UNESCO – MARS 2016 will bring together more than 200 researchers from more than 35 African

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia, November 10, 2016/ --

- **MARS 2016 contributes to Building Research Capacity in Africa to improve women health.**
- **MARS 2016 addressing Research in Francophone Africa for the first time.**
- **'Best African Woman Research Awards' to be launched for the first time at UNESCO MARS**
- **The launch of on-line research community (www.MerckCAP.com) to enable young researchers to share experi**

Merck (www.MerckGroup.com), a leading science and technology company has joined UNESC
www.UNESCO-MARS.com

Infectious diseases and women health and empowering women in research will be the focus of the 2nd UNESCO - Merck Africa Research Summit - MARS 201

The UNESCO - MARS 2016 will be inaugurated by Mr. Getchaw Engida, Deputy Director-General, UN

UNESCO – MARS 2016 will bring together more than 200 researchers from more than 35 African coun

UNESCO - MARS 2016 has attracted 15 African ministers of Health; Education; Science and Technolog

"The theme of the Summit is **infectious diseases and women health** is informed by the fact that for many infectious diseases

"The Summit will focus on the relation between infectious diseases and cancer in women, untreated inf

It will also aim to identify the scientific research priorities for evolving health needs to address infectious

On the second day of UNESCO - MARS 2016, Merck will be launched to enable young researchers to excha
www.MerckCAP.com) will be launched to enable young resea

Empowering Africa Women in Research

Of the 200 researchers attending the Summit 60% are women. This is contributing to one of the main c

"In addition, the UNESCO - MARS 2016 Â will launch for the first time the 'Best African Woman Resear

Merck Africa Research Summit - MARS Awards 2016

During the Summit, Young African Researchers who have submitted outstanding abstracts will be reco

Key African Ministers to attend Summit to participate in Ministerial Panels:

This year's Summit has attracted 15 African Ministers of Health; Education; Science and Technology; G

The first ministerial high level panel that will focus on "Defining interventions to advance research capa

The second ministerial panel on 'Research and policy making gap in Africa – challenges and opportuni

The Summit will also be addressed by HRH Princess Nisreen El-Hashemite, the Founder of the World

Summit addressing Francophone Africa for the first time

This is the first time that the UNESCO - MARS summit is addressing Francophone Africa. It has attract

The 2nd UNESCO - MARS Summit is a unique opportunity for A

UNESCO - MARS 2015

During the 2015 Summit, several participants were recognized and awarded for excellence in research

The first award of a six month fellowship at the Merck R&D in Germany was granted to Benard Kulohoma, Ken

The first UNESCO-Merck Africa Research Summit 2015 was successfully organized and held in Genev