

AFRICAN UNION

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**SPECIAL SUMMIT OF THE AFRICAN UNION
ON HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA
12-16 JULY 2013
ABUJA, NIGERIA**

Theme: “Ownership, Accountability and Sustainability of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa: Past, Present and the Future”

CONCEPT NOTE

I- INTRODUCTION

At the invitation of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, the African Union (AU) Commission in collaboration with UN Agencies and other development partners, will organize a Special Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (A.T.M.), in Abuja, Nigeria from 12 to 16 July 2013.

The theme of the Abuja+12 Summit is “*Ownership, Accountability and Sustainability of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa: Past, Present and the Future*”. This is appropriate given that HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria remain major causes of morbidity and mortality in Africa and continue to pose serious challenges to socio-economic development and human security in the continent.

The aim of the Abuja+12 Special Summit is to review the status of implementation of the Declarations and Frameworks for Action from the a) Abuja Summit on Roll Back Malaria, 2000; b) Abuja Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases (ORID), 2001 and; c) Special Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases (ORID), 2006. The Abuja +12 Summit will review the status of African Governments investment in the various national responses to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases (ORID); and will adopt a set of actions to enhance the continent’s response and efforts towards reversing the impact of these diseases by ensuring universal access to services and strengthened health systems, especially for the poor and most marginalized people.

The Abuja+12 summit will go a step further to review the effort of the continent in addressing HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and the impact of this response on the health, financing and government systems. The special summit will review the status of Maternal Newborn and Child Health on the continent as well as efforts to achieving the health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and defining Africa’s health priorities as the dialogue for the post 2015 development agenda unfolds.

II- RATIONALE FOR THE SUMMIT

Confronted with the consequences of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and other related infectious diseases on population and development in Africa, the AU Heads of State and Government adopted the 2000 and 2001 Abuja Declarations and Action Frameworks which required Member States to take measures to halt and reverse the rate at which the diseases have progressed and jeopardized socioeconomic development gains in Africa. The outcome of the 2001 Abuja Summit was Africa's contribution to the June 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS, which adopted the Declaration of Commitment on AIDS.

The AU Special Summit in 2006 prepared Africa's Common Position following its review of the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on AIDS, which was presented at the June 2006 UNGASS meeting in New York.

The "Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Services in Africa" of 2006 reinforced action by AU Member States against the three diseases by implementing the Abuja action plan based on a vision of *"Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Services in Africa by 2010"*. In 2010, a five-year review of the "Abuja Call" acknowledged the progress achieved by several member states in the control of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, recognizing that gaps remain, particularly in terms of access to HIV prevention, treatment, social protection, care and support, resource mobilization, and in strengthening systems of service delivery, sustainable financing, governance and leadership.

Significant challenges continue to confront Member States in the bid to achieve the objectives of the "Abuja Call" and the MDGs by 2015. Indeed poverty and related socio-economic issues hinder effective access to services, leaving countries unable to respond to unmet needs. On the continent, only 54% of those eligible for ARV treatment have access with an increasingly lower number of children who need HIV treatment accessing it; People in most need of HIV prevention services remain largely unreached and only 10.9% of children under 5 years who suffered from malaria during 24 hours were treated according to national guidelines and the emergence of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis is a major concern given the significant costs involved in its treatment.

In addition, despite efforts across the continent, health systems continue to require further strengthening and the institutionalization of accountability mechanisms. Progress with regards to maternal, new-born and child health, and access to malaria and TB diagnosis and treatment remain below set targets and significantly undermine development.

The Theme of the Summit is Ownership, Accountability and Sustainability of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa: Past, Present and the Future".

The expected outcome of this summit is the renewed leadership and stewardship by African leaders to eradicate the three diseases. African leaders, under the framework of the AU, have continued to demonstrate **ownership** by providing leadership in the three diseases. They have developed more robust, inclusive and results focused national strategies and related investment cases and they have streamlined disease coordination in country to make better use of limited national human, financial and technical resources, as well as developing more efficient health systems. At continental levels they have developed African policy frameworks in response to global frameworks and targets.

In order to accelerate the momentum towards the MDGs and towards recognition of mutual **accountability** in the response, African leaders have developed an AU Roadmap on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, TB and Malaria (2012-2015). This Roadmap reinforces African leadership, explores diversified and sustainable financing models, calls for increased access to medicines by boosting local

production and regulatory harmonization. Furthermore, the AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) platform has been revitalized, together with the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to strengthen African accountability towards the follow up on targets and commitments set.

Recognizing that a continent of 1 billion people cannot continue to depend on external resources for essential medicines and health commodities, African leaders are looking towards the **sustainability** of the response to the three diseases. They have developed a Pharmaceutical manufacturing Plan for Africa representing an African-wide framework for increasing pharmaceutical capacity. This will boost local production of essential medicines and health commodities, while at the same time efforts are underway to improving regulatory harmonization across the continent and encouraging countries to make use of the flexibilities contained in the Trade related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement.

Consequently renewed commitment at the highest level is critical to reinforcing action to facilitate the delivery of results in the area of HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, maternal, new-born and child health as well as health systems strengthening.

III- OBJECTIVES OF THE SPECIAL SUMMIT

The objectives of the Abuja plus 12 Special Summit includes:

- To review the progress and achievements in the attainment of the targets of the 2000, 2001 and 2006 Abuja Summits, in the framework of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- To review and identify factors that underpin the persistent burden of HIV, TB and Malaria on the continent;
- To identify gaps, constraints and challenges to the achievement of the Abuja and health related MDGs targets;
- To obtain renewed commitment by African Leaders to address these challenges including through its African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) for driving the government's renewed commitment; and promoting health and well-being in Africa;
- To articulate Africa's position to relevant global forums especially the on-going dialogue on defining the post 2015 development agenda.

IV- EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE SPECIAL SUMMIT

The expected outcomes of the Summit include:

- High level decision on reinforced government response and action to deliver on the Abuja commitments to address HIV, TB and Malaria, as well as strengthening the health systems obtained;

- Renewed commitment to explore the platform of the AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to facilitate Government's action and accountability to the commitment made at the Abuja+12 Summit.

V- MANDATE

The AU Assembly by Decision No. Assembly/AU/Dec.464 (XX) took note and welcomed the offer by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to host a Special Follow-Up Summit on the Abuja 2001 African Union Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases in the third quarter of 2013.

VI- FORMAT OF THE SPECIAL SUMMIT

The Special Summit will comprise the following Meetings:

- Meeting of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC): 12 July 2013;
- Meeting of the Executive Council: 13 July 2013;
- Special AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government: 15-16 July 2013.

These will be preceded by technical meetings that will input into the foregoing as follows:

- CSOs Forum: 4-5 July 2013;
- Meeting of Experts: 8-9 July 2013.

VII- KEY PARTICIPANTS

Key participants will include national delegates comprising the Presidency; Representatives of Ministries of Health, Finance and Economic Planning, as well as National AIDS Councils; Malaria Control Programmes; TB Control Programmes; Maternal Newborn and Child Health Programmes; Civil Society Organizations, Regional Health Organizations (RHOs); Regional Economic Communities (RECs); the UN and its Specialized Agencies; Development Partners; the AU Commission and other AU Organs and Programmes; Representatives of civil society, people living with HIV, faith-based actors, academicians, grassroots women, private sector and representatives of professional bodies amongst others.

VIII- FOLLOW-UP ACTION

After the Special Summit, the following actions will be undertaken:

- The Abuja+ 12 Call for Global Support for the Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity Roadmap for investment in HIV, TB and Malaria response will be presented at global fora;

- The Africa position to the post 2015 development agenda dialogue will be presented to the global community.

IX- DOCUMENTATION:

Working documents

- Progress Report on the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Services in Africa by 2015;
- MNCH Status Report 2013;
- A brief on Twelve Years of Abuja;
- Policy Briefs.

Reference Documents

- Abuja Declaration and the Plan of Action on Roll Back Malaria, April 2000;
- Abuja Declarations on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and Other Related Infectious Diseases, April 2001;
- Africa's Common Position on UNGASS on HIV/AIDS;
- AU Document on launch of Malaria Elimination Campaign;
- Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, and Malaria Services in Africa, May 2006;
- African Plan Towards Elimination of new Infections among Children by 2015 and Keeping their Mothers Alive;
- Global Plan Towards Elimination of new Infections among Children by 2015 and Keeping their Mothers Alive;
- June 2011 UNGA High-Level Meeting on AIDS: 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS ;
- Documents of UN and partners on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria and strengthening of health systems and universal access to health services;
- Background Paper on The Abuja Call for Accelerated Action on HIV/AIDs, malaria and TB;
- Progress Report on Implementation of the 2000/2001 Abuja Declarations and Plans of action on Roll Back Malaria, HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases;
- Best Practices on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa;
- Health Institutional Arrangements and Impact;
- Health Financing in Africa;
- The Brazzaville Commitment on Scaling Up Towards Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support (March 2006);
- The Continental Framework on Harmonization of Human Rights for People Infected and Affected by HIV/AIDS;
- African Union Commission HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan which included the AIDS Watch Africa Strategic Framework;
- Roadmap on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity on HIV, TB and Malaria, including practical guide on Roadmap Implementation;

- s) Business Plan for the operationalization of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA);
- t) The Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals;
- u) African Union accountability report on Africa-G8 partnership commitments: Delivering results toward ending AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Africa, 2013.

X- WORKING LANGUAGES

English, Arabic, French and Portuguese.

XI- CONTACT

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