

## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Press Release No: xxxx/2021

Date: 26 November 2021

Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### AFRICA CDC HEADQUARTERS CONSTRUCTION FIRST PHASE ACCOMPLISHES



The completion of the first phase of the headquarters of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has been marked by a topping out ceremony today in Addis Ababa today.

H.E. Amira Elfadil Mohamed, Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development (HHS) and H.E. Ambassador LIU Yuxi, Head of the Mission of the People's Republic of China to Ethiopia attended the ceremony on behalf of the African Union Commission and the Government of the People's Republic of China respectively.



Speaking on the ceremony Commissioner Elfadil said the completion of the first phase marks 45 percent of the total construction. "While celebrating our success in reaching 45% of total project completion within an impressive record

of 348 days, the African Union would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Government of People Republic of China for funding of the whole project, and to all the stakeholders who

have played their respective roles and tirelessly assisted the team in achieving its target”, she said.

In his remarks, H.E. Amb. Liu Yuxi, underlined the close China-Africa partnership. “As we speak, the COVID-19 pandemic is still wreaking havoc across the globe. However, it cannot prevent China-Africa cooperation from growing in depth and substance. China and Africa stand together with mutual assistance, team up amid difficulties and treat each other wholeheartedly.

He announced that since the outbreak of the pandemic, the Chinese government has donated a large number of supplies, including protective equipment, ventilators and vaccines to African countries. He further added when attending the General Debate of the 76th Session of The United Nations General Assembly, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the Global Development Initiative, calling on the international community to accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, so as to build a global



community of development with a shared future. In addition, China and Africa jointly launched the Initiative on Partnership for

Africa’s Development this year, emphasizing that all countries should carry out cooperation with Africa on the premise of respecting Africa’s sovereignty and listening to Africa’s voice, give full play to their respective advantages and pool efforts in an effective way, and do more beneficial and practical work for the well-being of the African people.

The ambassador concluded by saying “The Africa CDC building itself is a manifestation of beneficial and practical work for the African people. China will proceed to try its utmost to assist African countries in responding to the pandemic and restoring economic and social development.”

**About Africa (CDC) Headquarters Project:**

At the 2018 Beijing Summit and the 7th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China - Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held in Beijing, the Government of China further expressed its commitment to support the building of the Africa CDC HQ. African leaders welcomed this with appreciation and committed to support the realization of the project.

Located in the African Village, south of Addis Ababa, the new site covers an area of 90,000m<sup>2</sup> with a total construction area of nearly 40,000m<sup>2</sup>. When completed the building will include an emergency operation centre, a data centre, a laboratory, a resource centre, briefing rooms, a training centre, a conference centre, offices, and expatriate apartments, all to be constructed, furnished and equipped by the Government of China.

In accordance with a number of agreements concluded between the AU and the Government of China, the AU Commission and the Ministry of Commerce of the People`s Republic of China signed the Implementation Agreement on the Africa CDC HQ`s building project in July 2020.

The headquarters building is expected to become one of the best-equipped centres for disease control in Africa, allowing the Africa CDC to play its role as the technical institution coordinating disease prevention, surveillance and control in the continent, in partnership with the national public health institutes and ministries of health of Member States.

**For further information please contact:**

**Mrs Wynne Musabayana**, Head of Communication | Information and Communication Directorate | African Union Commission; **Tel:** +251 11 922 460 157 | **E-mail:** [MusabayanaW@africa-union.org](mailto:MusabayanaW@africa-union.org) | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**For media enquiries:**

**Molalet Tsedeke**, Media Coordinator | Information and Communication Directorate | African Union Commission **Tel:** +251 911 630 631 | **E-mail:** [molalett@africa-union.org](mailto:molalett@africa-union.org) | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Information and Communication Directorate**, African Union Commission | **E-mail:** [DIC@africa-union.org](mailto:DIC@africa-union.org)  
**Web:** [au.int](http://au.int) | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | **Follow Us:** [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)