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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**Supply Chain Management System Closeout**  
**Remarks by USAID Ethiopia Representative BethAnne Moskov**  
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**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
*(as prepared for delivery)*

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Good evening and thank you for coming to mark the closeout of our Supply Chain Management Systems activity. In USAID terminology, we tend to say we are “marking” a closeout because, on the one hand, we are celebrating everything that an activity has achieved. On the other hand, as dedicated development professionals—we’re always reflecting about how we did what we did and thinking about what we should do next. We always ask ourselves, how do we build on what we’ve accomplished to help the Ethiopian people? So, this event is a celebration but it is also really much more than that.

Tonight, as we reflect on our decade-long partnership to strengthen the public health sector supply chain, I’m curious to know, has anyone here been working on this project for the whole ten years? Please raise your hands. Let’s give them a round of applause.

Those of you who raised your hands, and most of you in the room—especially the Ethiopians—can probably remember the state of supply chain management ten years ago. Today, thanks to a lot of hard work from everyone involved, the capacity of the supply chain has increased to keep pace with and serve the six-fold increase in health facilities in Ethiopia.

Over the past decade, USAID has worked with the Ministry of Health, the Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa health bureaus, and nine regional health bureaus to strengthen Ethiopia’s supply chain system.

We have also invested more than 283 million dollars through our Supply Chain Management Systems project. As you can imagine, 283 million dollars has produced an extensive list of results. I will highlight just three of the high-impact accomplishments this evening.

First, through the project, we provided a whole range of support to more than 3,200 antiretroviral therapy and prevention of mother-to-child transmission health facilities, and trained more than 16,000 health professionals in supply chain management.

Second, with funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, commonly referred to as PEPFAR, we procured and donated 224 million dollars of laboratory, pharmaceutical, and other health commodities to the Ministry of Health to expand antiretroviral therapy services for more than 400,000 people affected by and living with HIV and AIDS.

And third, we also supported annual national quantifications of HIV/AIDS commodities and supplies. This assured that the right drugs were at the right place at the right time to meet the needs of the national response to HIV.

I’d like to share one example of how the project made a concrete difference in the Amhara Region. Thanks to U.S. support, PFSA’s regional warehouse hub for medicines, test kits, and laboratory supplies in Bahir Dar benefits from a cold storage room we provided for laboratory chemicals, a

generator to compensate for power failures, and trucks to deliver medicine and supplies to over 100 health facilities. This ensures the integrity of the much needed medication patients in the region receive.

The nearby Felege Hiwot Referral Hospital also benefits from U.S. assistance on stock management of supplies to treat thousands of HIV/AIDS patients. With U.S. assistance, we have collectively helped saved lives in Amhara and the rest of the country by making comprehensive HIV and AIDS services widely available and free of charge.

I want to commend our implementing partners, Partnership for Supply Chain Management and Management Sciences for Health for their tireless work to improve the capacity of the supply chain in Ethiopia. Their support to our government partners has been instrumental in achieving these impressive results.

This evening, as we celebrate the accomplishments of our Supply Chain Management Systems project, I want to assure you that USAID remains committed to supporting a comprehensive approach to strengthening the public health pharmaceutical and logistics system in Ethiopia. Through our new award, named Global Health Supply Chain-Procurement and Supply Management, we will continue our support and build on the successes of this project. I know that many of you here this evening will begin working with our follow-on project shortly, and we know your technical leadership will help ensure the success of this new project.

Thank you for a successful ten years. Thanks to your dedication, we've come a long way in that time and have established a very strong foundation on which to build further. We will continue our strong partnership with the Ethiopian people to save lives.

*Amasegenalu*, thank you.