The Fifth Malaria research symposium was held in Mekele

Addis Continental Institute of Public Health (ACIPH) in collaboration with Mekele University has conducted the fifth malaria research symposium on January 23 and 24 at Mekele University Ayder campus. ACIPH in addition to supporting the organization of the symposium technically has provided financial support through its Strengthening Malaria Monitoring and Evaluation System (SMMES) project funded by the United Agency for International Development (USAID)/President Malaria Initiative (PMI). In the symposium 24 malaria related papers were presented by researchers from different Universities and research institute. The papers were categorized under five malaria related thematic areas namely: Epidemiology, Case management, LLIN ownership, utilization and associated factors, Drug efficacy/resistance and Entomology and ecology. Malaria researchers from different universities and research institutes attended the symposium and above all the Mekele University students, mainly post graduate and faculty members fully attended and actively participated. The total number of participants was around 150, more than the anticipated 100 participants. On the second day late afternoon, a panel discussion on how to strengthen the malaria research network was conducted and after hot discussion to brainstorm the difficulties of the existing research network, the participants unanimously agreed that EPHI be the chair while Addis Ababa University and AHRI be the co-chairs and ACIPH is elected to be secretary of the network. The symposium was also attended by the FMoH, malaria team leader, Mekele University dean and representatives from PMI.