

Leading Ethiopian research institute visits icddr,b for South-South collaboration

Dhaka, September 16, 2015—Dr. Abraham Aseffa, Scientific Director of the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), a prestigious biomedical research institute in Ethiopia, today visits icddr,b—a leading public health research organisation based in Bangladesh.

Ethiopia's award winning researcher Dr Aseffa has substantial experience researching tuberculosis, HIV, Leishmania and other infectious diseases with a particular interest in capacity building efforts in health research and ethics.

Dr. Aseffa visited icddr,b's Dhaka Hospital and its leading scientists to learn about the organisation's significant work in saving lives and bringing policy reforms in Bangladesh and beyond.

He said, "Ethiopia's major health problems are communicable diseases, especially due to poor sanitation. More than half the population do not have access to clean water. Shortage of skilled health workers and health facilities only make the situation worse. At AHRI we work to generate research based evidence and build local capacity to save lives in the Horn of Africa."

He added, "I am fascinated by my visit to Bangladesh and icddr,b. We have so much in common in our challenges and aspirations. We could collaborate to achieve common goals."

icddr,b's Executive Director Professor John D. Clemens lauded AHRI for its research work and expressed his commitment to working together to strengthen South-South scientific cooperation and generate more lifesaving solutions.

In a seminar for icddr,b's researchers and scientists, Dr. Aseffa shared his experience of working in a biomedical research institute in endemic settings. His visit concluded with a MoU for future collaboration between AHRI and icddr,b.

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Notes to the Editor:

About icddr,b

icddr,b (International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh) is a not-for-profit international health research institution located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Dedicated to saving lives through research and treatment, icddr,b addresses some of the most critical health concerns facing the world today, ranging from improving neonatal survival to HIV/AIDS. In collaboration with academic and research institutions throughout the world, icddr,b conducts research, training and extension activities, as well as programme-based activities, to develop and share knowledge for global lifesaving solutions.

About Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)

AHRI is a biomedical research institute in Ethiopia, working in tuberculosis, HIV, malaria, Leishmaniasis, training and research capacity building. AHRI was founded in 1970 through an initiative of the Norwegian and Swedish Save the Children organizations seconded by the Ministry of Health of Ethiopia. To learn more, visit ahri.gov.et.