

RC74 Journal English - Day 2

27 August 2024



The 74th SESSION OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

26 - 30 AUGUST 2024

RC74

Election of bureau members at the 74th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa



At a meeting chaired by Regional Committee 73 chairperson Hon Dr Dikoloti, Minister of Health for Botswana, new bureau members were elected by acclamation. Hon Gilbert Mokoki, Minister of Health of Congo, was elected Chairperson of the Seventy-fourth session of the Regional Committee for Africa. Honorable Dr Louise Kpoto, Minister of Health, Liberia and Honorable Professor Abdellahi Sidi Mohamed Weddih, Minister of Health of Mauritania, were elected first and second Vice-Chairpersons, respectively.

Chairperson	Hon Gilbert Mokoki Minister of Health Congo
First Vice-Chairperson	Honorable Dr Louise Kpoto Minister of Health Liberia
Second Vice-Chairperson:	Professor Abdellahi Sidi Mohamed Weddih Minister of Health Mauritania
Rapporteurs:	Dr Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi (English) Minister of Health South Africa
	Professor Adrien Mougougou (French) Minister of Health Gabon
	Mrs Angela Costa (Portuguese) Minister of Health and Women Rights São Tomé and Príncipe

Proceedings of the Committee on Credentials

The Regional Committee appointed the Committee on Credentials, which consisted of representatives from the following Member States: Algeria, Angola, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Nigeria, Seychelles, and South Sudan, with elected Seychelles chairperson. Forty-six member states submitted credentials, which were found to be in conformity with RC 74's hybrid session. The report of the Committee on Credentials was adopted by the Member States.

Africa calls for a more significant commitment to sustainable health financing



The 74th session of the World Health Organization's Regional Committee for Africa (RC74) opened on 26 August 2024 at the Palais des Congrès in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. The event was held under the patronage of the President of the Congo, His Excellency Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who officially opened the session with a call to increase funding for health and the fight against public health emergencies. As a sign of recognition for his unwavering support for health in the Congo and Africa, he was awarded an honorary distinction by the WHO during the colourful ceremony.

For this session, the annual event was launched in the presence of the WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Gebreyesus, the WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development of the African Union, Ms Minata Cessouma Samate, and the Ministers of Health of the 47 Member States of the Region. Representatives of the African Union, embassies, donors, members of government, and the press were also present at the official start of this session during which the next WHO Regional Director will be elected.

In his opening speech, the President of the Republic of Congo stressed the need for Africa to step up its efforts to prevent and combat epidemics and the various threats to public health, particularly those of international concern. 'Disease vectors know no borders. They circulate easily, and prevention is the most effective way of guarding against disease', he said.

This call to action is critical for Africa's contribution to the global health agenda, which is threatened by the frequency of health emergencies. Their alarming increase calls for appropriate measures to be taken. Over the past year, Africa has had to deal with around a hundred health emergencies, the most recent being the Mpox epidemic.

On a special note and to the sound of drums, Mr Gilbert Mokoki, Minister of Health of the Congo, welcomed the participants and thanked them for their commitment to prioritizing health while encouraging them to increase their contributions to health. 'Each Member State should be concerned about the sustainable financing of programs to support the fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025-2028. Through me, the Republic of Congo would like to inform you that the Congo's contribution will increase by 50%,' declared Gilbert Mokoki, also Chairman of this 74th Regional Committee.

[Read More](#)

WHO African Region: A Year of Progress Amid Challenges



The World Health Organization (WHO) Secretariat in the African Region has released a report detailing its work from July 2023 to June 2024. The report highlights the organization's efforts in supporting Member States in the region to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and progress towards achieving health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Presented during the 74th session of the African Committee in Brazzaville, the report underscores the active contribution of African Heads of State and Government to the global discourse on accelerating progress toward universal health coverage and enhanced health security. It also applauds the leadership of Member States, health workers, partners, communities, and other stakeholders in improving the health and well-being of all people in Africa, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized communities.

During the covered period, the WHO Secretariat continued implementing the Transformation Agenda, a bold initiative introduced in 2015 to reform the organization in the African Region. The agenda aims to ensure the WHO Secretariat evolves into an organization responsive to its Member States' needs.

Dr Matchidoshi Moeti, WHO Regional Director, said that the Transformation Agenda strengthened WHO's commitment, values and ethical standards, as demonstrated by its actions. "It strengthened leadership, teamwork, and partnership and contributed to successfully implementing health program priorities described in the report".

[Read More](#)

WHO Transformation Agenda: A satisfactory assessment, despite remaining challenges



The WHO-AFRO Transformation Agenda 2015-2024 was launched following lessons learned from the response to the Ebola virus disease epidemic that raged in Member States of the African Region in 2014 and 2015. Initiated by the Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Moeti aimed to strengthen national health systems, improve disease prevention and control, and support global health security.

After a decade of implementing the various strategies contained in this agenda, it was appropriate to take stock of the achievements, good practices, and challenges to achieve universal health coverage, a guarantee of the well-being of populations.

In her report presented in plenary session, the WHO Regional Director indicated that "a restructuring and investment in the country offices of the WHO African region, the creation of multi-country support teams (MCATs) and huge investments in improving management have contributed to our current success". Furthermore, "In all country offices and regional office directorates, we have established key performance indicators (KPIs) to manage the performance of the Secretariat", she indicated.

In her presentation to the Ministers of Health of the countries of the region, delegates and partners, the Regional Director listed many achievements that have enabled the health system of Member States to be more resilient and more resilient in the face of public health emergencies. These include, among others, strong primary health care; improving pandemic preparedness and response capacities using a One Health approach. In terms of achievements, there are the efforts made to improve the leadership skills of the institution's staff, improving gender parity among senior and mid-level staff, which was a key element of the transformation agenda.

Ten years later, WHO in the African Region has more women managers than ever before. The same is true of partnerships with academic institutions on the continent to extend the availability of the programme beyond WHO and ensure its sustainability; staff commitment to organizational values and the ongoing promotion of a respectful and equitable work environment.

[Read More](#)

Important contacts during RC74

Emergency call

- Police: **117**
- Fire brigade: **118**
- Hospitals and clinics
 - Centre Hospitalier et Universitaire de Brazzaville (University Teaching Hospital – CHUB)
 - Hôpital Central des Armées Pierre Mobengo
 - (Army Central Hospital)
- Net Care (opposite SNDE, Avenue du Maréchal-Lyautey) **05 547 09 11**
- COGEMO - **06 665 60 46**
- Clinique Vêrano - **06 704 02 03 / 05 539 39 36**

WHO Regional Office for Africa

- Mr Amadou Diouf, Logistics Team, RC74 - **+242 06 737 12 52**
- Ms Marie-Paule Rutabuzwa, Travel Services Officer - **+242 06 895 77 10**
- Ms Enikö Andrea Mankampa Toth, Conference and Protocol Officer **+242 06 508 10 53**
- Mr Abdoulaye Doumbia, Field Security Officer - **+242 06 508 10 87**
- Dr Henry Otim, Regional Staff Physician - **+242 06 603 51 09**
- Medical emergency line - **+06 511 83 68.**
- **Regional Office Web site: <http://www.afro.who.int>**