

Declaration

The Global Summit on HIV/AIDS, Traditional Medicine & Indigenous Knowledge Conference commenced with scientific and technical submissions at the Ghana Institute of Management & Public Administration on Tuesday, March 14, 2006. The conference was officially launched by Honourable Courage Quarshigah, Minister of Health, Republic of Ghana.

The objectives of the Summit were:

1. To serve as a forum for the identification and testing of potentially beneficial low-cost naturally-derived medicinal products;
2. To promote partnerships between indigenous healers, conventional medical practitioners and corporate institutions for sharing their indigenous knowledge of plants of medicinal value for future development and production of drugs and herbal products; and
3. To encourage governments to adopt and enforce laws to protect and conserve plants of medicinal value; and to protect the rights of indigenous practitioners.

LONG TERM OBJECTIVES:

1. Serve as a major forum for bringing together conventional medical practitioners and traditional healer, so as to facilitate mutual awareness, respect and training in diagnostic and therapeutic best practices.
2. Advocate the integration of indigenous knowledge, which consists of ancient languages, physical, spiritual and cultural forms of local skills, into educational and technical systems in order to ensure the preservation of this knowledge-base and its use by present and future generations towards social, cultural and economic development.

After five (5) days of submissions and engaging deliberations, the Global Summit adjourned on March 18, 2006, with the declaration and proclamation as follows:

That we, the participants of the Global Summit on HIV/AIDS, Traditional Medicine, and Indigenous Knowledge, on the basis of stated objectives and on the strength of the findings of this conference, call upon the Ministry of Health of the host country and those represented by their delegates present, the World Health Organization, United Nations

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Joint Programmes on HIV/AIDS, associated organizations and all governments and world organizations to support traditional medical practices through:

- Promotion of traditional medical practice through collaboration with and recognition by existing healthcare systems and introduction of Traditional medicine into research and educational curricula at all levels with particular emphasis on the youth.
- Institutionalisation of Traditional Medical Practice within governments, with implementation of standardization and a code of ethics for Traditional Medical Practitioners.
- Training and certification of Traditional Medical Practitioners in safe practices, addressing both indigenous and academic areas, in accordance with customary laws.
- Promotion of collaboration and three-way referrals between traditional and orthodox medical practitioners, i.e. Traditional Medical Practitioners to Traditional Medical Practitioners, Traditional Medical Practitioners- to-Conventional Medical Practitioner, Doctors-to-Traditional Medical Practitioners.

That we urge State parties, governments and multilateral organizations to respect the customary laws and practices that define access and availability of indigenous cultural knowledge, and to ensure adequate and mutually acceptable exchanges.

We request governments and funding agencies to commit resources and funding to achieve the stated goals.

Declared in the City of Accra, Republic of Ghana, this 18th day of March, 2006

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2. DR. ALIOU BALDE, UNIVERSITY OF CONAKRY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA
3. DR. MARY ANN RICHARDSON, NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE, WASHINGTON DC USA
4. DR. ROKIA SANOGO, UNIVERSITY OF MALI
5. DR. A. KWEKU ANDOH, NORTH SCALE EDUCATION & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, USA
6. DR. LAURA LOUIE, VANCOUVER, CANADA
7. MR. I.A. JEGEDE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, ABUJA, NIGERIA
8. DR. RICHARD FRU, GARDEN OF EDEN, CAMEROON

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9. MR. S.D. BROWN-UMAR, SALIHUMAR & ASSOCIATES, GHANA
10. PROF. CLAUDE MARARIKE, ZIMBABWE NATIONAL TRADITIONAL HEALERS ASSN
11. DR. RODWELL VONGO, TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION, ZAMBIA
12. MATTHEW FRITTS, MPH, SAMUELI INSTITUTE
13. DR. ALAIN DOMINIQUE ZOUBGA, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, BURKINA FASO
14. MR. SAIHOU CEESAY, DIRECTOR, GAMBIA NATIONAL AIDS SECRETARIAT
15. MR. ESSOSSIMINAM LAKASSA, SECRETARY GENERAL, L'ASSOCIATION DES THERAPEUTES TRADITIONNELS DU TOGO
16. MS. MACDILLA HOWARD, COUNSELLING COORDINATOR, NATIONAL AIDS & STI CONTROL, LIBERIA
17. MS. BEATRICE DLAMINI, MANAGER, SWAZILAND NATIONAL AIDS/STI PROGRAM
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19. DR. DORA AKINBOYE, UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA
20. DR. LAUD OKINE, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO PLANT MEDICINE, GHANA
21. DR. GILBERT L. ROCHON, PURDUE UNIVERSITY, INDIANA USA
22. DR. RICHARD NAGLER, BARRON MEDICAL CENTER-MAYO HEALTH SYSTEM, WISCONSIN, USA
23. TOGBEGA DABRA VI, PRESIDENT/CEO, PROMETRA GHANA
24. DR. MATTHEW PKJ THEU, INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS & RESEARCH COUNCIL, MALAWI
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27. MR. KOJO EDUFUL, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, GHANA FEDERATION OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATIONS
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29. DR. LUC .A. PIETERS, UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP, BELGIUM SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL PLANT RESEARCH
30. DR. GEORGE ACQUAYE, M&J HEALTH MANAGEMENT CONSULT, GHANA
31. MR. JACOB AMOAH, M&J HEALTH MANAGEMENT CONSULT, GHANA
32. PROFESSOR DUO GAO, CHAIRMAN, ANGLO-CHINESE DOCTORS SOCIETY, ENGLAND
33. PROFESSOR YILAN SHEN, ANGLO-CHINESE DOCTORS SOCIETY, ENGLAND

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39. MR. JACOB MUHANDO NYANGILA, KENYA RESOURCE CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE
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44. NTSANYU NANA CONSTANTINE, FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG
45. DR. GODFREY B.R. SWAI, TANZANIA
46. FIONA EBERTS, FRANCE
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54. PROFESSOR IDA TAFARI, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
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57. YEMI LAWAL
58. OBIEFUWA ARINZE AUSTIN

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67. KOFI FREEMAN, FARRA FREEMAN COMPANY
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