



Outcomes of the Health Sector Round Table

22nd February 2018,
Speke Resort Munyonyo

Hon. Sarah A. Opendi,
Minister of State (Health), Uganda & Chair,
EAC Sectoral Council on Health



Introduction

- Your Excellencies, I am pleased to present the outcomes of the 1st EAC roundtable on investing in health systems and research for the Accelerated attainment of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The main objective of the roundtable was to share, discuss and build consensus on the regional health sector investment priorities with development partners and stakeholders, and mobilize investment for the identified priorities.



Focus of the Roundtable Discussions



- i. Promoting Private Sector Contribution towards Achieving Universal Health Coverage and Ending Extreme Poverty by 2030
- ii. Sustaining investment in East Africa regional centers of excellence for improved healthcare services delivery, training and research
- iii. Strengthening the Capacity to Conduct and Regulate Research, Development and Clinical Trials of Pharmaceutical Products in EAC region
- iv. Digital EAC Regional Health Initiative: An imperative investment case for better health service delivery and health outcomes



EAC Regional Health Sector Investment Priorities



- There are 9 Health Sector Investment Priorities
- 26 sub Priorities
- Categorized under 2 broad areas
 - i. Health infrastructure, systems and services development; and
 - ii. Health research and development
- The estimated cost of the health sector investment priorities over 10 years is 3.175 Billion US\$



EAC Regional Health Sector Investment Priorities



- 1:** Expansion of access to specialized health care and cross border health services
- 2:** Strengthen the network of medical reference laboratories and the regional rapid response mechanism for health security threats
- 3:** Expansion of capacity to produce skilled and professional work force for health in the region based on harmonized regional training and practice standards and guidelines



EAC Regional Health Sector Investment Priorities



- 4:** Increase access to safe, efficacious and affordable medicines, vaccines, and other health technologies focusing on malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, NCDs and other high burden conditions

- 5:** Upgrading of health infrastructure and equipment in priority national and sub national health facilities/hospitals

- 6:** Establishment of strong primary and community health services as a basis for health promotion and diseases prevention and control



Regional Health Sector Investment Priorities Cont'd



- 7: Expansion of health insurance coverage and social health protection

- 8: Improvement of quality of healthcare, health sector efficiency and health statistics

- 9: Strengthening of Health Research and development



Commitments

- Representatives of the Governments of Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and The USA, bilateral, multi-lateral, private sector and civil society applauded the EAC Partner States for developing the ten-year EAC health sector investment priorities framework and re-affirmed their commitment to continue supporting regional integration under the identified priority areas.



Roundtable Outcomes

The 1st EAC Roundtable on Investing in Health Infrastructure, Systems and Research recommends to the Partner States to:

- i. ensure that investments made in the EAC regional centers of excellence for higher medical education, health services and research are prioritized so as to achieve the ultimate goal of attaining self sufficiency in specialized healthcare;**

- ii. progressively increase domestic financing of health services, research and development priorities in line with the WHO recommended targets and taking into account the rapidly growing population;**



Roundtable Outcomes



- iii. emphasize equity, efficiency and accountability in the efforts to attain universal health coverage;**
- iv. take decisive actions towards the elimination and control of infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV&AIDS, Tuberculosis; Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs); and preventable reproductive maternal and child deaths and complications as per global commitments;**
- v. scale up investments in human resources for health as the cornerstone for enhancing health sector performance in terms of planning, development, recruitment and retention and introduce innovative needs - based training programs**



Roundtable outcomes



- vi. institutionalize quality improvement initiatives at all levels of the health system to enhance health service delivery, efficiency and returns on investment;**

- vii.increase investments in interventions addressing social determinants of health including water, sanitation, and hygiene;**

- viii.harness the potential of digital technology/e-health to address current and emerging health threats through stronger health management information system, capacity building, diagnostics and treatment;**



Roundtable Outcomes

- ix. establish stronger partnerships with the private sector including in areas of local manufacturing of health products through effective incentives such as affordable financing and enabling legal frameworks; and**

- x. ensure meaningful engagement of key stakeholders during the development of the detailed projects arising from the priorities framework.**



Conclusion

Your Excellencies, sustained investment in Health will lead to strong resilient and responsive health systems that will improve the well being of the people of East Africa, increase investor confidence and accelerate socioeconomic transformation of the Region.



**Your Excellencies, I
submit for your
consideration and
approval**