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
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

1. PROFESSOR ALEX MATTER, ESPERANZA MEDICINES FOUNDATIONS, SWITZERLAND
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. LA. JEGEBE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, ABUJA, NIGERIA
8. DR. RICHARD FRU, GARDEN OF EDEN, CAMEROON
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, SAMUEL INSTITUTE
13. DR. ALAIN DOMINIQUE ZOUNGA, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, BURKINA FASO
14. MR. SAIHOU CEESAY, DIRECTOR, GAMBIA NATIONAL AIDS SECRETARIAT
15. MR. ESSOSSIMIMAN LAKASSA, SECRETARY GENERAL, L'ASSOCIATION DES THERAPEUTES TRADITIONNELS DU TOGO
16. MS. MACWILLA HOWARD, COUNSELLING COORDINATOR, NATIONAL AIDS & STI CONTROL, LIBERIA
17. MS. BEATRICE DLAMINI, MANAGER, SWAZILAND NATIONAL AIDS/STI PROGRAM
18. DR. THEOPHILUS B. KWOFIE, KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, GHANA
19. DR. DORA AKINBOYE, UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA
20. DR. LAUD ORINE, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO PLANT MEDICINE, GHANA
21. DR. GILBERT L. ROCION, 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 PKU THEU, INTERNATIONAL TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS & RESEARCH COUNCIL, MALAWI
25. MR. FRANCIS OSEI-BOATENG, AKOMA PHARMACEUTICALS LTD, KUMASI, GHANA
26. DR. MRS. EZINNE ENWEREJI, ABIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA
27. MR. KOJO EDUFUL, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, GHANA FEDERATION OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATIONS
28. MR. ERIC J. BUENZ, MAYO CLINIC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, USA
29. DR. LUC A. PIETERS, UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP, BELGIUM SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL PLANT RESEARCH
30. DR. GEORGE ACQUAYE, MJ HEALTH MANAGEMENT CONSULT, GHANA
31. MR. JACOB AMOAH, MJ HEALTH MANAGEMENT CONSULT, GHANA
32. PROFESSOR DUO GAO, CHAIRMAN, ANGLO-CHINESE DOCTORS SOCIETY, ENGLAND
33. PROFESSOR YILAN SHEN, ANGLO-CHINESE DOCTORS SOCIETY, ENGLAND
34. DR. KOFT KONDWANI, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, USA
35. PROFESSOR ESTHER KIBUKA SEBITOSI, CENTRE FOR AFRICAN RENAISSANCE STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA
36. DR. RUDOLPH C. RYSER, CHAIR OF THE BOARD, CENTER FOR WORLD INDIGENOUS STUDIES, OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, USA
37. MS. VALERIE ETIM, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DIVISION, WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION, SWITZERLAND
38. DR. RABINDRA NATH PATI, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION, INDIA
39. MR. JACOB MUHANDO NYANGILA, KENYA RESOURCE CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE
40. WILLIAM O. HENNESSEY, ESQ., PROFESSOR OF LAW, CHAIR, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROGRAM, FRANKLIN PIERCE LAW CENTER, CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA
41. DR. ALEX OPIO CHONO, HEAD OF CLINICAL RESEARCH, TRADITIONAL & MODERN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TOGETHER AGAINST AIDS (THETHA), UGANDA
42. MR. KENNETH DANSO, SENIOR EXECUTIVE MEMBER, GHANA FEDERATION OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATIONS
43. DR. EUGENE RICHARD ATLEO, HEREDITARY CHIEF OF THE AHOUASAHT, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
44. NTSANYU NANA CONSTANTINE, FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG
45. DR. GODFREY B.R. SWAI, TANZANIA
46. FIONA EBERTS, FRANCE
47. POSHENDRA SATYAL PRAVAT, FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THE OPEN UNIVERSITY, UNITED KINGDOM
48. SHARON LE Florence, MINNESOTA USA
49. CELESTE EVANS, NEW JERSEY USA
50. LAWRENCE SEWER, ST. THOMAS, VIRGINS ISLAND USA
51. SONITA SINGH, MISSISSIPPI, USA
52. DR. AFIA ZAKIYA, NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE, ABUJA, NIGERIA
53. CLARE KERR, ENGLAND
54. PROFESSOR IDA TAFARI, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
55. SANDRA OMALI, NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE, ABUJA, NIGERIA
56. GRACE QUAN, CANADA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
57. YEMI LAWAL
58. OBI EFUWA ARINZI AUSTIN
59. PIERRE BIGIRIMANA, CANADA INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
60. NANTOMAH ADAM
61. HOLY PROPHET JONATHAN K. AGUME,
62. GODFREY BOATENG, SECRETARY GENERAL, GHANA FEDERATION OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATIONS
63. RICHARD FEDIELEY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH
64. REV. ELIAS KWAKU ASIAMA
65. DR. ARCHIBALD SITTIE, CENTRE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO PLANT MEDICINE, GHANA
66. JULIET OPPONG
67. KOFI FREEMAN, FARRA FREEMAN COMPANY
68. MRS. EDITH ANDREWS, TRADITIONAL MEDICINE/WHO GHANA
69. MRS. ROSLINE DUGAN, SAVE MOTHERHOOD FOUNDATION
70. IAN HODGSON, UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD, UNITED KINGDOM
71. ALISON COHEN, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
72. KATE TURNER
73. DR. F.K. FREMPONG
74. AFRED ASARE NKRUMAH
75. FLORENCE GYAU
76. MR. PETER ARHIN
77. TANIA SHERIFF
78. GEORGE AGYEMRAH
79. APOSTLE EMMANUEL H. AGBALENYOH
80. PETER AVINU
81. WINDEHAM EMIL AFRAM
82. DR. BA-LAGI GREGORY LUGU-ZURI
83. CHERIE CARTER, US PEACE CORPS, VOLUNTEER
84. MARY LIZ KAH, US PEACE CORPS, VOLUNTEER
85. JENELLE STEWART, US PEACE CORPS, VOLUNTEER
86. YAW AKRASI SARPTONG
87. OWUSU ACHIAMPIM PAXMAN
88. THOMAS APPIAH MENSAH
89. DR. ONENEBA AKWASI AMOAKON
90. DR. KWASLDENU
91. IYORE ENNIN
92. J. BOELAERT
93. HON. EMMANUEL TETTEH
94. NANA ADJOA AGYEEMANG CORBBY
95. J. WILLIAM DANQUAH