



Dr. Lia Tadesse

Minister of Health, Ethiopia

Dr. Lia Tadesse Geberemedhin is the Minister of Health of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, appointed since March 2020 and has been at the forefront of the country's pandemic response to COVID-19. Prior to this appointment, she served as State Minister of Health since November 2018 and was leading the implementation of the national health programmes as part of the Health Sector Transformation Strategy. With over 20 years of experience, Dr Tadesse is a physician who specialised in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with extensive experience as a clinician, academician, and healthcare executive leader.

She has successfully worked as a CEO and Vice Provost of St. Paul Hospital Millennium Medical College in Addis Ababa, leading the hospital's services and academic reforms, including forging collaborative relationships with several national and international stakeholders. Dr Lia was Project Director of USAID's Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) at Jhpiego-Ethiopia, and later worked as Program Director at the University of Michigan's Center for International Reproductive Health Training (CIRHT) in Ann Arbor, Michigan where she has established successful partnerships with several institutions, both in Ethiopia and Rwanda, to increase quality of reproductive health training and services.

Dr. Lia's passion is strengthening and reforming health systems and has received recognition for her accomplishments, advocacy for gender equity in access to quality health services and training. Dr. Lia is currently co-chair of the COVAX AMC Engagement Group and of the Global Financing Facility (GFF) for Women, Children and Adolescents. She is also a member of the GAVI board.

Lia earned her medical degree from Jimma University, speciality training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology from Addis Ababa University and a Master's Degree in Health Care Administration from Jimma University.