

News

Invitation to the World Congress

His Excellency, Dr Tedros Adhanom, Minister of the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) urged Participants of the 16th ICASA to join Him in the 13th World Congress on Public Health (08 December 2011, Addis Ababa)

Dr Tedros Adhanom, Dr Tewabeche Bishaw, President of the Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) and Ato Hailegnaw Eshete, Executive Director of the EPHA; held a press conference on the 13th World Congress on Public Health in which they briefed local and intentional journalists about the main, theme of the congress (**"Towards Global Health Equity: Opportunities and Threats"**) and the preparations for the Congress which will take place from April 23 to 27, 2012 in Addis Ababa.

Dr Tewabeche Bishaw in her capacity president of the EPHA; as Secretary General of the African Federations of Public Health Associations explained to the press, what Ethiopia is doing in preparing the congress. The Ethiopian Public Health Association together with the World Federation of Public Health Association (WFPHA) are the main organizers of the event.

Ato Hailegnaw Eshete, Executive Director of the EPHA took the opportunity to explain EPHA as a multi-disciplinary association committed to enhancing the public health sector of the country and the ongoing activities as part of its hosting the congress. (To page 6)

Fight Against the Socio-economic Crises

"Controlling Alcohol, Tobacco and similar Substances would contribute a lot in addressing the socio-economic problems specially in reducing HIV and AIDS," said health state minister Dr Kebede Worku (1 November 2011, Addis Ababa)



Dr. Kebede Worku
The Health State Minister

During the annual conference of the Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) which took place from November 1-3 2011 at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC), the health state minister Dr Kebede Worku remarked that controlling Alcohol, Tobacco and other such Substances will contribute a lot to the fight against socio-economic crises specifically HIV and AIDS . . . (To page 3)

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**Strives to
Enhance
Public Health!!!**

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

In this recent issue of the newsletter comes with the second edition of the newly reformed columns. The 'Role Model'– the column is dedicated to display loss of treasured health professionals, in the 'Health Matters',–various health related national policies, are continued from the previous issue.

Resolution of the 22nd EPHA annual conference is covered under 'EPHA in Focus' corner. For this edition the 'Upcoming Events' column is not included. and 'Photo News' brings you pictorial News on the 22nd EPHA annual conference.

Dear readers, we thank you for your contributions so far, your comments, suggestions and ideas are valuable to improve our Felege –Tena Newsletter.

So please send your views and comments to publication@etpha.org

Publications Officer,



13th World Congress on Public Health

23 – 27 April, 2012

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

(United Nations Conference Center (UNCC))

**"Towards Global Health Equity:
Opportunities and Threats"**

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This publication is sponsored by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in accordance with the EPHA-CDC Cooperative Agreement N0.1U2GPS001229.

Role Models

ዜና አረፍት



ዶ/ር ስዩም ታትፎ ከ1936 - 2003 ዓ.ም

ዶ/ር ስዩም ታትፎ በኢትዮጵያ ጤና አጠባበቅ ማህበር ከ1991 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ ለተከታታይ አራት ዓመታት የማህበሩ ቦርድ አባል ሆነው አገልግለዋል።

ከዚህም ባሻገር በየዓመቱ ለማህበሩ የሚቀርቡትን የምርምር ጥናቶች (Abstracts) በማረምና አስተያየት በመስጠት አስተዋፅኦ አበርክተዋል።

በተጨማሪም እ.ኤ.አ ከ2006 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ እስከ ዕለተ ዕልፈታቸው ድረስ የኢትዮጵያ ጤና አጠባበቅ ማህበር የአማካሪ ኮሚቴ አባል (Advisory Council Member) ሆነው አገልግለዋል።

ማህበሩ ለዶ/ር ስዩም ታትፎ በቤተሰቦች መፅናናትን ይመኛል።

ዛሬ ብትለዩንም በህይወት ዘመናችሁ የሰራችሁት ስራ ከመቃብር በላይ ውሏልና እንዘክራችኋለን ።

ለኢትዮጵያ ጤና አጠባበቅ ማህበር ያደረጋችሁትን አስተዋፅኦ እናውሳለን ።



አቶ ወጋየሁ ሳህሉ ከ1930 - 2003 ዓ.ም

አቶ ወጋየሁ ሳህሉ የኢትዮጵያ ጤና አጠባበቅ ማህበር ነባርና የሕይወት ዘመን አባል ሲሆኑ የኢትዮጵያ የወባ መቆጣጠሪያ ባለሙያዎች ማኅበር፣ የኢትዮጵያ የልብ ሕመም ማኅበር፣ እና የአሜሪካ ሆስፒታል አስተዳደር ባለሙያዎች ማኅበር የክብር አባል፣ እንዲሁም የሌሎች ማኅበራት አባል በመሆን በጤናው ዘርፍ በርካታ አስተዋፅኦ አበርክተዋል።

ከዚህም ባሻገር በአለም የጤና ድርጅት ጉባኤዎች ላይ የልዑካን መሪ በመሆን አገራችንን ወክለው ከ 5 ጊዜ በላይ ተሳትፈዋል።

የኢትዮጵያ ጤና አጠባበቅ ማህበር ለአቶ ወጋየሁ ሳህሉ በቤተሰቦች መፅናናትን ይመኛል።

Fight *Cont'd from page 1*

"Alcohol, tobacco and the abuse of similar substances have played a great part in the expansion of non-communicable diseases."

Dr. Kebede said the fourth Health Sector Development Program aspires to expand basic health services at the same time ensuring their quality throughout the country as much as possible.

For that to be realized, the role of committed and capable health professionals will be of paramount importance.

For achieving aspirations of the program, mobilizing the public for the goals is indispensable. Added the state minister.

Dr. Tewabech Bishaw, the president of EPHA, on her part stated that the use of addictive substances has adverse health and socio-economic risks and outcomes like liver disease, cancers and substance dependence syndrome. We are witnessing a rapid expansion of shops both in urban and rural communities retailing Khat, tobacco, Shisha and other

similar addictive substances.

These shops are located even near the schools, training centers and institutions of higher learning, the president added .

Speaking at the 22nd EPHA annual conference W/ro Yemserach Beylayneh, Country Representative of the David and Lucile Packard foundation-Ethiopia also said alcohol, tobacco and other psychotropic substances abuse prevent individuals from . . .

(To Page 6)

Health Matters

General Codes of Public Health Ethics

The Role of Public Health

The purpose of the public health code of Ethics is to serve as a guide for members. It contains standards of ethical behavior for public health workers in their professional relationships. The Code of ethics also incorporates standards of ethical behavior governing personal conduct, particularly when that conduct directly relates to the role and identity of healthcare professionals.

Continued from Felege-tena Vol. 20 No 3

5 : when can a patient be held for medical treatment against her/his will? This is a controversial area in law, and the law varies by the state. The ethical justification for treatment of a patient against his will is based on balancing of the risk to the public versus respecting the patient's personal freedom. If the magnitude of risk to the public is great, many states allow for involuntary treatment. For example, a patient with active pulmonary tuberculosis that is resistant to multiple anti-tuberculosis medications presents a grave risk to the public

if her/his condition is untreated. This arises in part because of the high infectivity for TB treatment. Other conditions for which non-treatment poses little or no threat to the public, such as untreated acute leukemia, can rarely have involuntary treatment justified.

Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health

6: Public health should address principally the fundamental causes of disease and requirements for health, and secondarily the more immediate causes and requirements.

7: Public health should achieve community health in a way that respects the rights of individuals in the community.

8: Public health policies, programs and priorities should be developed and evaluated through processes that ensure an opportunity for input from community members.

9: Public health should advocate for, or work for the empowerment of, disfranchised community members, ensuring that the basic resources and conditions necessary for health are accessible to all people in the community.

As advocates in the health care setting, public health professionals should:

- Inform the patient and promote informed consent,
- Empower the patient and protect autonomy,
- Protect the rights and interests of patients where they cannot protect their own,
- Ensure that patients have fair access to available resources,
- Represent and support the views/ desires of the patient and not just her/his needs.

10: Public health programs and policies should be implemented in a manner that most enhances the physical and social environment.

11: Public health institutions should protect the confidentiality of information that can bring harm to an individual or community if made public. Exceptions must be justified on the basis of the high likelihood of significant harm to the individual or others.

12: Public health institutions should ensure the professional competence of their employees.

(to be continued in next issue)

Source :- public health code of ethics for Ethiopia, July 2003

EPHA in Focus

Resolution of the 22nd Annual Conference of The Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) On Alcohol, Substance, Khat and Tobacco.

Preamble

Recognizing the alarming nature of the public health problem that stems from excessive and unwarranted use of alcohol, substance, khat and tobacco, with a high negative impact particularly on the youth of the Nation;

Reviewing the legal and socio-economic dimensions of the problem by means of awareness creation campaigns, stimulating public concerns and engaging in active discussions through the mass media;

Working closely with and soliciting the support of relevant Government organs and stakeholders such as the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) and the Framework Convention Alliance (FCA) over the past two years;

Conducting a successful mass walk in Addis Ababa on the 30th of October 2011 along with Save Your Generation Ethiopia (SYGE) as a pre-conference event;

The Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA), after listening to and deliberating upon study

findings and experiences of renowned experts in the area presented to its 22nd Annual Conference held on the 1st to 3rd of November 2011 at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC) in Addis Ababa, has noted that:

- Much needs to be done to bring about awareness and concern amongst the general public, policy makers, legislators and law enforcement organs;
- The rate of consumption of these hazardous substances is increasingly on the rise from year to year;
- Both in and out of school youths are the most affected and vulnerable group; Secondary schools and higher learning institutions are becoming hot spots of the problem;
- Ethiopia is not only a hub for trafficking these substances through its ports of entry and exit (airports, adjacent seaports, postal services) but it has also become a major producer and consumer of these substances;
- The geographic distribution of production and consumption of these harmful substances has widened during the past few decades;

so much so that even parts of the country which were not known to have the problem are now becoming important centers of production, distribution and consumption;

- Alcohol, substance, khat and tobacco predispose the youth to risky sexual behaviors and increase the risk of disposition to HIV and other STIs and unwanted pregnancy, which in-turn contribute to reduced school performance and work efficiency;
- The adverse health outcomes of alcohol, substance, khat and tobacco are not only limited to their immediate consequences, but are major causes of chronic non-communicable complications such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetics and chronic respiratory diseases;
- The policy and legal environment governing the excessive use of alcohol, tobacco and the like to protect the public are lax, incomplete or non-existent;
- There are no adequate and readily accessible counseling and rehabilitation services . . . (To page 7)

Invitation *cont'd from page 1*

In closing the 16th ICASA conference, the Minister invited participants of the 16th ICASA to join him for the 13th World Congress on Public Health (WCPH).

In a similar development, the EPHA Congress Secretariat took the opportunity to promote the Congress through distribution of promotional materials such as brochures, posters and flyers.

The secretariat had also organized a booth at the community village set up at the venue of the ICASA conference for displaying and promoting the 13th World Congress while taking advantage of ICASA website and conference bulletins for similar purposes.

Resolution *cont'd from page 7*

The Conference further entrusted the Executive Board and Secretariat of the EPHA with the responsibility of collaborating with the Government, sister professional associations, other civil society organizations (CSOs) and all concerned in the realization of this Resolution
3rd November 2011

EPHA's 22nd Annual Conference
United Nations Conference Center
(UNCC)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Fight *cont'd from page 3*

realizing their full potential and hence are the major public health concerns globally. She pointed out that consequences of alcohol and illicit substance abuse include among others addiction, job loss, and criminal behavior related to the acquisition and sale of illicit drugs.

According to the country representative, the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs has become a global public health issue. The economic costs of addiction are estimated in billions of dollars.

"Although there is no adequate data on the level of alcohol, tobacco and substance abuse in Ethiopia, the few studies and our own observation point out the growing trends that require focus," She said, adding that the health policy of the Ethiopia emphasizes the importance of prevention.

Therefore, it is essential that we intervene to reduce the demand, use and impact of alcohol, tobacco and such substances among the general public, she stressed.

W/o Yemsrach noted that, if measures are not taken today to curtail production and use of these substances, the cost associated with there will have greater financial implications and will cause a high health care burden resulting from attributable diseases.

We need to focus on the use of alcohol, tobacco and substance abuse in Ethiopia as an important public health concern. It is a fact that any adolescent or youth is at high risk of using substances and yet it is preventable. The country representative added.

The use of alcohol and drugs by adolescents should not be looked at as a rite of passage but as a public health problem said the country representative.

"Those of us working with adolescents and young people know very well that socio-economic contexts and social networks play an important role in shaping the behavior and practices of young adults," she underlined.

Please Smile

A woman tells her doctor " I want a hysterectomy."

The doctor asks " Why you're 77 years old?"

She tells him " I don't want any grandchildren."

Resolution *cont'd from page 5*

for those affected by the problem; and

- There is a lack of systematically organized data collection and use of existing evidence on the problem that can inform policy formulation and help in designing intervention measures and strategies.

The conference also noted that the responsibility for getting rid of the adverse consequences of alcohol, substances, khat and tobacco falls not only on the health sector but equally on the family, civil society organizations, religious leaders, the education system (public and private), the media, all socio-economic sectors and ultimately on each of us and particularly the youth.

In view of the above and encouraged by the request forwarded in the opening address of the State Minister of Health of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to convey the outcome of the deliberations of the Conference to his Ministry, it is hereby resolved as follows.

Resolution

1. Increase awareness and concern of policy makers/ legislators, law enforcement agencies and the larger public including the youth on the adverse

consequences of alcohol, substance, khat and tobacco on a sustainable basis.

2. Enact and strengthen laws and regulations that would be instrumental in protecting the wider public from the adverse consequences of alcohol and substances abuse by:

- a. Specifying the minimum legal age for alcohol sale and consumption.
- b. Expediting ratification of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).
- c. Prohibiting the consumption and distribution in any form of alcohol substance and tobacco use in public places like schools, health facilities and work places.
- d. Banning advertisements of alcohol and tobacco through the means of the mass media.

3. Strengthen and expand service facilities to provide counseling, psycho-social support and treatment, rehabilitation and other services for people affected by the problem.

4. Strengthen systematically organized data collection through operational research and the use of available evidence on the problem that can inform policy formulation and intervention means.

5. Strengthen and expand service facilities to provide counseling, psycho-social support and treatment, rehabilitation and other services for people affected by the problem.

6. Strengthen systematically organized data collection through operational research and the use of available evidence on the problem that can inform policy formulation and intervention means.

7. Establish/strengthen existing multi-sectoral national forums to monitor and follow up the implementation of activities intended to get rid of the adverse consequences of these detrimental substances.

The General Assembly of the EPHA finally recommended that this Resolution be submitted to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and other relevant organs including the House of Peoples' Representatives, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs (MoWCY), Ministry of Trade (MoT), Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST), Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), and Ministry of Government Communications (MoGC) for their appropriate actions and decisions...(To page 6)

Photo News

The Ethiopian public Health Association (EPHA) 22nd Annual Conference

The Ethiopian Public health Association (EPHA) in collaboration with Save Your Generation Ethiopia (SYGE) organized a mass walk from Lideta church to the National Stadium on October 30, 2011 under the major theme of "Alcohol, Tobacco and Substance Abuse".



On the 22nd conference there were a number of panel discussion sessions under the main theme and on other major public health issues. Beside this, researchers shared their findings.



During the 22nd annual conference EPHA has honored three professionals and two institutions who have best contribution in the public health. Thus, **Dr Teshome Gebre**, received the Senior Public Health Service Award. Senior Public Health Research Award Gold Medal Winner was **Dr Alemayehu Worku**, Young Public Health Research Award Gold Medal was honored for **Kebede Deribe**. The Institutional Award went to **All Africa Leprosy, Tuberculosis and Rehabilitation Training (ALERT) Centre** and **Hamlin Fistula Hospital**