**March 2014**

**World TB Day**

**Invite for your MP**

**Dear YOUR MPs NAME**

**RE: an invitation to join constituents in Parliament to learn about the global tuberculosis epidemic on World TB Day, March 24th.**

World TB Day is the biggest opportunity every year to draw attention to the global TB pandemic. Despite being considered by many to be a disease of the past, TB still kills an estimated 1.4 million people each year, many of whom live in some of the world’s poorest countries. However, this airborne killer is not limited to developing countries; last year in the UK there were an estimated 9000 new cases diagnosed. Given that globally around one third of all TB cases are never diagnosed, this number is likely to be much higher.

**OR: As you know, having taken action on this issue on numerous occasions/several occasions/in January etc. TB is a big problem etc.**

On World TB Day, **WE your constituents/I will** be coming to London to meet with other campaigners and MPs working towards an end to the TB pandemic. We would be hugely grateful for the opportunity to meet with you or your staff at some point in the early afternoon to discuss the issue and to learn more about what you can do to help.

From 12-2pm, the UK’s only mobile TB X-Ray unit, Find & Treat, which goes out and around London screening acutely vulnerable people for TB and providing them with treatment, will be parked on the Parliamentary Estate with special permission of the Speaker. This is being organised in conjunction with the APPG on Global TB, STOP TB UK, RESULTS UK, TB Action Group, TB Alert, Public Health England, and the Find & Treat team. If you were able to **meet us/me in** Central Lobby before visiting the **Unit I/we would** be immensely grateful.

Finally, the APPG on Global TB have joined up with colleagues and partners around the world to prepare a global statement on the importance of TB care and control. The statement has been drafted with the World Health Organisation and will be signed by parliamentarians from the G8 countries and the European Parliament. The hope is that it will raise the profile of TB both in the UK and internationally at a critical time in the fight against the disease.

If you would also consider adding your name to the more than 70 UK Parliamentarians who have already signed the statement that would be an added bonus. The group is not collecting scanned signatures, just names, so if you are happy to have your name added to the statement when it is launched on World TB Day, please let us know. **I attach the full text of the statement to this email/letter.**

I/WE realise you have many important commitments, but it would be a huge privilege if you could join us, even if only briefly.

I/WE look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,

**YOUR NAME**