

## FACT SHEET

### Sheikh Mohammed Al Amoudi & AIDS/HIV in Africa

In 2006, Sheikh Mohammed became increasingly concerned about the HIV/AIDS problem in Ethiopia and made significant contributions to education and treatment programs related to HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia. In response to the emerging need for improved Ethiopian and African education and co-ordination of AIDs awareness and treatment programmes, Sheikh Mohammed donated a substantial sum to the Sixteenth International Conference on AIDS and STI (Sexually Transmitted Infections) in Africa (ICASA 2011) as well as significant sums, in this area, to the Clinton Foundation's Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI).

\$15m was donated to ICASA2011 and was used to help prepare the Millennium Hall in Addis Ababa for the event on December 4th through 8th, 2011, providing the full infrastructure for the conference, including all the necessary materials, an exhibition centre, a delegate village, a media centre and 17 halls enabling 14 sessions and workshops to be held simultaneously.

The Sheikh also provided approximately \$6million, to the Clinton Foundation's HIV/AIDS Initiative in Ethiopia between 2007 and 2010 through CHAI. CHAI had committed to help the Ethiopian Government in order to increase the care and treatment of HIV-infected Ethiopians and to effect improvements in the medical infrastructure of the country.

This funding of over \$20 million dollars to fight HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia was undertaken as a private individual and as a philanthropist. A significant part of it was intended to bring Western knowledge and expertise to Ethiopia to deal with a major social and healthcare problem. It had no political aspect to it and none related to domestic US politics. At the time, Sheikh Mohammed was quoted as saying that his support for CHAI was part of a continuing effort "to improve the welfare of the people of my country of my birth".

Dr Yegeremu Abebe, Chairman, ICASA 2011, has said that "his [the Sheikh's] contribution will save the lives of millions in Africa - children, young and adults" and has added that "no business leader in Africa has contributed so much for HIV response in Africa". Ethiopian President Gilma Woldegiorgis presented an award in 2012 to Sheikh Mohammed in recognition of his support for ICASA 2011.

ICASA 2011 proved to be an event of global importance for sub-Saharan Africa where an estimated 68% of all people with HIV live in a region with only 12% of the global population (2010 figures). A website in support of ICASA 2011 is still available on the internet at <http://icasa2011support.info>.