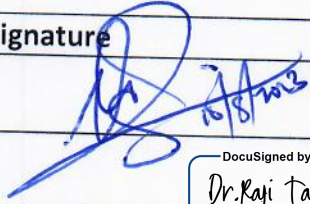
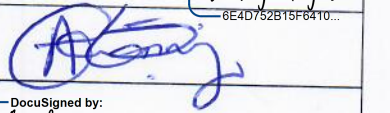
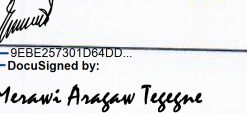
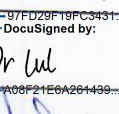

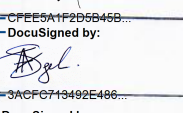
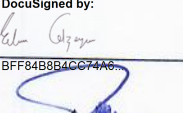
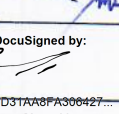

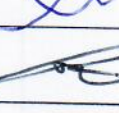
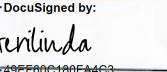
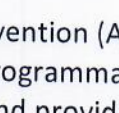
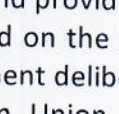
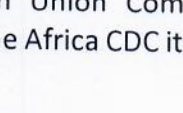




Africa CDC Senior Management Position on the Open Letter Dated Jul 26, 2023

Date: 9 August 2023

List of Senior Management Members

No.	Names	Position	Signature
1.	Dr. Ahmed Ogwel Ouma	Ag. Deputy Director General	
2.	Dr. Raji Tajudeen	Head of Division, Public Health Institute and Research	 DocuSigned by: Dr. Raji Tajudeen 8E4D752B15F8410...
3.	Dr. Mohammed Abdoulaziz	Head of Division, Disease Control and Prevention	
4.	Dr. Yenew Kebede	Head of Division, Laboratory Systems	 DocuSigned by: Yenew Kebede 9EBE257301D64DD...
5.	Dr. Merawi Aragaw	Head of Division Emergency Preparedness and Response	 DocuSigned by: Merawi Aragaw Tsegene 97FD29F19FC3431...
6.	Dr. Lul Pout	Regional Coordinator (Southern Region)	 DocuSigned by: Dr Lul A08F21E6A201439...
7.	Dr. Justin Maeda	Ag. Head of Division, Management and Administration	
8.	Mr. Noah Tegene	OIC Division of Policy, Health Diplomacy & Communication	 DocuSigned by: Noah Tegene CFEE5A1F2D5645D...
9.	Ms. Akhona Tsangela	PAVM Coordinator	 DocuSigned by: Akhona Tsangela 3ACFC719492E486...
10.	Dr. Edem Adzogenu	Senior Advisor for Innovation and digitization	 DocuSigned by: Edem Adzogenu BFF84B8B4C074A6...
11.	Dr. John Ojo	Senior M and E Officer	
12.	Dr. Wessam Mankoula	Ag. Regional Coordinator (Northern Region)	 DocuSigned by: Wessam Mankoula 8D31AA8FA306427...
13.	Dr. Mieraf Tadesse Tolla	OIC Health Economics Programme	 DocuSigned by: Mieraf Tadesse Tolla 30BAACD330645C...
14.	Mr. Tesfaye Hailemichael	Senior Procurement Officer	
15.	Mr. George Momanyi	Partnership Lead	
16.	Dr. Herilinda Temba	Ag. Regional Coordinator (Western Region)	 DocuSigned by: Herilinda Temba 49EF00C100FA4C3...

The Senior Management of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), is responsible for leading the implementation of Africa CDC's mandate and programmatic activities, translating strategic visions into public health policies and programmes, and providing oversight to operational activities within the institution. At its weekly meeting held on the 9th of August 2023, in addition to discussing several agenda items, the Senior Management deliberated on an anonymous open letter addressed to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission containing several allegations against the Director General of Africa CDC, the Africa CDC itself and some African Union Commission (AUC) staff.

Ordinarily, Africa CDC Senior Management would not have deliberated on an anonymous letter. However, we feel compelled to set the record straight on the unsubstantiated allegations particularly those related to governance and integrity of the institution. Due to the potential ramifications the letter might cause on the overall reputation and work of Africa CDC, the Senior Management provides the following clarifications on areas touching on the governance of Africa CDC as an institution.

- a. The Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) paid to all staff including the Director General follows the African Union Administrative Policy on Travel and Mission, the monthly DSA Circular released by the UN, Financial Rules and any existing decisions made by the AU policy organs. There are no documented circumstances where any staff of Africa CDC, including the Director General, has requested DSA or other travel costs in a manner that falls outside the stated policy description, rules or regulations. Africa CDC and the AUC have safeguards against such occurrence.
- b. Like all elected officials, the Director General of Africa CDC is entitled to an official car as the Head of an AU Organ in line with the existing AU rules and regulations. Unfortunately, as of today, Africa CDC doesn't own a single car. Africa CDC has several times submitted request for purchase of vehicles to cover its operations including an official vehicle for the head of the institution but these have been withdrawn from the budget approval processes due to budgetary constraints. As such, the Director General of Africa CDC has been using, temporarily, a borrowed car from the AUC. Given that no budget was dedicated to purchasing a car for the Director General, internal consultations continue on how to resolve this permanently.
- c. The Management and Administration team of Africa CDC has never received a request for refreshment allowance from the Director General, neither has it paid any for him.
- d. The position of chief of staff and other elected officials such as the special assistants and advisors within the AU, including Africa CDC, are filled by appointments made by the heads of the respectful organs and not recruited through a competitive process, and this is in line with the Staff Regulations and Rules. All other recruitments at Africa CDC requiring a competitive process have always followed the rules and procedures. There are no staff of Africa CDC who have been appointed unlawfully.

To this end, the Africa CDC senior management reached the following consensus:

- There are laid down procedures within the Africa CDC and/or the African Union rules and procedures for addressing any grievances. The writer(s) of the anonymous letter can use these mechanisms for a transparent process to be followed in line with the Regulations and Rules.
- Specifically, the allegations made against the Director General of Africa CDC can smear the organisation's reputation. The institutional governance mechanism and control measures are in place and are available to handle any and all complaints.
- We underscore the need to carefully and systematically address these allegations and mitigate the undesired precedence they may set on the reputation of Africa CDC.
- We condemn the open letter's intention and express concern on these baseless allegations, which, if left unattended, might result in a severe ramification on the work of Africa CDC by portraying a wrong message to Member States, Partners and the public.

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Dr. Raji Tajudeen
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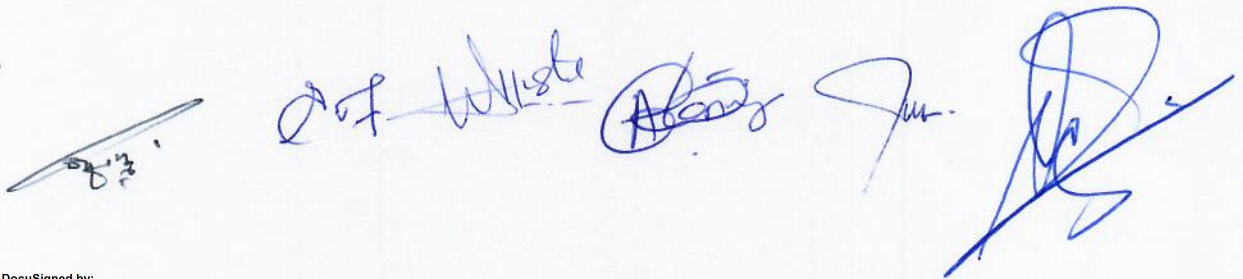
[Handwritten signatures]

- We encourage a specific person or staff concerned to use appropriate ways through Africa CDC bodies and AU organs to make a case and deal with that professionally. For this, in addition to other measures already in place at Africa CDC for effective complaints and feedback mechanisms, the Management also has an open door policy on access to the Director General and Senior Management of Africa CDC.
- We stand unified with solidarity to protect the reputation of Africa CDC to advance critical continental initiatives under implementation.

The Senior Management of Africa CDC appreciates the Director General for his leadership and commitment to promote good governance practices in the organisation. We support and stand in solidarity with the Director General on his agenda to fight fraud, corruption, and nepotism, and anyone within the organisation found guilty of such practice shall be held accountable as per AUC rules and regulations.

The Senior Management acknowledges that the Director General works closely with all his colleagues irrespective of their country of origin. It also encourages the Director General to sustain his work, promote gender balance, geographic and language representation and diversity in our workforce. To the staff of Africa CDC, the Senior Management encourages all of them to access the platforms set in place if there may be any grievance that they may have.

Ends.

A series of handwritten signatures in blue ink, including a large signature on the right and several smaller ones to the left.

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