

Draft Declaration of the Workshop

"Together Against Ebola"

Wednesday 10th December 2014



AFRICAN AMBASSADORS in BERLIN

In recognition of the gravity and seriousness of the Ebola Virus, causing the deaths of thousands of people since its outbreak, and the high risk of its spread on a global scale;

Also taking into consideration the negative social and economic impacts, mainly on the African continent, as well as on the entire international community, and in the framework of collaborative cooperation to share ideas and experiences to contain the virus' negative impacts;

We, the African Ambassadors accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany participating in the Workshop "Together Against Ebola" held on Wednesday, December 10th, 2014, declare the following:

1. Commend the efforts of the Steering Committee of the African ambassadors in organizing this important workshop, the Egyptian embassy for facilitating and hosting it, the partners of the group of the African Ambassadors in Berlin including Afrika-Verein, German Healthcare Partnership, Afrika Stiftung and all other participants present today for their valuable contributions and support to the success of this workshop.

2. Express appreciation to the German Government, the African Union, ECOWAS, several African and International Governmental initiatives and efforts illustrating commitment to support the containment of the epidemic and the recuperation of the affected countries. In the same context express recognition to civil society and business community actors for their valuable current and continuous contributions.

3. In this regard, reassert the concept of International responsibility in the fight against Ebola of which Africa is at the forefront.

4. Stress upon the importance of raising enough awareness about the actual threats the epidemic poses, and a realistic assessment of the situation, highlighting the necessity of putting things in right and appropriate perspective to avoid a global state of panic.

5. Hence, we call upon the International community to isolate Ebola and not to isolate neither the three affected countries, nor the other 51 none affected countries; in fear of the epidemic. Preventive measures should be well pursued while avoiding non proportional and extreme measures that would lead

to severe economic and social implications on Africa.

6. Support the adoption of a comprehensive strategy to contain and resolve the multi-dimensional implications of the Virus.

7. Call upon the governments of the federal republic of Germany and other State partners to utilize and capitalize on African expertise, to enhance and develop trilateral cooperation projects between European partners, Countries in Africa with required capacities, and the affected countries.

8. Commend the German initiative to establish an early warning system to assist in avoiding similar crises while channelling investments and developmental cooperation funds to infrastructure projects to establish a capable medical and health architecture in the continent.

9. Consider the creation of a fund under the auspices of the African Ambassadors Group in Berlin allocated to support the fight against Ebola, and calling on all participants, partners and friends to contribute to the newly created fund. The fund will be a humble contribution directed to provide support for the victims and their families in the concerned countries.

10. Call on participants to further take part in upcoming series of functions to be announced by the African Ambassadors group dedicated to the victims of Ebola, mainly a suggested fundraising Gala event with the participation of German and African Artists and to closely interact with current parallel efforts and initiatives for example the "Action Group on Ebola" established by Afrika-Verein and German Healthcare Partnership.

11. Designate the Steering Committee on Ebola as a permanent mechanism in charge of furnishing required information related to measures taken to combat Ebola on national level as well as the exchange of training programs and trilateral cooperation projects. The steering committee will also be responsible for planning future events .

The tasks in front of all of us aren't easy to handle. It will take time – but it is important that we started to work "together" to confront the eminent danger of the Ebola virus. We would like to thank everyone who participated today at the Workshop and accompanies the fight against Ebola epidemic.

Berlin, 10 December 2014