



# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION FOR TB

International Indigenous HIV & AIDS Community  
(IIHAC)  
International Indigenous Working Group on HIV & AIDS  
(IIWGHA)  
Global Indigenous Stop TB Initiative (GISI)  
December 2020

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1. **Human Rights** – The UN and its Member States must work with Indigenous Peoples to respect, protect, and promote Indigenous individual and collective rights, as they are enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2. **A tuberculosis specific high-level meeting in 2023** – To represent the voices of the global Indigenous community, it is essential that the Stakeholders Task Force include a designated seat for an Indigenous representative (as there was for the 2016 High Level Meeting on AIDS).
3. **Stigma and Discrimination** – A Truth and Reconciliation Commission process is required to engage Indigenous community members in order to appropriately identify restorative actions needed to promote reconciliation and constructive community based treatments.
4. **Real time data** – We require disaggregated epidemiological data for Indigenous Peoples that monitor and evaluate the impact of TB on Indigenous Peoples worldwide.
5. **Eliminating old and harmful drugs and diagnostics** - We call for the recognition and provisions of Indigenous holistic medicines and traditional healers to help overcome the challenges posed by TB. Indigenous Peoples

must be provided with access to first-line medicines and therapies and the elimination of old and harmful drugs and diagnostics.

6. **Increasing commitments for new tools and a tuberculosis vaccine** – The world requires new TB tools and a people’s vaccine with access for all, especially those most at risk of TB, including Indigenous peoples. Promotional and informational messaging must be developed in Indigenous languages.
7. **Leveraging investments in COVID-19** – We need to develop tools, concepts, capacity, and infrastructure, in partnership with the Indigenous Peoples’ response in order to ensure that the voices of affected communities are heard and included. Lessons learned from the Indigenous community-led COVID-19 responses need to be documented and best practices scaled up.
8. **Independent accountability mechanisms** – It is essential that an Indigenous specific seat be established on any independent accountability mechanism to ensure that Indigenous targets are measured and to ensure Indigenous Peoples do not continue to be left behind.
9. **Financing** – We call for the recognition of Indigenous Peoples and cultures by requiring all messaging and services be provided in Indigenous languages, to ensure cultural safety, culturally-appropriate resources, and microfinancing for local community responses. We must ensure funding to Indigenous community-led organizations. Funds must be reallocated away from large unwieldy international organizations to organizations led by the key affected populations.
10. **National targets** – All nations where Indigenous Peoples are known to reside must include Indigenous indicators within national targets in accordance with the sustainable development goals in order to understand and monitor the impact of TB on Indigenous peoples. Indigenous Peoples must be included in the development of national targets.

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