The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has achieved considerable successes in the past decade in reducing HIV Incidence and prevalence rates by 82% and 80% respectively. AIDS mortality in Ethiopia was also reduced significantly from 58,000 in the year 2000 to 11,000 in 2018. The government is highly committed to ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. This is clearly reflected in the country’s Health Sector commitments where one of the major indicators is reduction of HIV incidence rate to 0.01%.

GOE has designed plans and policies to address the heterogeneity of and the significant variation in the burden of HIV across the different population groups and geographic areas. Being one of the fast growing economies in Africa, the country is in constant state of growing urbanization and scale up of mega projects that attract a huge workforce composed mostly of young. These developments constantly influence the dynamics of IHV prevention, treatment, care and support in the country.

A National Prevention Roadmap was developed in 2018 covering a 3 years period to help address the epidemic diversity in the country and aims to focus and re-invigorate the Prevention response in the country. The overall goal of the Prevention Roadmap is to reduce new HIV infections by 50% to 4,915 by 2020. To this end, federal and regional level targets and workplans have been developed and are currently being implemented. The government of Ethiopia, with the support of some of the key partners namely; UNAIDS and UNFPA is working to improve some of the underlying capacity gaps in managing and implementing those plans pertaining to the Prevention program.

H.E. The President of the Republic of Ethiopia is highly committed to ensuring the response to AIDS is a multisectoral one that brings the strengths and comparative advantage of the different stakeholders. Earlier this year, H.E hosted the National AIDS Council at the Palace, bringing together different constituencies and stakeholders including representatives of KPs, AGYW, PLHIV and other CSOs. IT was an exceptional NAC meeting where the voices of youths PLHIV and the KPs were loudly voiced to address the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and give the space and the means for them to contribute to designing and implementing friendly prevention programs.

In an effort to ensure more meaningful and active engagement of CSOS, GOE has recently enacted a new CSO proclamation giving CSOs the space to engage in advocacy in relation to human rights and allowing them to mobilize resources to that effect. This will certainly reflect positively on the HIV response in the country in general but more specifically on the prevention response pertaining to accessibility to services.

In an effort to ensure the financial sustainability of the HIV program, GOE has recently concluded the exercise of developing a Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy through which the program can be locally resourced.

The GOE hereby commits to ensure an evidence-based and sustainable Prevention program through:

➢ Generating evidence, building the required capacities and piloting new prevention service-delivery models that build on current experiences and successes
➢ Re-alignning national Prevention programming to the Pillars of the Prevention Roadmap in an effort to fast track the prevention response
➢ Scaling up programs of KPPS and developing national packages for AGYW
➢ Results of ongoing PrEP Pilot program to inform future actions for national scale up program
➢ Promoting Early Infant Male Circumcision into Health Service Delivery System and strengthening program sustainability and ownership for the period of 2020-2022