

**SPEAKING NOTES FOR DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**DUST AND INFECTION FREE LUNGS: HARNESSING ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE FOR TB AND SILICOSIS**

**DATE:G ARTIFICIAL**

And a warm welcome to all delegates during the cold month of June to Sandton the economic heart of our country! Our transition to democracy has spanned 30 years and we applaud our political leadership in their vision and implementation of a government of national unity following on the peaceful elections in May. On 16 June, we celebrated Youth Day which remembers the sacrifice of the youth of South Africa in 1976 during what is known as the Soweto uprising.

The Soweto uprising was a series of demonstrations and protests led by black school children in South Africa during apartheid that began on the morning of 16 June 1976. Students from various schools began to protest in the streets of the Soweto township - not far from Sandton - in response to the introduction of Afrikaans, considered by schools. It



While the CAD software and portable hardware units are a game changer, implementation challenges remain. Further operational research is needed in the use of CAD and portable units in field settings and sub-populations. Infrastructure needs such as connectivity may be a problem and electricity supply can be overcome using battery packs and solar units. Updates and new CAD versions are provided that may be incompatible with existing computer operating systems and generally the CAD software is standalone and not incorporated into electronic health records.

The CAD-based Chest X-rays have proven accurate for TB detection in adults, and it is hoped that this conference will provide an overview of the evidence for TB detection and the research, development and field implementation of CAD for silicosis as well