

## WORLD TB DAY 2019



R-L : The CS Health Sicily Kariuki and the Kiambu County First Lady Susan Waititu unveiling the National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis, Leprosy and Lung Health 2019/2023

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*"This year's theme, gives us an opportunity to reflect not only on the progress made in recent years but also what needs to be done to eradicate TB." - Dr. Rudolf Eggers—WHO*

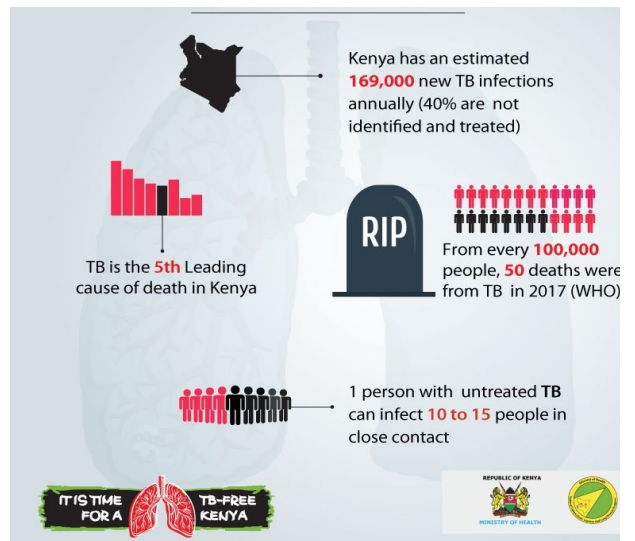
KANCO joined the world to mark the World TB Day 2019, in the national celebrations held in Thika Stadium, Kiambu County. The celebrations under the theme and rallying call **"It's time to end TB"** comes at a time when there is noted increase in TB incidences, with the past one year the Ministry of Health reporting 96,434 cases of TB among them 10,087 being children and 669 MDR TB. Kenya ranked among the 30 high TB burden countries, with TB being the fourth leading cause of death among infectious diseases. Further, the 2016 TB prevalence survey estimated 558 TB cases per 100,000 people, which translates to 138,105 TB incidences per year and over 40% of all TB cases remaining undetected and untreated.

Globally according to WHO Global TB report, in 2017 TB caused an estimated 1.3 million deaths among HIV negative people with an additional estimate of 300,000 deaths from TB among HIV positive people. In 2017 in total, 10Million people fell ill with TB and caused 1.6m deaths.

The national celebrations which saw a procession from the Thika Level 5 hospital, presentations from different schools, was graced by the CS health Sicily Kariuki, the Director of Medical Services Dr. Jackson Kioko, H.E the first lady Kiambu County Susan Waititu, WHO representatives and other health stakeholders. The forum also saw the CS launch the National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis, Leprosy, and Lung Health 2019-2023, as well as the flagging off of the Mulika TB Maliza TB initiative to be piloted in Kiambu County envisioning to cover all counties by 2025 towards ending TB.

Addressing the forum the Cabinet Secretary Health Hon. Sicily Kariuki stated that the strategy is aligned to the president's commitment at the United National High-Level Meeting (UNHLM), which the Ministry of Health was keen to implement. The CS further noted that the new strategy adopts a patient-centered approach, with one of the tenets being the elimination of all fees associated with TB diagnostics and treatment. The CS reiterated the government's commitment to end TB stating, "The government is committed to achieving the WHO's target by 2025' further informing the stakeholders that the government would be making a contribution to the Global Fund 6th replenishment which the president was very keen on. The CS called on the need to invest in Community Health Volunteers as an important strategy for ending TB.

The WHO representative Dr. Rudolf Eggers, reiterating on the WHO



KANCO Executive director, Allan Ragi.

commitment to working with stakeholder to end TB stated "This year's theme, gives us an opportunity to reflect not only on the progress made in recent years but also what needs to be done to eradicate TB." He further commended Kenya for taking steps towards translating the UNHLM declaration into country actions by developing the new TB strategic plan 2019-2023, aligned to the WHO end TB strategy.

Addressing the stakeholders KANCO Executive director, Allan Ragi representing the CSOs voices, called on the need to leverage on technology and community-centered approaches as critical to ending TB. Mr. Ragi further commended the president H.E Uhuru Kenyatta for attending the UNHLM and making bold commitments to end TB, stating that the CSOs were rallying behind him to achieve the set targets. Echoing the sentiments, the Africa TB caucus chair and Member of the Parliamentary health committee Hon

Stephen Mule expressed optimism in the efforts that have gone into making sure the people receive TB screening services and treatment stating "As a parliament, we have made a commitment to make sure resources for programs such as TB are availed"

The First Lady Kiambu County Susan Waititu, echoed the need for a concerted community response to TB stating that the people who have TB live amongst the communities and thus the need for the community working closely with health care providers towards ending TB.

The Director of Medical Services Dr, Jackson Kioko impressed on the appropriateness of the theme" it is time' following the 2016 TB survey, that calls for concerted efforts to end TB. He stated that a majority of



Hon. Stephen Mule making remarks

the missing cases were lower than 15 years stating that the Strategic plan 2019-2023 was focused on finding the missing cases, early identification, and treatment. He added that the new strategy was focused on using generated data to develop national and county targets and for the first time will employ a patient-centered approach, towards dressing TB and realization of Universal Health Coverage (UCH) goals.

The four-year national strategic plan for tuberculosis, leprosy and lung disease (2019-2023), aims at enabling the diagnosis of at least 597,000 people with TB by 2023, in addition to providing preventive therapy to at least 900,000 Kenyans who are at risk of infection.

KANCO regional offices also joined other health stakeholders to mark the World TB Day celebrations across the counties: Mombasa, Kitui, Machakos, Tharaka Nithi, Bungoma, Kakamega, Nakuru, and Nyeri Counties.



**CS health. Hon Sicily Kariuki handing a copy of the Strategy to Hon. Stephen Mule**



**Different health stakeholders posing for a photo after the launch of the strategy**



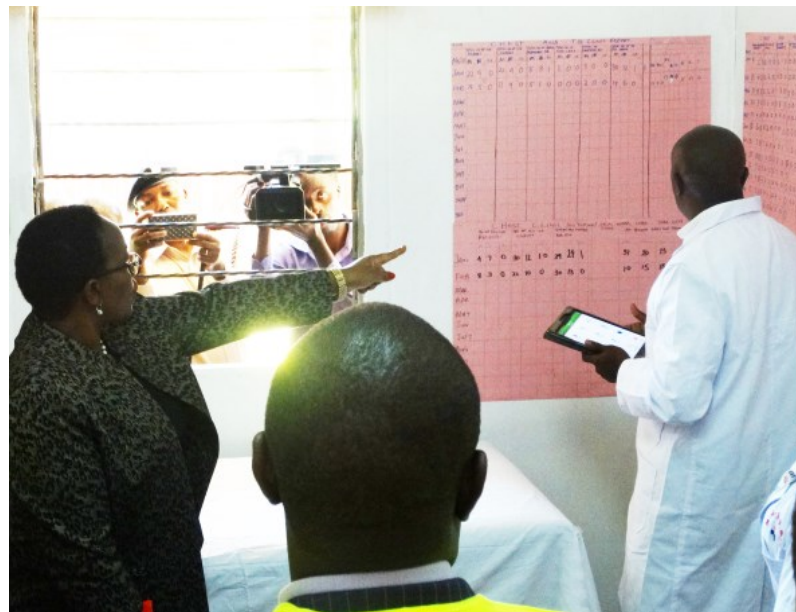
**The CS Health Hon. Sicily Kariuki, presenting an award to Joy Town School for being the best performing school in the TB school Competition**



**WHO Country representative in Kenya Rudi Eggers, making his remarks during the forum**



*Clockwise , the CS Health Hon. Sicily Kariuki, The Kiambu First Lady H.E Suan Waititu and Hon Stephen ,Mule and the CHAIR Africa TB caucus signing on to the Maliza TB Mulika TB flagship program to be piloted in Kiambu County*



**The CS health Sicily Kariuki inspecting the TB register and going through the TB chart at the TB clinic in the Thika Level 5 Hospital**



The CS flagging off the WTBD2019 procession at the Thika Level 5 hospital



KANCO team marking the WTBD2019 in the KANCO offices

## KANCO Regional Offices Marking WTDD 2019



Procession in Mombasa County



Procession in Nairobi County: Kibra Constituency



TB Screening in Vihiga County



Marking WTBD in Nairobi County



School children join the procession in Tharaka Nithi County

## PWANI LISHE BORA; THE PROJECT THAT MAPPED MOMBASA NUTRITION STATUS

### ABOUT KANCO

KANCO is a membership organization established in the early 1990s in Kenya with operations in the eastern Africa region. Its membership comprises of Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), Network organizations and learning institutions that have a focus on health advocacy and or implementing health programs.

### OUR VISION

Healthy People, Empowered Communities

### OUR MISSION

To improve Health and well- being among communities through capacity building and promotion of innovative leadership

*"The Pwani Lishe Bora project has really boosted and enabled the county department of health programs to gain access to locals at the grassroots levels by creating awareness on their eating habits, public health, and basic nutrition. This has impacted in growth and development of under-fives greatly which, in turn reduced stunting rates, infant and under-five mortality rates," - Ms. Abubakar.*



**The Mombasa County Governor ALI HASSAN JOHO officiating the Pwani Lishe bora project in Mombasa County**

There has been a tremendous improvement in matters of health and nutrition in Mombasa County and as indicated by recent data attributed the successful implementation of the Pwani Lishe Bora project launched three years ago, implemented by KANCO, SUN-CSA and Grace Africa, with the support of the European Union.

Mombasa county nutritionist Esha Bakari, states that the project has sparked positivity in matters health and nutrition, complementing the county's effort towards scaling up nutrition as well as enhancing social development in Mombasa. Speaking during the project close-out meeting Ms. Bakari stated that through the concerted efforts by the County health department and stakeholders such as the Pwani Lishe Bora project partners, the nutrition status has escalated to 90 % among residents, attributing it to the impact of the project. Bakari stated that there has been notable transformation among the residents in Mombasa in terms of mother and child health care as well as father's inclusiveness in the general welfare of the family, a rare aspect just three years ago before the launch of the project.

The project has also been deliberate in bridging the knowledge gap among the locals, working through grassroots advocates to identify areas of need, create awareness and take action towards improving the nutrition and health outcomes of the residents. The project further encouraged and leveraged on multi-sectoral collaboration between the County Government of Mombasa, civil society organizations, key private sector agencies and the county residents in advocating for increased

nutrition sensitive actions, specific budget lines and budgetary allocations for nutrition activities. "The Pwani Lishe Bora project has really boosted and enabled the county department of health programs to gain access to locals at the grassroots level creating awareness on their eating habits, public health, and basic nutrition. This has greatly impacted in growth and development of under-fives which in turn reduced stunting rates, infant and under-five mortality rates," noted Ms. Abubakar.

**Some of the notable causes include:**

- **Partnerships and Stakeholders Engagement:** Health stakeholders drawn from different sectors were brought onboard including county department of Agriculture, Fisheries and cooperatives, department of water and sanitation as well as county department of education all working towards improving health standards in the county.
- **Supporting the HIV Program:** The program targeted people living with HIV, reaching them with nutrition interventions for enhanced treatment outcomes
- **Food Supplementation:** The Pwani Lishe bora implementing partners played a pivotal role in funding the food supplementation program and promotion of uptake of healthy foods.
- **Breastfeeding Campaign:** The project introduced the exclusive breastfeeding campaign which became one of the biggest success of the project with most mothers exclusively breastfeeding their children for the first six months following sensitization with some becoming ambassadors for the campaign.
- **Iron Folic supplementation;** the project also took focus on expectant as well as lactating mothers ensuring they received Iron Folic Acid Supplements (IFAS) tablets and vitamin supplementation is critical to increasing the flow and volume of blood in pregnant women as well as for fetal development. Over 200,000 pregnant and lactating women and around 40,000 women of reproductive age across the 6 sub counties in Mombasa benefited from this IFAS supplementation program.
- **Continuous Medical Training:** The program also saw many health workers, including CHVs and Community Health Extension Workers (CHEW) get health training geared towards improving the nutrition levels in the county.
- **Success in Vitamin A supplementation:** By the end of the project Mombasa County had achieved a 90 % vitamin A supplementation in a project geared towards improving infant health in the county rising from 50% at the start of the project
- **Improved overall Nutrition outcomes:** Through the partnership the stunting rates dropped to 4.1% compared to 26% in 2012
- **Innovation:** The project introduced mother to mother and father to father dialogue forums to encourage male involvement in health and nutrition issues. Further they introduced the use of grassroots advocates and champion creation for enhanced nutrition outcomes at community level.

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