founder of the Lean on Me Foundation*
- *Lynette Mabote, Regional Programmes Lead, ARASA*
- *Sean Cavanagh, Senior Tuberculosis Advisor, PEPFAR*

09h30 Discussion

09h50 Wrap up

10h00 End

**RSVP to [advocacy@joburg.msf.org](mailto:advocacy@joburg.msf.org) by 20 July 2018**

