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PRESS RELEASE

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Tanzanian Nurses Engage in Leadership Training Led by Experts from American Organization of Nurse Executives

Advanced training will enhance the work of AIHA's PEPFAR-supported Tanzania Nursing Initiative to strengthen nursing practice, professionalism

Dar es Salaam, July 8, 2013 — Some 50 top nursing leaders from all over Tanzania will convene in Dar es Salaam today for a five-day International Nursing Leadership Institute organized by the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) and conducted by leading US experts from the Washington DC-based American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE). Tanzania's Deputy Ministry for Health and Social Welfare, the Honorable Dr. Seif Suleiman Rashid will offer welcoming comments at the opening of the event, which is being held at the Protea Courtyard Hotel.

AIHA has long recognized that skilled nursing professionals are a vital link to patient care and an essential component of any health system. In Tanzania, like much of the world, nurses are the frontline care providers, so establishing nursing as a strong and independent profession complements the government's efforts to improve healthcare service delivery in the country.

This leadership training and the mentoring provided by AONE experts will help prepare participants to more effectively address the challenges faced by nurses in Tanzania through both advocacy and action. Institute sessions are designed to arm the nurse leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to make a positive contribution to their profession by generating creative solutions for strengthening — among other things — pre- and in-service education and training, the delivery of quality nursing care, ethics and credentialing, and outreach to elevate the public's perception of nurses as medical professionals. AONE is renowned worldwide for developing nursing leadership courses and has been working to advance nursing excellence and shape public policy for healthcare in the United States since 1967.

Participants in the Institute include nurse leaders from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare Nursing Training Unit's Office of the Chief Nurse, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences School of Nursing, the Tanzania National Nurses Association, and the Tanzania Nurses and Midwives Council - all key stakeholders in AIHA's Tanzania Nursing Initiative (TNI).

With support from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Tanzania, AIHA and its TNI partners have been working to strengthen the nursing profession in Tanzania since 2005. The Leadership Institute is in keeping with TNI's holistic multi-pronged approach to strengthening the nursing profession in Tanzania through targeted organizational and human resource capacity building.