**ELIMINATION OF TB**
New York, September 2018

Political leaders and tuberculosis (TB) experts met for the first UN High-Level Meeting on TB to reaffirm declarations to diagnose and treat 40 million people by 2022, and provide 30 million with preventative treatment. The aim is to end TB globally by 2030. However, with fewer than 20 heads of state present, and a funding gap of $3.5 billion per year, it remains to be seen whether the declarations will be actualized.1

**BAN OF CHLORPYRIFOS**
United States, August 2018

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was ordered by the Court of Appeals to "revoke allowable limits" of chlorpyrifos, a harmful pesticide linked to neurological disorders in children. Chlorpyrifos was identified as a human health risk in 2015 due to its actions in inhibiting acetylcholinesterase, an enzyme essential for neurological signaling pathways. In light of the recent court order, lobbyists are hopeful for a full ban on the use of this harmful insecticide in the very near future.2

**LASSA FEVER CRISIS**
Nigeria, April 2018

Lassa fever is a viral hemorrhagic fever that has seen 413 confirmed cases in the first quarter of 2018, resulting in 114 deaths in 21 West African states. A national Emergency Operations Center was activated by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control to coordinate preventative efforts with the World Health Organization. Although the incidence of Lassa fever has declined, the infection of 27 health workers with the virus highlights the need to strengthen control practices in emergency health care settings.3

**CHOLERA OUTBREAK**
Yemen, October 2016 - Current

Cholera has plagued Yemen since an outbreak in October 2016, following a war that erupted in March 2015. Damaged health, sanitation, and water infrastructure has led to a lack of clean water for over 14.5 million people, over 1 million cholera cases, and 2,000 deaths — the most in modern history.7

**ROTAVIRUS VACCINE**
India, January 2018

India-based pharmaceutical company, Bharat Biotech, received prequalification from the World Health Organization for its Rotavac vaccine. Rotavac protects against rotavirus, which is the main cause of diarrheal death in children, leading to approximately 80,000 deaths per year in India alone. Rotavac's low cost of 1 USD per dose allows humanitarian organizations to vaccinate a greater number of people, reducing the incidence of rotavirus, particularly in low-income countries.6

**GLOBAL WARMING**
South Korea, October 2018

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports that limiting the average global temperature increase to 1.5°C would require carbon dioxide emissions to fall by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. While reaching this goal will be difficult, keeping global warming at 1.5°C instead of 2°C would save $38.5 trillion in associated damages by the end of the century.5

**TEENAGE DRINKING**
England, September 2018

The World Health Organization reports that youth consumption of alcohol has decreased across Europe, with the largest decline in England. Nearly 10% of deaths in Europe are attributed to alcohol. The proportion of teenage boys in England who drank weekly dropped from 50% in 2002 to just 10% in 2014. Putative reasons for this drop include changes in cultural norms, household income, and preventative approaches.4