

ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.00 p.m. Reception offered by the WHO Regional Director.

EXHIBITION

Delegates are kindly invited to visit the exhibition on the premises of the Conference Center. Books, CDs, posters are available for collection during the entire period of the Regional Committee.



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK, DAY 3: Wednesday, 2 September 2009

08.30 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.	Item 8.10	Strengthening outbreak preparedness and response in the African region in the context of the current influenza pandemic (document AFR/RC59/12)
	Item 8.11	Towards the elimination of measles in the African Region by 2020 (document AFR/RC59/14)
10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.	Item 8.12	Terms of reference of the meeting of African Region delegations to the World Health Assembly and Executive Board (document AFR/RC59/13)
10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	<i>Tea break</i>	
11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Item 9	Information
	Item 9.1	'Acceleration of HIV prevention in the WHO African Region': Progress report (document AFR/RC59/INF.DOC/1)
	Item 9.2	Progress report on 'Child Survival: a strategy for the African Region' (document AFR/RC59/INF.DOC/2)
	Item 9.3	Implementation of the International Health Regulations in the African Region (document AFR/RC59/INF.DOC/3)
12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>	
2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.	Item 11	Round tables: Sharing best practices in strengthening local or district health systems (document AFR/RC59/RT/1)
3.00 p.m. - 3.50 p.m.	<i>Tea break</i>	
3.50 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Agenda 11(cont'd)	
	End of Day 3 session	
5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.	<i>Special Session</i>	

TRANSPORT FROM HOTELS TO THE CONFERENCE CENTRE (a.m.)

- **Line 1:** La Palisse Hotel 7.30 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 2:** Sport View Hotel 7.30 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 3:** Alpha-Agaso 7.45 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 4:** Chez Lando Hotel 7.45 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 5:** Top Tower 8.00 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 6:** Novotel Laico 8.00 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 7:** Petit Prince 8.00 → Ninzi Hotel 7.50 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 8:** STIPP Hotel 7.45 & 8:15 → Banana Hotel → Conf. Centre
- **Line 9:** Gorila Hotel 7.45 → IRIS Hotel 7.50 → Conf. Centre
- **Line 10:** Mille Collines 7.45 & 8:15 → Conf. Centre

RC59: GUIDE AND IMPORTANT CONTACTS

CONTACT NUMBERS OF UN-APPROVED PHYSICIANS

- Dr Diallo Alpha Ousmane, tel. : 078 830 1393
- Dr Bonaventure Nzeyimana, tel. : 078 858 5815
- Dr Celse Rugambwa, tel. : 078 830 1792
- Dr André Rusanganwa, tel. : 078 851 8376

WHO CONTACT PERSONS

- Dr Abdoulie Dodou Jack, Representative, Tel.: 078 830 09 89
- Mr. Kofi Mensah Hounbo, Administrative Officer, Tel.: 078 873 9101/078 346 69 47
- Mr. Cardoso, Partnerships and RM officer, Tel.: 078 328 9744
- Mr. Pierre Lessimi, Administrative Services Officer, Tel.: 078 300 2603
- Mr. C. Boakye, Communications Officer, Tel.: 078 537 2105
- Mr. S. Ajibola, Information Officer, Tel.: 075 077 9618
- Mr. Abdoulaye Doumbia, Security Officer, Tel.: 078 510 9551
- Mrs Doris Durão, Adm. Assistant, Regional Director, Tel.: 078 554 9898

TRAVEL

A travel desk available at the entrance of the Conference Centre will assist delegations with reconfirmation of their return flights.

EVENTS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Tuesday, 01 September:

- African AIDS Vaccine Programme - 11.30-12.30 p.m. Plenary session
- African surveillance project - 12.30 - 2.00 p.m. – Auditorium
- Reception offered by the WHO Regional Director - 07.00 p.m.

Wednesday, 02 September:

- Global Fund West and Central Africa Constituency meeting - 12.30-2.00 p.m. - Auditorium
- Introduction of conjugate meningitis vaccines in the countries of the African meningitis belt - 5.00-6.00 p.m. - Plenary session

Thursday, 03 September:

- Ministerial consultation on TB control in the African Region 3.00-5.00 p.m. - Plenary session

Friday, 04 September:

- Celebration of Women's Health Day - 11.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Plenary session

59TH SESSION OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

World Health
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Africa

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1 September 2009

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK DAY 2: Tuesday, 1 September 2009

8.30 a.m. - 8.45 a.m.	item 8	Report of the Programme Subcommittee (document AFR/RC59/15)
08:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Discussions on the Report of the Programme Subcommittee	
	item 8.1	Towards reaching health-related Millennium Development Goals: progress report and way forward (document AFR/RC59/3)
	item 8.2	Framework for the implementation of Ouagadougou Declaration on primary health care and health system in Africa: achieving better health for Africa in the new millennium (document AFR/RC59/4)
	item 8.3	Framework for the implementation of the Algiers Declaration on Research for Health in the African Region (document AFR/RC59/5)
	item 8.4	Public health, innovation and intellectual property: regional perspective to implement the global strategy and plan of action (document AFR/RC59/6)
11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	<i>Tea break</i>	
11.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	<i>Special Session</i>	
12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>	
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	item 8.5	WHO Programme Budget 2010-2011: orientations for implementation in the African Region. (document AFR/RC59/17)
	item 8.6	Drug resistance related to AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: issues, challenges and way forward (document AFR/RC59/8)
	item 8.7	Accelerated malaria control: towards elimination in the African Region (document AFR/RC59/9)
3.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.	<i>Tea break</i>	
4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	item 8.8	Tackling neglected tropical diseases in the African Region (document AFR/RC59/10)
	item 8.9	Policy orientation on the establishment of centres of excellence for disease surveillance, public health laboratories and food and drug regulation (document AFR/RC59/11)
5.00 p.m.	End of day session	
7.00 p.m.	<i>Reception offered by the WHO Regional Director for Africa</i>	

OPENING CEREMONY OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE



The ceremony took place at the Conference Centre, in Kigali, Republic of Rwanda on 31st August 2009 under the patronage of H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda. The ceremony had the privilege of listening to the following speakers:

- Honorable Richard Sezibera, Minister of Health of Rwanda;
- Dr Luis Gomes Sambo, WHO Regional Director for the Africa;
- H.E. Mr. Festus Mogae, Former President of Botswana;
- Dr Margaret Chan, Director-General, WHO;
- H.E. President Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda

Election of the Regional Director

Dr Luis Gomes Sambo of Angola has been re-elected as the World Health Organization's (WHO) Regional Director for Africa.



Member States of the 59th Session of the WHO's Regional Committee unanimously voted for him to serve a second five-year term. The election took place on 31st August 2009 during the annual session of the regional governing body in Kigali, Rwanda. He formerly begins his second term on 1st February 2010.

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EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF RWANDA



A very warm welcome to all delegates attending this important Conference organized by the World Health Organization.

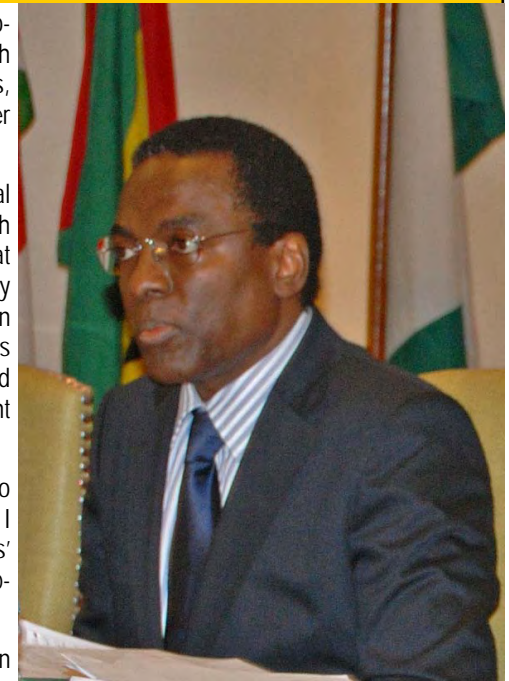
I am pleased that over the next five days we will be considering issues that are key to sustainable solutions, among them, inclusive and holistic health care systems; and the required scientific and technological base to permit domestic, regional and continental research capabilities. And so, as we discuss these and other health issues at this Conference, we should concentrate on the fundamental questions and solutions. For instance, how do we reverse the decades-long poor state of Africa's health system and the meager research capability - issues that are continuously analyzed, re-assessed and reconsidered to an extent that discussion at times appears to have become an end in itself?

We should strongly resist the tendency to oversimplify this failing and reduce it to financial constraint and poverty - for indeed, as someone has rightly put it, "Africa is not poor, but is poorly managed." Yes - money is essential for achieving development objectives, but greater challenges lie elsewhere - including strong and multi-level leadership, robust policy ownership, appropriate strategy, forward-looking, commitment, hard work, being innovative, and accountability.

Put differently, no amount of material or financial resources can transform a nation without a clear political and policy purpose, and a deliberate strategy and commitment to continuously improve the conditions of its most important national asset - people. My point here is that we have it within ourselves on this continent to work harder, more creatively, and faster for good results overall including to improve substantively the health of Africans. We are convinced of this in Rwanda - our efforts and modest achievements generally and in the health sector in particular provides ample evidence.

It is not pre-ordained that our continent must remain impoverished, illiterate, and in poor health - and if we can make the noted modest achievement in Rwanda, a country that is by no means rich, we can do even better, regionally and continentally.

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT BY THE WHO REGIONAL DIRECTOR



It is my great and distinct honour to welcome all of you to the 59th session of the Regional Committee for Africa of the World Health Organization.

This meeting occurs at a time when countries in the Region are facing the effects of the global economic downturn, increasing social inequalities, recurrent epidemics and emerging diseases, which hinder our collective efforts towards the achievements of the MDGs. Despite these challenges, some countries have made significant progress towards the attainment of health MDGs and other internationally agreed health goals.

I am persuaded that the only way countries can cope with the high burden of diseases, maternal and child mortality, recurrent epidemics and emerging diseases, is through strengthening of health systems with emphasis on the reinforcement of human, financial and health technology capacity at local level. This a challenge to all of us but particularly to Governments that have the responsibility for leading development processes. International health partners also have an important role in providing more comprehensive support to national health systems rather than focusing on diseases or specific health conditions. We do need a more critical approach in health systems reforms and we need to accelerate the pace of implementation of our plans in order to achieve more significant results in terms of improved health status of people.

During my current tenure, I have visited 44 countries of the Region and have had the privilege to witness the ongoing efforts made by governments and partners to improve the health of people. I learned ways in which WHO could better strategically position itself to complement Governments' efforts and harness existing synergies with other development partners. This contributed to the updated WHO country cooperation strategies in all 46 countries in the WHO African Region.

I am grateful for the trust and privilege that were bestowed by you upon me to serve the Region in my current capacity. This could not have been possible without the unwavering support of you Honourable Ministers, the Director General and all WHO staff in the African Region to whom I convey my heartfelt gratitude.

I express the willingness to continue having your confidence and to serve Africa and the World Health Organization for a longer period of time to be able to consolidate the foundation that has been laid in the last few years.

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT BY THE WHO DIRECTOR -GENERAL



Let me begin by thanking the Government of the Republic of Rwanda, for hosting this Regional Committee. I am honored to be a guest, in this land of a thousand hills for many reasons.

When we think back of the devastating events of 1994, it is truly remarkable to see this country widely recognized as one of the most stable and orderly in Africa. This is a stunning transformation and a cause for great hope. President Kagame, congratulations and thank you for your outstanding leadership.

Health development in Africa likewise needs a stunning transformation, with all the hope this can bring. From the documents prepared for this Committee, it is clear the African health officials understand the impediments to better health in this Region with great precision. You understand, with equally great precision the action needed to tackle specific problems, often through region-wide approach. On present trends, Africa will not reach any of the health-related Millennium Development Goals. Here is the obvious question. What does it take to move Africa beyond this impasse? How can African leaders, supported by WHO and your multiple development partners break through the barriers that are so well understood and so clearly defined. Money is important, but money alone will not transform the prospect for better health in Africa. The policies must be right and the money must be used effectively and efficiently.

To many, international policies have worked in ways that favour those who are already well-off. The international systems that govern financial markets, commerce, economies, trade, and foreign affairs have not operated with equity as an explicit goal. These systems create benefits but have no rules that guarantee fair distribution of these benefits. As a result, differences, within and between countries in income levels, in opportunities, and in health status are greater today than at any time in the recent history.

Let me conclude with a final piece of advice. Maintain your primary commitment to primary health care as set out in the Ouagadougou Declaration. Primary health care offers exactly that value system, exactly that emphasis on social equity that is now recognized as critically missing in so many international systems and policy decision.

SUMMARY OF THE ADDRESS OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA

In addressing the delegates, Mr. Festus Mogae, former President of the Republic of Botswana and Chair of the Champions for an HIV-Free Generation, thanked WHO for inviting him to the meeting and the President and Government of Rwanda for hosting him. He informed the meeting that the Champions for an HIV-Free Generation, a Group comprising three former African Presidents and other dignitaries, was inaugurated in September 2008 in Gaborone, Botswana. The aim of the Group is to mobilize African leaders, especially presidents and heads of state and governments, ministers, parliamentarians, leaders of faith-based organizations and traditional leaders, to revitalize HIV prevention and to share best practices.

Mr. Mogae indicated that the Group had organized successful visits to Mozambique and Namibia in 2009 where they met the respective presidents, ministers of state, and other high-ranking leaders. He underscored the need to devote more attention to issues related to male circumcision, multiple concurrent sexual partners, gender, stigma and discrimination, and funding for HIV/AIDS programmes. He called for greater efforts to reduce the drivers of the HIV epidemic.

The former President congratulated H.E the President of the Republic of Rwanda for his exemplary leadership in national reconciliation and development and in the fight against HIV/AIDS. He reiterated the need for an enabling political environment, including policies and strategies that would protect marginalized and vulnerable groups. He appealed to the Ministers of Health to assist in championing for a revitalization of HIV prevention efforts in the Region.



Constitution of the Subcommittee on Nominations

The Regional Committee appointed the Subcommittee on Nominations consisting of the following Member States:

- Cape Verde,
- Republic of Congo,
- Equatorial Guinea,
- Gambia,
- Guinea,
- Madagascar
- Cameroon,
- Côte d'Ivoire,
- Eritrea,
- Ghana,
- Lesotho,
- Nigeria.

The Subcommittee met on Monday, 31st August 2009, and elected, Dr Allah Kouadio Rémi, Minister of Health of Côte d'Ivoire, as its Chairperson.



Appointment of the Subcommittee on Credentials

The Regional Committee appointed the Subcommittee on Credentials consisting of the representatives of the following Member States:

- Ethiopia,
- Kenya,
- Mali,
- Mauritania,
- Namibia,
- Tanzania
- Guinea Bissau,
- Liberia,
- Malawi,
- Mozambique,
- South Africa,
- Uganda.

