



MSF Statement*

Agenda item 11.6 - Road map for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) 2021-2030 77th World Health Assembly, May 2024

According to the 2024 Global Report on Neglected Tropical Diseases, the rate of reduction in people requiring interventions against NTDs is insufficient to meet the target by 2030. NTDs still cause over 200,000 deaths annually. MSF has reported an increase of NTD cases in many settings.

The interventions recommended by the WHO road map for NTDs are not being scaled up quickly enough due to the chronic underfinancing of NTDs. The resource gap is particularly concerning for newly recognised NTDs such as noma and snakebite.

The risk factors for NTDs—poverty, displacement, and environmental exposure—may worsen in the coming years. MSF therefore calls for stronger political will and additional resources from both donor and endemic countries to tackle NTDs in fragile contexts, and to develop better NTD medicines and diagnostics tailored to resource-limited settings. There cannot be any universal health coverage if NTDs are not vigorously tackled and controlled.

**(This statement could not be delivered at WHA due to a limitation on the number of statements by non-state actors.)*