

## CSOs ask the Government to Increase Contributions to the Global Fund and Domestic Funding for Health



CSOs and government representatives during the Global Fund and Domestic Resource Mobilization discussions

### Inside this Issue:

- ◆ CSOs ask Governments to Increase Contributions to the Global Fund and Domestic Funding for Health
- ◆ KANCO Hosts a Media Engagement Workshop Ahead of WBW 2019
- ◆ IAS Conference 2019

*“Days are gone when we so very often lit candles in memory of many who died from HIV”. Yet we need additional resources to sustain the gains we have made and further progress in defeating the three diseases. We must act now”*

*Linda Mafu: Head of Political and Civil Society, Global Fund*

KANCO in partnership with WACI Health convened a Civil Society Organization (CSOs) forum towards urging the government to increase their contribution to the Global Fund to sustain gains made and step up the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. With the 6th replenishment conference set to be held in France in October, the push is for government’s and development partners to increase their contribution to the Global Fund against an Investment Case of \$14billion, which would translate to saving more lives.

The meeting was in line with the pivotal role the Global Fund investment has played in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. In a speech read on behalf of the WACI Health Director, Rosemary Mburu, she challenged the CSOs to take action saying ‘We must take action now, our generations will judge us and so these conversations are critical.’

Linda Mafu the Head of Political and Civil Society at the Global Fund, noted that in over 100 countries where the Global Fund works, 27 million lives have been saved since 2002. She shared on the evolution in the HIV response; from the time when there were massive deaths, that remind us of the cost of inaction, the phase when nations became intentional on changing lives that led to millions of lives being saved, and now the phase where we need to close the tap of new infections among the most vulnerable populations. “Days are gone when we so very often lit candles in memory of many who died from HIV”. Yet we need additional resources to sustain the gains we have made and further progress in defeating the three diseases. We must act now” She emphasized. She added that the Government needs to contribute more resources for sustainable financing of healthcare services.



The CSOs appreciated France set to host the 6th replenishment conference in October 2019 and for demonstrating leadership in the call to increase resources for the Global Fund to help sustain gains made and scale up activities. They further emphasized on the need for the Government of Kenya to allocate additional resources for health because Health is a fundamental human right. “As civil society and communities, a successful replenishment of the Global Fund is the outcome we want. Kenyans must not die of HIV, TB and malaria”. They also emphasized the need for a sustained focus on the health of Kenyans, prudent use of available resources, coordination within government and the engagement of communities on prevention

**Dr . Pierre Yves – Bello the Health Advisor French Embassy Kenya , making remarks during the meeting during a panel discussions, right, Linda Mafu, Global**

to achieve the UHC agenda. ‘The healthier our communities are, the more prosperous Kenya will be’ they reiterated.

Dr. Pierre Yves – Bello the Health Advisor at the Embassy of France noted that France supports the Global Fund because its efficient and effective. He noted that Kenya was at a special moment when there is immense political goodwill for Universal Health Coverage as well as the opportunity to leverage on the external funding to strengthen the health systems. He impressed on the need to ensure that the Global fund continues to perform by funding it.

Regina Ombam, Deputy Director, HIV Investments at the NACC, challenged CSOs to be alert and keep asking pertinent questions such as, is health a priority and whose priority is it? She pointed out issues for consideration by the CSOs such as the possibility of hosting national/county replenishment conferences, condemning corruption, promoting innovations and extending partnerships to incorporate the private sector as well as starting important conversations around social contract.

Ludfine Bwinde the UNAIDS Community Mobilization Advisor, challenged CSOs to stop working in silos, impressing on the need for better coordination, by inquiring who is representing us? in what spaces? How are they feed backing? etc. She challenged that in the face of corruption, where billions are being lost, CSOs must unite and voice issues they believe in

Grace Adego a community health volunteer in Rongai, Kajiado County spoke about her role working with communities especially in reaching out to HIV treatment defaulters . From the forum she was grateful to learn that her medication which she accesses freely as well as for those she had reached out to was courtesy of the Global Fund and for this she said, “Thank you Global Fund, we are truly grateful”

Closing the meeting Peter Kamau, Deputy Director and Head of Technical Services , KANCO, thanked the delegates for their participation in the discussions and stated ‘From the voices of the community we have been able to make a difference, we must amplify this voice and with better coordination we can achieve great things”



**Peter Kamau, Deputy Director and Head of Technical Services making remarks during the meeting**

## KANCO Hosts a Media Engagement Workshop Ahead of WBW 2019



L-R Health technical teams Following discussion and Right Media practitioners sharing on media engagement

KANCO in partnership with the Ministry of Health Department of Nutrition and UNICEF Kenya, held a workshop to train health technical teams on media engagement ahead of the world breastfeeding week starting 1st to the 7<sup>th</sup> of August 2019. The workshop sought to equip the technical teams with media engagement skills to effectively leverage the power of the media in building the a case for nutrition.

The participants comprised nutrition teams from the MOH , senior TV and Radio journalists including Salim Karith from NTV, Annie Njanja from Business-Daily, Paul Nabiswa from KTN and Paul Wafula Daily Nation. County Nutrition Coordinator (CNC) from Kiambu, Nakuru and Nairobi Counties were also present.

The workshop sought to: Build the capacity of technical experts and encourage effective media engagement by better understanding of media types and reporting needs of each, maximizing the usage of mass media in enhancing messages on breastfeeding, To build a broader network and interaction between technical experts and mass media organizations, as well as encourage fair and accurate dissemination of the key messages to the public during world breastfeeding week and beyond.

The workshop covered different topical issues including the media landscape in Kenya, fact checking, media opportunities, the next steps beyond the WBW etc.

The forum also allowed for an interactive session between media representative and the participants through a feedback session on the relationship and perception of each side by the other, and finding middle grounds to help create good relationships and partnerships

Wanja Muraya UNICEF facilitated different sessions on how to make stories consumable for journalist, what constitutes a good story ( inclusive, empowering, transparent, relative, affirmative, inspirational, use of visuals, framing, humanness etc) and the dos and don'ts in interviews. She led the participants through a brainstorming session on different issues such as misinformation surrounding media stories, media production processes, how to relate



Esther Kagure: Program Assistant Nutrition making remarks during the workshop

with technical teams etc. The participants also got to learn about news values and what the media looks for in stories: such as timeliness, proximity, Bizarreness etc

A presentation from Africa Check highlighted the controversial stories relating to health from across the world, sharing with the participants of their availability to help them put together facts before engaging the media.

The attendees were also trained on how to write stories, engage the journalists and leveraging on media opportunities like OP-EDS and letters to the Editors that provide free opportunities to share health stories. They were also advised to have a strategy, when going for the interviews, by having three main points that can be shared intermittently in their discussions.

The journalist challenged the technical teams to "Tell your story if you don't want your story told by another person in the wrong way"

Ending the workshop, Rose Wambu, Program Officer MYCN Initiative, Nutrition and Dietetics Unit, MOH, thanked KANCO and UNICEF for their support in the workshop, saying the training would be very helpful in the media engagements ahead of the WBW and beyond in profiling nutrition. She called on the experts to avail themselves when called upon when the media engagements present.

### Pictorials from the Media Training Workshop



L-R Annie Njanja from Business-Daily, Salim Karith from NTV, Paul Nabiswa from KTN and Paul Wafula Daily Nation, during a panel presentation



A Participant from the Ministry of Health contributing to the discussions during the workshop



Wanja Muraya UNICEF, taking participants through a session during the workshop



Rose Wambu, MOH, making closing remarks during the workshop

## IAS Conference 2019



KANCO represented by the Executive Director Allan Ragi, participated in the International AIDS Conference (IAS), the biggest open scientific forum with a focus on HIV and AIDS in Mexico that took place between the 21st -24<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The conference saw over 6000 delegates ranging from scientists, health and Policy specialist, community leaders and health came together to discuss the progress of the HIV epidemic and what can be done to achieve the 'no new infection' goal.

Advancements in antiretroviral therapy, including new and more efficient regimens with the potential to change the treatment landscape was highlighted given their critical importance in the HIV response and the importance in giving people living with HIV more choices.

“New drugs and novel treatment regimens have the potential to improve long-term tolerability and reduce costs and pill sizes,” IAS President and IAS 2019 International Scientific Chair Anton Pozniak said.

Research breakthrough and innovations for Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a drug taken by HIV negative people to reduce their risk of infection was also highlighted. Professor Karim from CAPRISA talked about a conducted clinical trial on their PrEP implant which had recorded success stating ‘This will revolutionize the prevention of HIV.’ There was also discussions on the efforts surrounding an effective vaccine against HIV. It was noted that there is need for more prevention measures and support of community engagements.

ECHO-study had a presentation to show their findings from their study: En-gendering a better health response by putting a rest to fears that hormonal contraception increases vulnerability to HIV. They reported that the study had confirmed there was no significant change.

The conference delegates made a unanimous call to increase the funding for research and to help achieve the 90:90:90, testing, treatment and prevention targets. They noted that Funding had stalled at roughly the same point as a decade ago and calling for more efforts in funding. Advocates and implementers shared strategies to increase and maximize the impact of the funding, strengthen political will and ensure that the efforts benefit all people and the communities in need.

There was also a review of six different settings that had dramatic reductions in HIV incidences and mortality: San Francisco, London, Rakai, Malawi and New South Wales, , offering a road map to translate those successes into other settings.

The next IAS conference will be in Berlin.

## Upcoming Events:

- ◆ KANCO Parliamentary Engagement for Immunization 31/7/2019
- ◆ KANCO, MOH Immunization Outreach: Embakasi East (Kware ) and West (Bundalangi area)- 2-3rd August 2019
- ◆ World Breastfeeding week: 1-7th August 2019

## CONTACTS

**Regent Management Limited Courts/ Opposite Nairobi Women's Hospital/  
Argwings Kodhek Road/ Block C**

**P.O. Box 69866 – 00400 Nairobi – Kenya**

**Email: [kanco@kanco.org](mailto:kanco@kanco.org)**

Compiled by: Wachira Charity – Communications Officer.

Contributors: Paul Kimani: Communications Intern

Reviewed by:



[@KancoKE](https://twitter.com/KancoKE)



KANCO KANCO



[@Kenya.AIDS.NGOs.Consortium.KANCO](https://www.facebook.com/Kenya.AIDS.NGOs.Consortium.KANCO)