

RC66: GUIDE AND IMPORTANT CONTACTS

HOTEL CONTACTS

1. SHERATON ADDIS	TEL: 251 116 62 36 34
2. RADISSON BLU	TEL: 251 115 15 76 00
3. HILTON HOTEL	TEL: 251 115 51 84 00
4. ELLIY INTERNATIONAL HOTEL	TEL: 251 115 58 77 73
5. CAPITAL HOTEL AND SPA	TEL: 251 116 67 21 00
6. INTERCONTINENTAL ADDIS HOTEL	TEL: 251 115 50 50 66

RESTAURANTS IN ADDIS ABABA

1. SHERATON ADDIS, LOCATED IN THE UNCC.
2. FINFINE, LOCATED IN THE NIGERIAN LOUNGE.
3. KALDIS, LOCATED IN THE ROTUNDA AND ZAMBEZI BUILDING.
4. TIVOLI, LOCATED BY THE UNECA ENTRANCE (VEHICLES).

WHO CONTACT PERSONS

1. DR. KALU, AKPAKAA, WHO REPRESENTATIVE	TEL: 251 944 25 23 26
2. MR PIERRE LESSIMI, OPERATIONS OFFICER	TEL: 251 935 99 86 41
3. MS LISHAN NEGUSSIE, LOGISTICS AND PROCUREMENT	TEL: 251 944 73 19 82
4. MR TESHOME FANTAYE, PROTOCOL ASSISTANT	TEL: 251 912 12 00 24
5. MR ODON MUSHOBEKWA – ADMIN. SERVICES OFFICER	TEL: 251 967 88 29 93
6. MR AMPA TRESOR, TRAVEL OFFICER	TEL: 251 967 88 29 75
7. MRS TOTH, CONFERENCE AND PROTOCOL OFFICER	TEL: 251 965 55 66 52
8. MR HOUNGBO KOFI, TRANSPORT OFFICER	TEL: 251 967 88 29 80
9. MR WOLDE BEKELE, TRANSPORT OFFICER	TEL: 251 912 20 09 77

SECURITY CONTACT PERSONS

1. POLICE HOT LINE :	TEL: 991
2. POLICE	TEL: 251 111 57 21 21
3. UN SECURITY	TEL: 251 115 44 55 55
4. UN SECURITY	TEL: 251 115 51 65 37
5. UN SECURITY	TEL: 251 115 51 29 45
6. WHO/FSO, MR FOFANA IBRAHIM	TEL: 251 967 88 29 93

MEDICAL SERVICES AND CONTACT PERSONS

THE UNITED NATIONS HEALTH CENTRE, SITUATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CONFERENCE CENTRE, PROVIDES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO PARTICIPANTS/ DELEGATES ATTENDING MEETINGS.

IN CASE OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL THE PHONE NUMBERS LISTED ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS INFORMATION NOTE.

1. DR GRACE FOMBAD, UN HEALTH CARE CENTRE	TEL: 251 115 51 72 00 TEL: 251 115 51 58 28
2. DR ROLAND RIZET, WHO	TEL: 251 929 450 518
3. UNECA AMBULANCE	TEL: 251 115 51 42 02 TEL: 251 115 51 58 28

ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

Internet facilities are available throughout the Conference Centre and can be accessed via WIFI:

NETWORK: UNECA GUEST
NO PASSWORD REQUIRED

WATER

It is recommended that you drink bottled mineral water during the whole period of the RC66.

BADGES

Badges will be produced only at the conference centre. Please make sure you always wear your badge on the premises of the conference centre.

EVENTS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY, 19th AUGUST:

19:00 Dinner hosted by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

SATURDAY, 20th AUGUST:

12:30-13:30 Roll Back Malaria
18:00 Reception hosted by the WHO Regional Director-

SUNDAY, 21st AUGUST:

12:30-13:30 The Ethiopian Experience with Emergency Medical Services and the Health Development Army

19:30 Stop TB

MONDAY, 22th AUGUST:

13:30-14:30 The GAVI Alliance
18:00-19:30 Experience of China on the Universal Health Coverage and updates on China's collaboration with Africa
20:00 Dinner with select Ministers of Health

TUESDAY, 23rd AUGUST:

11:00 Closure of the RC66 – 11:00

CURRENCY AND BANKING

The local currency is the Ethiopian Birr. All local banks provide currency exchange services with an exchange rate that is uniform. Please note that it is illegal to exchange your currency on the black market – only deal with official banks. All major hotels have FOREX services.

ATMs are widely available in hotels, on the UNECA compound and around the city. VISA cards are widely accepted, and some ATMs now accept MasterCard as well. Almost all transactions are cash-based, so please plan accordingly.

HELP DESK

For any inquiries or assistance, please call the Help Desk (Mr C Youdi, and Mr T.Meki) on: **(251) 0925 50 05 23 and 0929 50 05 22**

RC66 EXHIBITION

The stands of the exhibition are located on the ground floor of the main hall of the conference centre and will be open throughout the duration of the meeting.

The following items will be on display: publications, medical literature, posters etc. from WHO country, regional and headquarters offices.



66th SESSION OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Available on the Internet: <http://www.afro.who.int>

ISSUED IN ENGLISH, FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE

WELCOME MESSAGE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

No. 01: 19th August 2016

Dear Heads and Members of Delegations,

On behalf of Dr. Margaret Chan, the Director-General of WHO, I welcome you to the 66th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, in Addis Ababa (Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia). I would like to express my sincere gratitude to his Excellency Mr. Mulatu Teshome, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and to the Ethiopian people, for the hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for this meeting.

As we begin this session, I would like to re-iterate WHO's commitment to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through Universal Health Coverage so that all the peoples of Africa attain the highest possible level of health. The WHO African Region's strategic health transformation Programme for 2015–2020 will guide the organization's contribution to sustainable development in Africa.

I am happy to note that the Ebola Virus Disease epidemic which was one of the uppermost topics in the last two sessions of the Regional Committee has been successfully interrupted. However vigilance and preparedness by countries to deal with a resurgence of the disease and other public health threats should continue. We are at a time when several Member States in the African Region are affected by epidemics including yellow fever, cholera, Zika, natural disasters and other emergencies. I would like to urge all Member States to continue with the work to improve health security in the Region.

The Transformation Agenda of the WHO Secretariat continues to be implemented in the African Region. This involves strengthening human resources in the secretariat and improving accountability and transparency in our work. This exercise is currently underway in WHO country offices in order to align staff to the needs of the Member States.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Dr. Ebrahim Malick Samba who was the WHO Regional Director for Africa from 1995 to 2005. Dr Samba passed away on 29th July 2016. He was an outstanding public health leader in Africa and around the world and leaves a precious legacy that inspires and guides us. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

The daily Regional Committee Journal will provide information on our daily programme of work, other matters of the Regional Committee and interviews with some delegates on selected health issues. There will also be regular media briefings. The WHO Secretariat is at your disposal for any assistance needed during this session.

I wish you a successful meeting.


Dr Matshidiso Moeti
WHO Regional Director for Africa

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JOURNAL



United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, venue of the 66th session of the Regional Committee

66th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OPENS TODAY IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The 66th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa opens today in Addis Ababa (Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia). This WHO governing body for the African Region is composed of Ministers of Health from the 47 Member States. It will run from 19 to 23 August 2016 at the Economic Commission for Africa Conference Center.

During the meeting, the WHO Regional Director will present a report on the work of WHO in the African Region (2015-2016). Three Regional strategies will be discussed, namely, the Oral Health Strategy, the Strategy for Health Security and Emergencies, and the Strategy on Regulation of Medical products in the African Region. Additionally, five implementation frameworks are slated for discussion on Healthy Ageing, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and Malaria.

Technical papers to be discussed include the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health and Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Other agenda items include the WHO implementation plan for the recommendations of the Review Committee on the Role of the International Health Regulation (2005) in the Ebola Outbreak and response. The way forward for the African Public Health Emergency Fund will also be presented and discussed.

In addition, twelve progress reports will be presented on health and human rights, e-Health solutions, reform of WHO's work on health emergencies and on the implementation of the Transformation Agenda among others. Delegates will also discuss the WHO Programme Budget for 2018-2019.

There are several side events including a kaleidoscopic exhibition of WHO's work in the African Region, presentations and technical briefings.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME: OPENING CEREMONY

Friday 19th August 2016, Addis Ababa

- 08:30 Arrival of Delegates
- 09:30 Arrival of His Excellency the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- 09:40 National Anthem of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- 09:45 Official Opening Ceremony**
 - Welcome Address by the Minister of Health of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
 - Statement by the Chairperson of the Sixty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee and Minister of Public Health of the Republic of Chad
 - Statement by WHO Regional Director for Africa
 - Statement by WHO Director-General
 - Official opening by His Excellency, the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
 - Group photo followed by refreshments
 - End of opening ceremony



A cultural dance from Ethiopia

THE AFRICA HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME, 2015 - 2020 A VISION FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

WHO African Region's strategic health transformation Programme for 2015–2020 will guide the organization's contribution to sustainable development in Africa. It aims to ensure universal access to basic essential health services in all African Member States with minimal financial, geographic and social obstacles to health services delivery.

The programme has five strategic priority areas, including improving health security by tackling epidemic-prone diseases, emergencies and new health threats. Other strategic areas include driving progress towards equity and universal health coverage through health systems strengthening; pursuing the post-2015 development agenda while ensuring that the Millennium Development Goals are completed and tackling the social and economic determinants of health. Building a responsive and results-driven WHO secretariat is also a priority area.

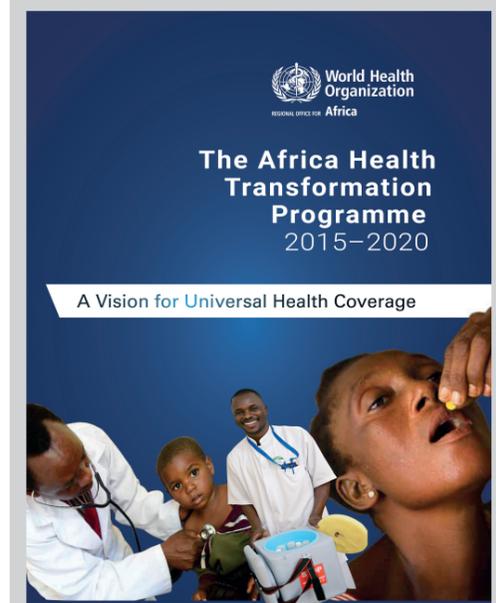
To improve health security especially on epidemic-prone diseases, emergencies and new health threats, the programme sets a number of health outcomes and impact targets. For instance, the Ebola epidemic in the three most affected West African countries is targeted to stay at zero cases with routine health services restored by December 2016.

The programme targets that by 2020; at least 35 countries in the African Region should have the minimum International Health Regulation (2005) core capacities established. Additionally, each of the 30 high priority countries should develop and implement national health preparedness and response plans for public health emergencies by 2017.

To achieve equity and universal health coverage, the transformation programme targets that by 2020, the number of countries with high out-of-pocket payment as a percentage of total health expenditure should reduce from 37 to 18. Additionally, the number of countries where access to skilled birth attendants is over 75% should increase from 11 to 35. The number of countries with adolescent birth rate below 45/1000 should also increase from 5 to 30.

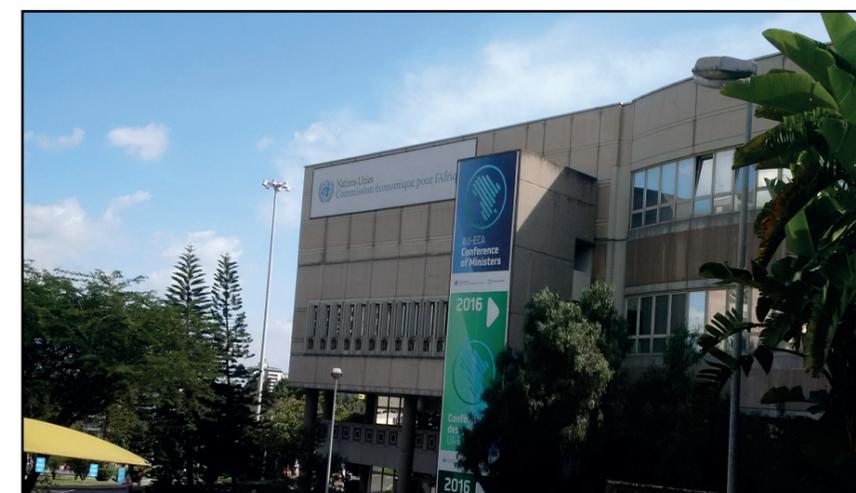
The programme further targets to increase the number of countries with the rate of first postnatal visits within two days of delivery from 7 to 35. The coverage of the 3rd dose of the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTP3) vaccine should increase from 75% to 90% by 2020. New HIV infections and TB incidence are targeted to reduce by 75% and 20% respectively. Other targets are a reduction in malaria incidence by at least 40% in 43 malaria endemic countries; complete elimination of morbidity due to schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminthiasis and trachoma; and a 10% reduction in the prevalence of raised blood pressure relative to the 2014 estimates.

Member States, development partners and stakeholders' involvement, commitment and investment in building robust and resilient national health systems will be critical to the success of this programme.



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK – DAY 1: Friday 19th August 2016

09:00 - 11:30	Agenda item 1	Opening Ceremony
11:30 - 12:00	Group photo followed by tea break	
12:00 - 12:30	Agenda item 2	Nomination of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteurs
	Agenda item 3	Adoption of the provisional agenda and Programme of Work (Document AFR/RC66/1)
	Agenda item 4	Appointment of members of the Subcommittee on Credentials
12:30 - 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i> <i>(Meeting of the Subcommittee on Credentials)</i>	
14:30 - 15:30	Agenda item 5	The Work of WHO in the African Region 2015-2016: Report of the Regional Director (Document AFR/RC66/2)
15:30 - 16:00	Agenda item 6	Statement of the Chairman of the Programme Subcommittee (Document AFR/RC66/3)
16:00 - 16:30	<i>Tea break</i>	
16:30 - 18:00	Agenda item 7	Regional oral health strategy 2016–2025: addressing oral diseases as part of NCDs (Document AFR/RC66/5)
19:00	Dinner hosted by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	



IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- WHO's significant achievements in the African Region during 2015-2016
- Key highlights of the proposed Regional Oral Health Strategy

