

The Addis Ababa Declaration
for the Control and Elimination of NTDs in Ethiopia
National NTD Symposium, 12-14 June 2013, Hilton Addis Ababa
With the motto of “*End the neglect, integrate, scale-up and sustain*”

Appreciating the efforts made thus far by the Federal Ministry of Health and its partners in the control and elimination of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in Ethiopia;

Recognizing the need to redouble our efforts to meet the global goal of achieving NTD elimination by 2020;

Taking into account the London Declaration on NTDs, the Accra Call to Action and the most recent World Health Assembly Resolution 66.12;

Seriously considering the opening keynote messages delivered by the development partners that included The World Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Pharmaceutical group, DFID, USAID and WHO;

Taking note of the clear vision, direction and high-level government commitment expressed by H.E. Dr. Keseteberhan Admasu, Federal Minister of Health, Ethiopia;

Realizing the launch of the NTDs Master Plan 2013 – 2015 for Ethiopia;

Acknowledging gratefully the pledges and commitments made by the international donor community and drug donation programs;

We, the participants of this historic national NTDs Symposium hereby commit ourselves to:

1. Reaffirm our commitment to stop Guinea Worm transmission in Gambella region as soon as possible and strengthen pre-certification surveillance in the entire country;
2. Develop regional plans of action for NTDs control and elimination before the end of 2013;
3. Complete mapping of all targeted NTDs in all regions by the end of 2013, but no later than end of March 2014;
4. Ensure adequate staffing, funding and timely and adequate procurement and provision of drugs and medical supplies including all required logistics;
5. Enhance effective coordination and collaboration by means of establishing NTDs coordination mechanisms at national and regional levels by involving all stakeholders;
6. Implement, scale up and sustain appropriate and relevant interventions (*preventive, curative and rehabilitative*) in all known endemic districts by 2015 and track progress using scorecards;
7. Advance research and development involving academia and research institutes to improve performance and fill in knowledge gaps;
8. Conduct annual planning, review and learning forums so as to ensure NTDs are no more public health concern in Ethiopia.

14 June 2013
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia