



Addis Ababa, November 16, 2012 (WIC) - The Addis Ababa HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (AHAPCO) said the prevalence rate of HIV in the City has dropped to 5.2 percent from the previous 9.2 per cent.

In a press conference he gave here on Thursday in connection with World AIDS Day, Office Communication Head, Tesfaye Mekbebe attributed the success to the efforts of the office and development partners as well as the country's ability to provide better HIV/AIDS related services.

Tesfaye said the government is striving to reach zero infection of the virus through awareness raising activities and helping vulnerable groups to engage in income generating activities. To achieve this, preparations are finalized to provide counseling and testing service to more than 30,000 vulnerable groups, he said. World AIDS Day will be marked in Addis Ababa on 23 November 2012 with various awareness raising activities.

According to ENA, the City will also mark the Day by providing free counseling and testing services to residents, he said. The Day will be marked under the theme: "Getting Zero' Zero New HIV Infections, Zero Discrimination and Zero AIDS Related Deaths".