

Call to Action

We, in attendance at the Strengthening Laboratory Management Toward Accreditation (SLMTA)/Stepwise Laboratory Quality Improvement Process Towards Accreditation (SLIPTA) Symposium, Cape Town South Africa 28-29 November 2014 under the theme “To Go Higher, Faster, Farther, and Longer”

Acknowledging the 2008 World Health Organization (WHO) issued Resolution AFR/RC58/R2 for strengthening Public Health Laboratories in the African region

Recognizing the spread and reach that the SLMTA program has accomplished in supporting laboratories to implement Quality Management Systems

Aware of the critical role the SLIPTA program plays in recognizing progress laboratories have made in a stepwise manner

Cognizant of the countries and laboratories that have invested in SLMTA and SLIPTA and are demonstrating incremental improvement

Recognizing the endorsement by the 14 Ministers of Health in Africa of the SLIPTA process as a framework for promoting laboratories to achieve accreditation by ISO 15189

WE HEREBY

1. Commit ourselves, in collaboration with our partners, to sustaining the gains realized to date through SLMTA program
2. Commit to advocating for and extending quality beyond the laboratory to ensure quality patient care
3. Commit to developing strategic plans and laboratory policies that prioritize international laboratory accreditation
4. Call upon the Ministries of Health, United Nations Agencies, development partners and other international organizations to form partnership that will ensure funding and sustainability for laboratory strengthening programs.