



Africa Against Ebola Forum.

Concept Note and provisional programme.

Date: 2nd December 2019.

Time: 0930 Hours.

Venue: African Union Headquarters,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Africa Against Ebola Forum.
A Private Sector and Partners Forum.
Concept note.

Background

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is witnessing the second largest world Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak, which started about one year ago. As of today, the current EVD has killed over 2,181 individuals with over 3,264 recorded cases. Moreover, after a yearlong fight against EVD in an armed conflict zones in Eastern DRC, the outbreak spilled over into a high densely populated city of Goma and neighbouring Uganda; and poses a very high risk to the region of more than 280 million inhabitants.

Like other partners, the African Union, through the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), has been supporting the efforts of the government of the DRC from the beginning of the outbreak. Given the health, economic, and security threat that this deadly disease poses to the continent, the Africa Union is calling for mobilization of all Africans and friends of Africa to show increased solidarity with communities affected and those at highest risk.

African leadership, ownership, and solutions are highly needed to address this crisis. As such, the African Union will:

- Mobilize African health workers who have vast experiences from the AU support mission to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa (ASEOWA). Currently, more than 500 volunteers from different disciplines: doctors, nurses, epidemiologist, laboratory experts, and infection prevention experts have shown interest to support this efforts.
- Mobilize up to 600 local health workers and community volunteers to reach out the most remote corners of affected health areas and zones, to address the critical challenges of community engagement and ownership.
- Build local capacities and diagnostic capabilities by procuring and placing of laboratory facilities, and border screening machines and infection prevention and control supplies.
- Strengthen preparedness measures and capacities of most at risk neighbouring countries.
- Strengthen the local health systems including placing of surveillance platform, diagnostic capacities for early detection, rapid response and containment of future outbreaks at the source.

All these need additional financial and in kind resources. In 2014, the Africa Against Ebola Solidarity Trust Fund was a game changer in bringing an end to EVD in West Africa that accounted for about 11,000 deaths, by investing in the continent's capacity to respond to public health emergencies through the deployment of African Health Workers.

This is a call to action against this threat to humanity on our continent. H.E Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AU Commission will host the ***Africa Against Ebola: A Private Sector and Partners forum***.

Forum Objective

The main objective of this Private Sector Forum is, therefore, to mobilize the necessary financial and material support for the Ebola crisis in the DRC and the surrounding region.

Expected outcome

The expected outcome of this forum is to have sufficient financial and in-kind support to intensify efforts for Ebola mitigation in the DRC and prevent its spread in the surrounding region.

Participants

AU Commission (Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, All Commissioners and Directors), Head of States, African Private Sectors and Philanthropies, Development Partners, Donors, Diplomatic missions and UN agencies.

Provisional Forum programme

Agenda Items	Responsible Person(s)
Welcome remarks	H.E Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson, AUC
Technical presentation on Ebola Situation/current status and AUC efforts in its mitigation.	H.E Amira El-fadil, Commissioner, Social Affairs Department, AUC.
Presentation of Sustainability framework for Health Security in the Continent.	Dr. John Nkengasong, Director, Africa CDC.
Statement from African Private Sector and Philanthropies.	Representative of African Private Sector
Statement from Development Partners and Donors	Representative of Development Partners and Donors.
Pledges and Donations	All Participants.
Vote of thanks and Closing remarks	H.E Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson, AUC.
LUNCH	

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