

Seventy-first session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa – Special event on COVID-19
Virtual Session, 24 August 2021, 14:00–17:00 GMT+1

Session Moderator: Anne Soy, BBC Senior Africa Correspondent

PART I: Opening

- 14:00–14:05 Session introduction
Regional Committee Chairperson
- 14:05–14:15 Opening remarks
Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa
- 14:15–14:20 Keynote remarks
Dr Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

PART II: COVID-19 in the WHO African Region

- 14:20–14:40 COVID-19 in the WHO African Region: Situation and response
Dr Abdou Salam Gueye, Regional Emergency Director
- 14:40–14:50 Country case study
Dr Edgar Manuel Azevedo A. das Neves, Hon Minister of Health, São Tomé and Príncipe

PART III: Focus on Key Challenges

- 14:50–15:30 A holistic public health approach to controlling the third wave
Dr Guy Patrick Obiang Ndong, Hon Minister of Health, Gabon
Dr Anthony Fauci, Director, US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
Q&A
- 15:30–16:10 Building community trust to accelerate the COVID-19 vaccine Roll-out
Dr Jane Ruth Ocero Aceng, Hon Minister of Health, Uganda
Kojo Boakye, Africa Public Policy Director, Facebook
Q&A
- 16:10–16:50 The future of emergency preparedness and response in Africa
Dr Sidi Ould Zahaf, Hon Minister of Health, Mauritania
Dr John Nkengasong, Director, Africa CDC
Q&A

PART IV: Wrap-up and Way Forward

- 16:50–16:55 [Musical interlude](#) with Bruno Akani
- 16:55–17:00 High-level summary and closing remarks
Session Moderator