

WHO Country Office Sierra Leone



Sierra Leone Commemorated African Traditional Medicine Day





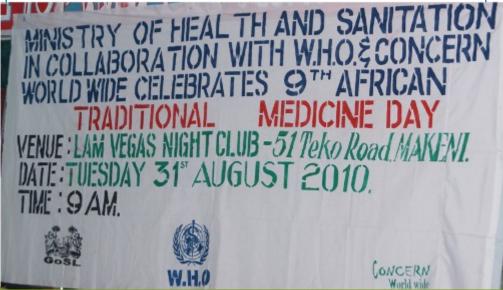


The Sierra Leone Traditional Healers Association with support from WHO and Concern Worldwide has commemorated the 10th African Traditional Medicine Day on the theme "A decade of Traditional Medicine: Progress so far" in Makeni, on 31st August 2010. The occasion was attended by traditional healers and medical practioners and partners.

Dr Alhaji B.M.S Turay, chairman of traditional Healers Association, gave the keynote address on the theme "Traditional African Medicine in Sierra Leone-The useful neglected partner". He stated that traditional medicine is and has been part of the Sierra Leonean culture that contribute immensely to their well being. In some place, it remains the only form of services provided to the communities as there is no modern health care services as yet. WHO Country Office participated in the meeting and delivered a statement on behalf of the Regional Director stressing on the commitment of the organization to continue supporting the work of the association. Concern Worldwide, co sponsor of the workshop pledged its continued commitment to continue working with traditional healers in their areas of operation

The message from the WHO Regional Director, Dr Luis G. Sambo was read by the WHO Representative, Dr W. Alemu for broadcast on National Television and radio. The message encouraged collaboration between practitioners of traditional and modern medicines and called for the promotion of research, integration and collaboration between the practitioners of modern medicine and those of traditional medicine, based on scientific approaches and experience.

A participant madam Sento Sesay advised colleague traditional healers to send their children to school and to pass on to them knowledge on traditional medicines.



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