



**SECOND MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
AFRICAN VOLUNTEER HEALTH CORPS (AVoHC), ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA,
22-23 February 2016**

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

1. BACKGROUND

The African Union Heads of State and Government in Decision No. Assembly/AU/Dec.570(XXV) of June 2015, requested the Commission in collaboration with Member States and Development Partners to establish an African Volunteer Health Corps to be deployed during disease outbreaks and other health emergencies and to report regularly to the Assembly on progress made.

In line with the above mandate, the Commission has developed a draft proposal for the establishment of an African Volunteer Health Corps (AVoHC). The draft was presented and discussed during the Evaluation Workshop of African Union Support to Ebola Outbreak in West Africa (ASEOWA) that took place in Mahe, Seychelles from 26-28 October 2015. The meeting recommended that a Task Force being formed to work out the practical modalities for the operationalization of AVoHC.

The first Task Force Meeting was held from 30 November to 1st December 2015 to consider the draft proposal. During this meeting, it was recommended that a second Task Force meeting be held with the objective of finalizing the draft proposal for presentation at the Ministerial meeting in Tunisia in April 2016.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING

The main objective of the meeting is to finalize the Draft Proposal for the operationalization of the AVoHC and make concrete recommendations to the Policy Organs for endorsement.

3. EXPECTED OUTPUT OF THE MEETING

The meeting is expected to deliver the following outputs;

- Finalization of the Draft Proposal including a comprehensive and concise Roadmap for the establishment and functioning AVoCH by 2016.
- An expressed commitment of key partners to collaborate and synergize action for the operationalization of the AVoHC.

4. ORGANISATION OF MEETING

The Task Force meeting will take place at the AU Commission HQ in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 22-23 February 2016.

Participants are expected to cover the cost of their participation at the meeting.

5. WORKING LANGUAGES

The working language of the meeting will be English.

6. PARTICIPANTS

The participants will include AU Member States, GOARN, IFRC, MSF, WHO, Africa against Ebola Solidarity Trust, AHA, OCHA, Institut Pasteur Dakar, US CDC, China, EU, Japan as well as the relevant departments in the AUC (AHRM, PBFA, PS, DPA, DSA...).

7. CONTACT

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