



Khartoum, 24 March 2013 – Thousands gathered today at the Friendship Hall in Khartoum to celebrate World TB Day 2013.

Led by the Sudanese TB Patients' Association, 25 community-based organizations, including the women's union, youth organizations, student organizations, the scouts, and representatives from the Sudanese army and police, marched along Nile Street carrying flags and placards with TB-related messages while chanting and singing songs about TB.

“The Government of Sudan fully supports the fight against tuberculosis,” Sudan's Vice-President AlHaj Adam said during the gathering. “We recognize the importance of strong partnerships with various organizations and agencies, both in the public and private sectors, to achieve our goal of making Sudan TB-free,” the Vice-President added.

“TB is not a shameful disease and everyone has to be reminded that it is curable,” Dr Isameldin Mohammed Abdalla, Under-Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Health, said during the celebration and he called on each and every Sudanese person to take part in their own little way to stop the stigma. Social stigma has been one of the hurdles in TB prevention in Sudan.



Dr. Yousang Kim, WHO Deputy Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Region, said the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Region is committed to supporting the Sudanese government in its efforts to combat tuberculosis. [WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Region](#)
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