28 October, 2026

NCD Relay Africa Regional Convening 2026

A Pre-Conference to CPHIA 2026

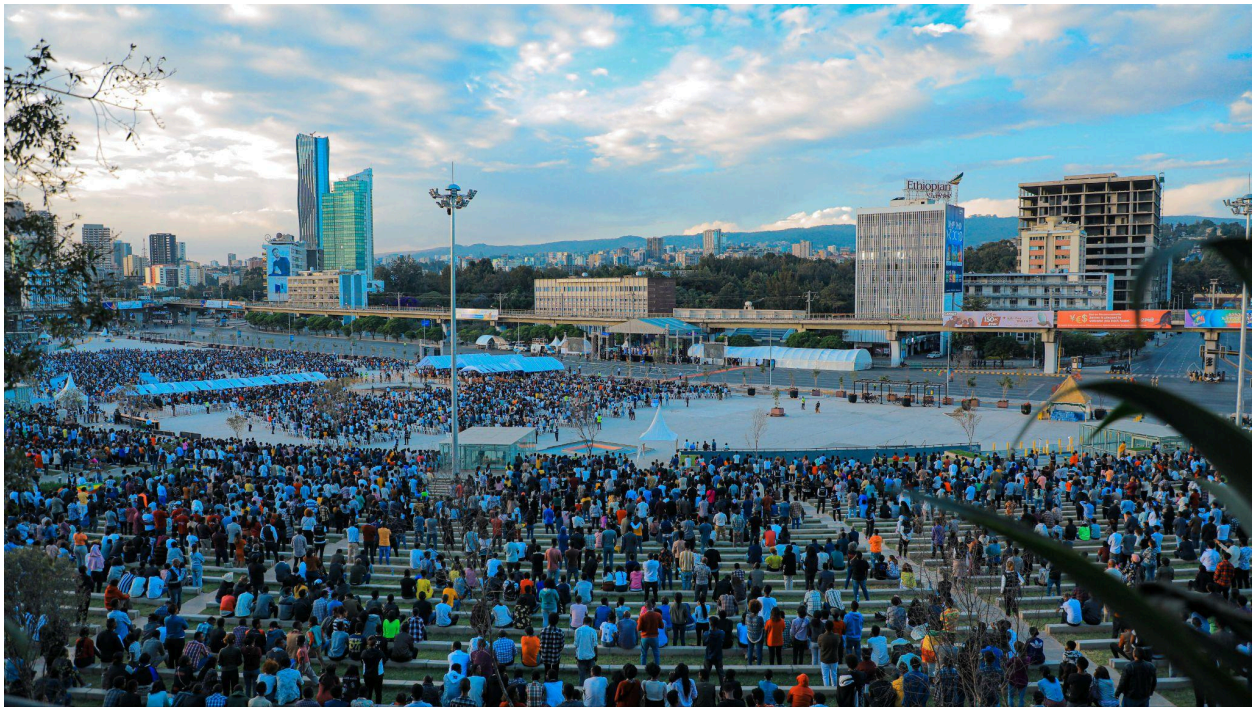
21-22 November 2026

The Relay Begins in Africa

NCD RELAY AFRICA

REGIONAL CONVENING

21–22 November 2026 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Practical Information Bulletin

Welcome Note

Welcome to Addis Ababa, and to the first NCD Relay Africa Regional Convening.

The NCD Relay Africa regional convening is a two-day continental gathering of civil societies, national alliances, people living with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), young leaders, and partners. This convening will take place on November 21–22, 2026, at the

Africa CDC Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as a pre-conference to the Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2026).

The convening is organised by the Africa NCDs Network (ANN) and NCD Alliance East Africa (EANCDA), in collaboration with Africa CDC, the Ethiopian NCD Alliance Consortium and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health. It is part of the global NCD Relay, convened by the NCD Alliance and supported by its strategic partners.

The NCD Relay in Africa is supported by the NCD Relay's global strategic partners: the Global Alliance for Patient Access (GAfPA), the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The World Diabetes Foundation supports the event as an Africa Convening Strategic Partner. Additional support comes from NCD Relay Sponsors NCDI Poverty Network and Paolo Chiesi Foundation, and Travel Partner, Ethiopian Airlines.

This bulletin gives you the practical information you need to prepare for the convening and for your stay in Addis Ababa. Please read it before you travel, and check official sources for entry requirements, as these can change.

We wish you a pleasant and enjoyable stay.

Convening Venue

The NCD Relay Africa Regional Convening 2026 will take place at the headquarters of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The main meeting room seats about 150 participants. A second room is available for up to 70 participants if needed. Refreshments and lunch will be available for all participants.

Africa CDC Headquarters

Security and Access to the Conference Venue

We will send the names of all registered participants to Africa CDC in advance to help you enter the Africa CDC Headquarters compound, where the convening will take place.

All participants will go through security screening at the entrance, where security will check their identification against the participant list.

Please bring a valid government-issued photo ID or passport every day. Please cooperate with the security staff and allow extra time for screening at the entrance.

Visa Information

Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months from the date of entry into Ethiopia. The passport booklet must also contain at least two (2) blank pages before entry into Ethiopia.

A **visa-on-arrival facilitation letter** from Africa CDC will be sent to the email address you give when you register. Please carry the letter, printed or on your phone, when you board your flight. You will receive your visa when you arrive in Addis Ababa.

For more details, see the official Ethiopian e-Visa website.

Flight and Reservations

All flight bookings and reservations should be done via Ethiopian Airlines. There is a 15% discount for flight bookings and purchases for delegates heading to the NCD Relay Convening.

Promo code - **NCR26**

Book here: https://www.ethiopianairlines.com/events/ncd-relay-africa-regional-convening

Ethiopian Airlines holidays website- https://www.ethiopianholidays.com/

Transportation

Airport pick-up and drop-off

Airport pick-up and drop-off will be arranged for participants arriving on 19 or 20 November and leaving between 23 and 26 November.

Protocol officers with convening signs will be at Bole International Airport, day and night, to assist you.

Convening Hotels

The recommended hotels for conference participants are located in the **Bole area of Addis Ababa**, a central and convenient location with easy access to major city attractions, restaurants, and services.

The hotels situated area is approximately **3-4 km from Addis Ababa Bole International Airport**, with an estimated driving time of **10 minutes**, depending on traffic conditions.

Distance from the hotels to the convening venue, the African CDC is 8-10km with 25-35 minutes drive depending on the traffic.

Sponsored participants will stay in one of the hotels below

- **Azeeman Hotel**
- **Sapphire Addis Hotel**
- **Damat Hotel**
- **Intercontinental Hotel**

(located in Kazanchis, 25 minutes from Bole International Airport & takes a 35-40 minute drive to the meeting venue, the African CDC HQ.

For more information, see **Annex 1** for other suggested hotels.

To and from the convening venue

All delegates staying at the convening hotels will have free daily transportation to and from the convening venue. The timetables will be displayed in the hotels and at the Africa CDC headquarters. Participants funded by the NCD Relay will be lodged at **Elilly**

International Hotel, InterContinental Hotel and Jupiter International Hotel. This is because of proximity to the conference location. All other participants are advised to book rooms in the same location, as this is where free transportation will be allocated.

Getting around Addis Ababa

Attendees should download local apps like RIDE or Feres for safe, upfront-priced transit. Traditional street taxis are widely available, but you must firmly negotiate a flat fare before boarding.

Fares are paid in cash in Ethiopian Birr, so carry small notes such as 50 and 100 Birr.

Health and Safety

Yellow fever. Please carry your yellow fever vaccination card (the “yellow card”). Ethiopia requires proof of vaccination from travellers aged nine months or older. Whether it applies to you depends on your route, not your nationality. See **Annex 2** for the countries at risk of yellow fever transmission.

Please follow the guidance of Africa CDC, WHO, and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health.

Please also follow public health instructions at your point of departure and in Ethiopia.

Travel and health insurance

We strongly recommend comprehensive travel and health insurance that includes medical evacuation. Addis Ababa has many private hospitals and clinics that offer a reasonable standard of basic care for common problems. Public hospitals have limited resources.

Food and water

- **Do not drink tap water.** Drink or use only boiled or bottled water and avoid ice in drinks. Bottled water is widely available.
- Eat food that is freshly cooked and served hot. Wash or peel fruit and raw vegetables.
- Traveller's diarrhoea is common. Pack oral rehydration salts and basic medication.
- Wash hands often or use sanitizer to stay healthy.

Staying Connected (Internet)

Wi-Fi will be available at the convening venue. 4G mobile coverage is good in Addis Ababa. Local SIM cards (Ethio Telecom, Safaricom) can be bought at the airport or in city shops.

Money and payments

The Ethiopian birr is the official currency. Expect to pay for most local services, such as taxis, markets, small restaurants and shops, in cash, in birr. Larger hotels, airlines and some upmarket restaurants accept international cards, but acceptance is still limited outside them.

Visa cards are more widely accepted than Mastercard, so check before you rely on a card

ATMs are available across Addis Ababa, at most major hotels and at Bole International Airport. You can exchange foreign currency at banks, authorised forex bureaus, and major hotels.

Western Union and MoneyGram services are available through selected banks in Addis Ababa.

Meals

Breakfast is included at the official convening hotels. The convening will provide lunch each day and **a cultural reception dinner on 21 November**.

Beyond the convening, Addis offers an incredibly diverse range of dining options that cater to food lovers from all walks of life. If you appreciate a good meal, there's a cuisine for every taste and budget.

If you decide to extend your stay in Addis beyond the conference, you can explore the most outstanding restaurants with aesthetically pleasing views in Addis.

List of restaurants near the venue

Electrical Outlets

Ethiopia uses 220–240V at 50 Hz. Outlets use two round pins (Type C/F). Bring a plug adapter if your devices use different plugs.



Altitude, Weather and Dress Code

Addis Ababa is about 2,400 metres above sea level. Drink water and rest in your first days. Mornings and evenings can be cool, so bring a light jacket, and please check the forecast before you travel.

Local Norms and Customs

Greet people with a handshake, often with a slight bow, and use your right hand when eating or giving items. Dress modestly, especially at religious sites. Ask permission before photographing people

Tourism in Ethiopia

Ethiopia has a rich cultural heritage, for example, the iconic rock-hewn churches of Lalibela and the dramatic peaks of the Simien Mountains.

For participants looking to extend their stay or explore Addis Ababa during free hours, we highly recommend booking guided tours through reputable local operators or consulting the official tourism platform, Visit Ethiopia.

For short city excursions, the National Museum of Ethiopia (home to the famous "Lucy" fossil), the bustling Entoto Park, Unity Park, Adwa Victory Memorial, and Friendship Park offer excellent, accessible sightseeing options within the capital

Emergency information

In an emergency, call;

Ambulance and medical emergencies:

Tebita Private Ambulance **+251 911 225 464 / +251 911 641 609**

MeQrez Health Services Kazanchis, **+251 95 227 2727**

Bethzatha General Hospital **+251 11 551 4141**

Saint Gabriel General Hospital 8819 (emergency); **+251 11 661 4400**

Traffic accidents: Traffic Police – Road Traffic Accidents **945**

Fire and Rescue Services **939**

Annex 1. List of hotels

Recommended hotels					
#	**Name of the hotel/ guesthouse**	**Proximity to the CDC venue**	**Hotel star**	**Standard room rate in US$ *(UN corporate rate)***	**Contact details**
1	Ambassador Hotel	24 minutes (by vehicle)	4	50.00	+251 116 188284/81 reservation@ambassadorhotelethiop
2	Aphrodite International Hotel	36 minutes (by vehicle)	4	60.00	+251 115 572220 aphroditeinthotel@gmail.com

3	Best Western Hotel & Resorts	28 minutes (by vehicle)	4	75.00	+251 116 890005 gm@bwppearladdis.com
4	Best Western Plus Hotel	28 minutes (by vehicle)	4	85.00	+251 116 671414 reservations@bwplusaddisababa.com
5	Capital Hotel and Spa	34 minutes (by vehicle)	5	70.00	+251 11 667 2100 reservation@capitalhotelandspa.com
6	Elilly International Hotel	36 minutes (by vehicle)	5	80.00	+251 115 587773/ 585200 event@elillyhotel.com
7	Ethiopia Hotel	34 minutes (by vehicle)	4	55.00	+251 115 510156 ethhotel@ethionet.et
8	Friendship International Hotel	29 minutes (by vehicle)	4	60.00	+251 116 670202 marketing@friendshiphotel.com.et
9	Getfam Hotel	35 minutes (by vehicle)	5	80.00	+251 116 673175 gm@getfamhotel.com
10	Harmony Hotel	24 minutes (by vehicle)	4	70.00	+251 116 183100 reservation@harmonyhotelethiopia.com
11	Hilton Hotel	34 minutes (by vehicle)	5	133.00	+251 115 518400/ 170000 reservations.addisababa@hilton.com
12	Hyatt Regency	30 minutes (by vehicle)	5	180.00	+251 115 171234 addisababa.regency@hyatt.com

13	Intercontinental Hotel	34 minutes (by vehicle)	5	80.00	+251 115 180444 reservation@intercentinentaladdis.com
14	Jupiter International Hotel	30 minutes (by vehicle)	4	75.00	+251 115 526370/ 527333 info@jupiterinternationalhotel.com
15	Loft Hotel Apartment	26 minutes (by vehicle)	No	97.00	+251 116662299/+251986200000 www.loftapartment.com Lofthotelapartment@gmail.com
16	Magnolia Hotel and Conference Center	28 minutes (by vehicle)	4	70.00	+251 116393777 reservation@magnoliaaddis.com
17	Marriott Executive Apartments	30 minutes (by vehicle)	5	160.00	+251 115184600 www.meaaddisababa.com reservation.adder@marriott.com amare.getahun@marriott.com

Annex 2. Countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and those requiring proof of yellow fever vaccination.

Albania	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Liberia	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Algeria	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Madagascar	Saint Lucia

Angola	Djibouti	Malawi	Saint Martin
Antigua and Barbuda	Dominica	Malaysia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Argentina (Misiones and Corrientes Provinces)	Dominican Republic	Maldives	Samoa
Aruba	Ecuador (including Galapagos Islands)	Mali	Sao Tome and Principe
Australia	Egypt	Malta	Saudi Arabia
Bahamas	El Salvador	Martinique	Senegal
Bahrain	Equatorial Guinea	Mauritania	Seychelles
Bangladesh	Eritrea	Mayotte	Sierra Leone
Barbados	Eswatini	Montserrat	Singapore
Benin	Ethiopia	Mozambique	Sint Eustatius
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Fiji	Myanmar	Sint Maarten
Bonaire	French Guiana	Namibia	Solomon Islands
Botswana	French Polynesia	Nepal	South Africa
Brazil	Gabon	New Caledonia	South Sudan
Brunei Darussalam	Gambia	Nicaragua	Sri Lanka
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Niger	Sudan

Cabo Verde	Grenada	Nigeria	Suriname
Cambodia	Guadeloupe	Niue	Tanzania (United Republic of)
Cameroon	Guatemala	Oman	Thailand
Central African Republic	Guinea	Pakistan	Togo
Chad	Guinea-Bissau	Panama	Trinidad and Tobago
China	Guyana	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
Christmas Island	Haiti	Paraguay	United Arab Emirates
Colombia	Honduras	Peru	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Congo	India	Philippines	Wallis and Futuna
Costa Rica	Indonesia	Pitcairn Islands	Zambia
Côte d'Ivoire	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Qatar	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Jamaica	Rwanda	
Curaçao	Kazakhstan	Saint Barthelemy	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Kenya	Saint Helena	

Source: World Health Organization. Link: https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/travel-and-health/countries-with-risk-of-yellowfever-transmission.pdf?sfvrsn=bf42ac59_4&download=true