



Medical Coverage for Participants of the 28th Summit of the African Union

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 22nd- 31st January, 2017

The Medical and Health Services Directorate (MHSD) welcomes you to the 28th Summit of the African Union (AU) Heads of States and Governments which is taking place at the African Union Commission Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

You will find below, vital information about the medical coverage for the Summit participants and suggestions on how you can keep healthy during your stay.



Weather Considerations

Ethiopia is mostly covered by the Ethiopian Highlands and generally has a climate cooler than other countries in the same region. Addis Ababa, the capital city is situated at a high altitude of around 2,400 m (7,874 ft). The average annual temperature in Addis Ababa is 16 °C (60.8 °F), with daily maximum temperatures averaging 20–25 °C (68.0–77.0 °F) throughout the year. The overnight temperature is generally low averaging 5–10 °C (41.0–50.0 °F).

January falls within the dry season with temperatures between 8–12 °C lowest and 22–25 °C highest and low humidity. This year, the temperatures have fallen even lower.

Health Considerations

As a result of the high altitude/ dehydration (Lack of adequate water in your body) you may experience mild headaches, mild dizziness, fatigue, mild breathlessness, mild insomnia (inability to sleep) and dry mouth especially at night. These symptoms should improve with rest and adequate rehydration. If the symptoms are severe or persist, please see the medical team; as you may have altitude illness that requires treatment.



Also, certain conditions may be exacerbated by high altitude (low blood level (anaemia), high blood pressure, chronic respiratory disease), or by cold, dust, fumes (asthma, respiratory infections and allergies). If you have any of these conditions report to the medical team early if you develop any symptoms.

Medical coverage and cost

Medical coverage during the Summit will be provided by the African Union Medical and Health Services and the Host Government Medical Team while in the AUC compound. The coverage will be limited to **emergency cases only**. Summit participants are advised to use the AU Satellite Clinic (Rm 13, ground floor of the New Conference Center (NCC)) when open. The Main Clinic (at the basement of the NCC, close to the VIP entrance) and the Old Clinic (close to the old main gate) should be used only if emergencies occur close to these locations or when the Satellite Clinic is closed.

If additional medical services is required outside of the AUC (including prescriptions for medicines, hospital admissions etc), the cost of such will be borne by the participants or their sponsors.

All summit participants are advised to obtain an international medical insurance cover with a reputable insurance company. This insurance cover should take effect as soon as they leave their home Country or Country of residence. It should be recognized by the major hospitals in Addis Ababa like International Cardiac Hospital (ICMC), St Gabriel, Kadisco, Halleluya and Korean Hospitals. It should include medical treatment while in Addis Ababa, medical evacuation and treatment outside Addis Ababa and repatriation back to home Country or Country of residence.

If you have been diagnosed with any chronic medical condition (s) (eg Diabetes Mellitus, Hypertension, Asthma, Epilepsy, HIV etc.) and you are on treatment, ensure that you have sufficient supply of your medications as they may not be available in Addis Ababa.

Travel Immunization and Disease Screening

Yellow fever vaccination and the proof of having received it, is an entry requirement for Ethiopia. Please carry your Yellow fever vaccination card (Yellow card) with you. You may be requested to present it at the airport. Ethiopia accepts one yellow fever vaccination for life.

Screening for diseases of Public Health importance may be instituted (at the recommendation of WHO) at the airport and/or Summit venue depending on the disease outbreak situation at the time of the Summit.



General Health Tips:

Protect yourself and others:

- ✚ Maintain strict hand hygiene. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially before eating, before and after using the bathrooms. Alcohol based hand sanitizers are installed at all the main entrances of the AU buildings. Please use them. You can buy pocket sized ones (containing at least 60% alcohol) at local pharmacies for your personal use.
- ✚ Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. Encourage others to do so also.
- ✚ Avoid close body contact or contact with body fluids of any sick person. If this happens accidentally, wash it off immediately and report promptly to the medical team.
- ✚ If you find someone who is ill, call for help immediately. Do not try to attend to him/her by yourself.

Eat and drink safely: Ensure that your food and water are from trusted sources and fruits are thoroughly washed before eating. Food should be well cooked and properly stored. Drink enough clean water, at least 2L every day.

Maintain personal security at all times: Use the same common sense traveling that you would at home, and always stay alert and aware of your surroundings.

Keep warm: The temperatures at the Summit location is expected to be low. Please wear warm clothing and drink warm fluids.

In the event that you fall ill or have an accident during your stay,

- ✓ Report to your hotel clinic (if available)
- ✓ Report to the AU Medical and Health Services (any of the three sites closest to you)
- ✓ Call someone to get help (if you are not able to do any of the above)
- ✓ Call the AU Medical and Health Services - 0115514642. If you have access to AU intercom, call extension 2063 and 2090 up to 5pm and 4377 from 5pm till 8am.
- ✓ For strict emergency **Call 0912-032706, 0922-481559, or 0911-682347**

The AU medical team will comprise of:

Dr. Boudra Hassina (0911836675), Dr Wafa Debbabi (0912613872), Sr. Maria Msibi (0911682347) and Sr. Frehiwot Mekonnen (0911697891).

Medical and Health Services Directorate



Have a safe and healthy Summit!