



DECLARATION
BY THE IGAD MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE
ON HEALTH, HIV AND AIDS

18TH MARCH, 2010, NAIROBI, KENYA

We, Ministers of Health and/or Ministers in charge of HIV&AIDS of the IGAD Member States attending the 4th Ministerial Committee Meeting of IGAD on Health and HIV and AIDS in Nairobi, Kenya.

Recalling the recommendations of the First and Second Conferences on Public Health in the Horn of Africa held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 1996 and 1998, for the improvement of HIV and AIDS control among vulnerable populations in the IGAD Region, recommendations from Ministerial meeting on health held in Djibouti in November 2006, the recommendations of the First, Second and Third Ministerial Committees on Health and HIV&AIDS held in Nairobi, Kampala and Addis Ababa in March 2007, January 2008 and February 2009 respectively; and other Regional and Sub-regional conferences on major communicable diseases and other key public health priorities;

Acknowledging the strong commitment to improving health and promoting the well-being of people in the IGAD region by governments, communities and development partners, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support;

Recognizing with appreciation the support given by World Bank, CIDA, RBM and UNFPA and other Partners for the IGAD Regional HIV&AIDS Partnership Programme;

Anticipating more financial and technical support from other development partners;

Considering the recommendations of the IRAPP Steering Committee meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya, 15-17th March 2010;

Recognizing the importance of integration of the management of HIV and AIDS co-infections;

Mindful of the UNFPA commitment to support Sexual and Reproductive Health, particularly the Commodity Security in the area of male and female condoms.

Mindful of the RBM Partnership and its potential impact in the IGAD region in particular, we strongly support the integration of malaria interventions into IRAPP programs;

Mindful of the critical importance that the health harmonization process can provide to the platform for greater regional integration, we re-affirm our commitment to take it forward.

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Appreciating the commitment and contribution from the member states and international donors in the fight against HIV and AIDS. That the pace of providing Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) is being out-paced by the number of new infections. Noting the efforts taken by the WHO to improve the quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS by early inclusion in treatment at CD4 count 350;

Noting that the amount of resources being made available from our Governments and Donor community to meet our country needs is far below the actual required for providing ART to all those in need, it will therefore be near to impossible to sustain those treatment programmes in the short and long term.

Urge ourselves to mobilize extra resources from both our Governments and the Donor community to fund prevention, care and treatment activities to mitigate the above factors.

Recommending the upgrading of the Health and Social section of the IGAD Secretariat to division level in the new structure of IGAD;

Urging IGAD to continue with the program even when it has been absorbed in the national programs of member states;

COMMIT OURSELVES TO:

Mobilize and maintain political will at the highest level of each country in support of common regional policies and strategies to prevent and control HIV and AIDS and other health related issues among cross border and mobile populations.

Work in partnership with United Nations Agencies such as UNHCR, WHO, UNAIDS and UNFPA in PMTCT, family planning; Reproductive Health Commodity Security in the selected Hot Spot areas.

CALLING UPON ALL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS TO:

Support the scaling up of HIV&AIDS and related diseases prevention, care and treatment services for CBMP.

RESOLVE TO:

Support the development of the Regional Strategic Plan for HIV&AIDS targeting the cross border and mobile populations;

Strengthen collaboration and coordination among IGAD Member States at the national level as well as at cross border level;

Channel all new health and HIV & AIDS regional initiatives for the benefit of member states through existing regional governance structures of IGAD;

Scale up prevention programmes that are evidence-based emphasizing the need to address, with appropriate resources, the source of new infections.

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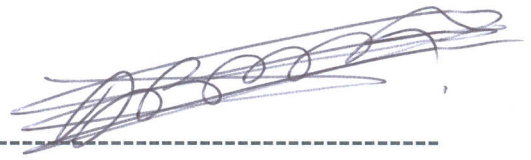
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H.E Mr. Abdallah Abdillahi Miguil
Ministrer of Health
Republic of Djibouti



H.E. Dr. Kebede Worku Admassu
State Minister of Health
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



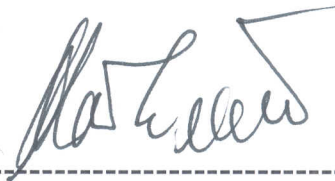
Hon. Dr. Naomi N. Shaban, MP
Minister of State for Special Programmes
Kenya



Hon. Beth Mugo
Minister of Public Health & Sanitation
Kenya



Hon. Mohamed Ali Hagaa
Acting Minister of Health
Somalia Transitional Federal Government



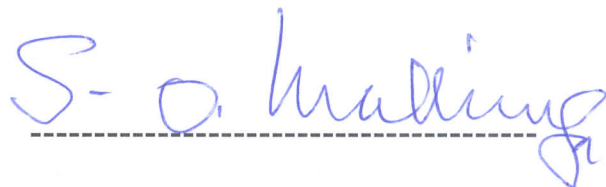
H.E. Dr. Tabita Shokai
The Federal Minister of Health
Sudan



Hon. Dr. Beatrice Wabudeya
Minister for the Presidency
Republic of Uganda



Hon. Dr. Stephen Mallinga
Minister of Health
Republic of Uganda



SIGNED IN NAIROBI, KENYA ON THIS 18TH DAY OF MARCH, 2010.