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Title of Lecture: Gender Dimension of HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia

Lecturer: Hirut Terefe

Keywords: gender, HIV/AIDS, young girls, sexual conception, myths

#### Summary

Woman in Sub-Sahara-Africa is affected with HIV/AIDS than man. Among the age of 15~49 years old, 18.5 million of woman in the world is affected with it. And 15 million people (81.1%) of them are Sub-Saharan women (2001). In Ethiopia, 1.4 million adult (15~49 yrs old) are living with HIV/AIDS (2005). 15~24 yrs old woman are in the greater risk of HIV/AIDS infected than man. Rough sex, coerciveness, dry sex, rape and prior FGM increase the risks of infection. Also, the marriage of old man and young girl, polygamy and levirate spread HIV/AIDS. The back ground of why HIV/AIDS spreads in Ethiopia is that by the conceptions of “women are to be shy” and also by the myths. Furthermore, no existence of age limit for drink and existence of sugar daddy aggravate the situation. The numbers of young girls migrate to the cities without having skill to the employment. So some of them come to work as sex workers and they go back to the village affected with HIV/AIDS.

Reporter: KUMASHIRO, Chihiro