International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD25) Side-Event

Theme: High Level Meeting on Global HIV Prevention Coalition (GPC)

Laico Regency Hotel
Nairobi, Kenya
14:00 – 17:30 hrs EAT | 11 November 2019

**TALKING POINTS**

H.E. Mrs. Amira Elfadil Mohamed, Commissioner for Social Affairs
African Union Commission

Check against delivery
PROTOCOL
Excellencies, Honorable Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen

It a honor and pleasure to attend this important event on HIV prevention on behalf of the African Union Commission.

The number of new HIV infections in Africa are decreasing, truly but rather slowly. The slow decline threatens further progress towards ending AIDS by 2030. It increases the need to expand prevention and treatment programmes further. It also leads to the need to maintain programmes to eliminate HIV infections among children and keeping their mothers alive. Community peer-led prevention programmes are critical to expanding access to testing and treatment. They also contribute to reduced stigma and discrimination, which is key to the success of both prevention and treatment.

In recognition of the context, the African Union Commission is leading implementation of the AU Agenda 2063 Framework and the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS, TB and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030. Both policy frameworks place health at the forefront of all social and economic investment priorities for Africa’s governments. The Frameworks also place communities at the heart of solutions to make sure that interventions are localized and effective.

We have a strong backing of regional and global policy frameworks. However, the place of partnerships in the fight against AIDS in Africa is crucial. It must not be overlooked. Through partnership with UNAIDS, the Commission is implementing the Western and Central Africa Catch-Up Plan which is a political instrument between various AU Member States and the international community that supports countries strategies to accelerate national responses and reach a trajectory to achieve the 90-90-90 targets by 2020.

Also, through partnership with the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD), the Commission is implementing the Free to Shine Campaign through which the political commitment of African nations to end childhood AIDS and keep mothers healthy is reinforced. The Campaign is active in 22 AU Member States.

As I conclude, I would like to emphasize that ending the epidemic of HIV by 2030 is within reach. But with only 11 years left, we must make sure that the fight is fully in our grasp. There is no time for complacency. Several years of additional work at global and country
levels will be required to help countries to actually implement programmes towards achieving global targets. Let us work together to attain success.