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HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: Special Summit kicks off with a call for coordinated efforts to combat the epidemics in Africa



ABUJA, NIGERIA, 12 July 2013: The African Union Special Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria kicked off today Friday 12th July, with the Meeting of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC), under the theme of “Ownership, Accountability and Sustainability of HIV/AIDS,

Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa: Past, Present and the Future”. The meeting is holding in the International Conference Centre in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria.



In her opening address, Ambassador Kongit Sinegiorgis, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the African Union and Chairperson of the Permanent Representatives Committee said the Summit on HIV-AIDs, Malaria and TB comes at a time when multilateral negotiations are taking place to chart a global development framework beyond 2015. “This meeting afford us the opportunity to make further contributions to

the draft African common position on the post 2015 development agenda by articulating Africa's priorities particularly in the social sector", she underlined. (See complete speech of Amb. Konjit on the AU website: www.au.int).



Representing the Host Country, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Mr. Bulus Paul ZomLoLo in his welcome remarks recalled that the Summit is a follow up of the 2006 special Summit on HIV-AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, with the aim to review the status of implementation of the continental commitments arising from the 2000 Abuja Summit on Roll Back Malaria. He underscored that this Summit will renew the commitments of Member states as well as working closely for a common position on the post 2015 agenda in a bid to review the progress and challenges Africa is facing in tackling these diseases.

Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko, Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union, presented the progress report on the implementation of the Abuja call for Accelerated Action towards Universal Access to HIV-AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria services during the period 2010 – 2012. The report is a five years review of the Abuja Call that shows records of the progress made by AU Member States in the fight against HIV-AIDs, TB and Malaria, recommending the need to scale up efforts at all levels in terms of access to treatment, resource mobilization by countries and strengthening health systems among others.

Meanwhile, the PRC meeting will consider report and recommendation of the Experts Meeting, which held on the 8th and 9th July 2013 , report of the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria by 2015 Assessment Report 2013 including the working documents and draft Decisions and Declarations in preparation of the Executive Council, scheduled for 13 July.

Organized by the African Union in collaboration with the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the UN Agencies and other development partners, the Special Summit on HIV-AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is holding in Abuja, Nigeria from 12 to 16 July 2013.

The PRC meeting was attended by Ambassadors and Experts from some AU Member States, the AU Commission; AU Organs, representatives of the Civil Society Organizations, regional Health Organizations, RECs, UN and specialized agencies, development partners, Private Sector and other invited guests.

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