



Weekly
Newsletter

October 2020, Issue 4

Announcement

- *World Diabetes Day -14th November 2020*
- *World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 18-24th November 2020*

Inside This Issue

PG. 2

Lung Conference 2020: UN Outlines recommendations to accelerate the TB Response

PG 4

Hosting the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region-CSO Platform

P.G 5

World Bank and International Monetary Fund Meeting 2020

Lung Conference 2020: UN Outlines recommendations to accelerate the TB Response

-  1. Fully activate high-level leadership to urgently reduce TB deaths and drive multisectoral action to end TB
-  2. Urgently increase funding for essential TB services including the health workforce
-  3. Advance universal health coverage to ensure all people with TB have access to affordable quality care and resolve underreporting challenges
-  4. Address the drug-resistant TB crisis to close persistent gaps in care
-  5. Dramatically scale up provision of preventive treatment for TB
-  6. Promote human rights and combat stigma and discrimination
-  7. Ensure meaningful engagement of civil society, communities and people affected by TB
-  8. Substantially increase investments in TB research to drive technological breakthroughs and rapid uptake of innovations
-  9. Ensure that TB prevention and care are safeguarded in the context of COVID-19 and other emerging threats
-  10. Request WHO to continue to provide global leadership for the TB response, working in close collaboration with Member States and other stakeholders, including to prepare for a high-level meeting on TB in 2023, that aligns with the high level meeting of the e General Assembly on universal health coverage also to be held in 2023

KANCO participated in the [51st Union Conference on Lung Health](#) held virtually between the 20th and 24th October 2020, under the theme: **advancing prevention**. The meeting came at a unique time when globally most of the global health targets have been set back by the pandemic.

According to a modeling study by Stop TB partnership on the impact of the pandemic on the TB response in high burden TB countries; a three-month lockdown and a protracted 10-month restoration could lead to an additional 6.3 million people falling ill with TB and an additional 1.4 million TB deaths over the next five years. That would result in a setback of at least five to eight years in the fight against TB –bringing 2021 global TB incidence and deaths to levels not seen since 2013 and 2016 respectively –due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the forum the UN Secretary-General released a report [outlining priority recommendations to accelerate the TB response and reach targets](#). The report stresses that high-level

commitments and targets have galvanized global and national progress towards ending TB, but urgent and more ambitious investments and actions are required, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report developed in partnership with WHO was following the request in the political declaration of the 2018 UN High Level Meeting on TB.

Despite recent achievements in driving down incidence and deaths, and in closing gaps in access to prevention and care, the report underscores that the gains are fragile with TB remaining the world's top infectious killer disease.

The reports calls for Multi-sectoral Action towards achieving global targets to end TB, including the WHO and UN leadership, health ministers, partners and the civil society.

The ongoing conference has had hundreds of sessions on different thematic areas around lung health. KANCO will be hosting a session on *strengthening the TB response post COVID through Accountability at the National and Regional levels*

Hosting the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region-CSO platform



Delegates during the ICGLR CSOs forum supported by KANCO

Between the 22 and 23rd October 2020, KANCO hosted the International conference on the Great Lakes (ICGLR) CSOs component meeting. The meeting sought to brainstorm on ways of strengthening the CSO voice and leadership at the forum. The meeting sought to relook at the mandate and thematic areas of the platform towards developing a road map to guide the operations going forward.

Representing H.E Ambassador Daniel Wambura, Ministry of Foreign affairs, Ms. Nancy Ngumba, thanked KANCO for the support stating *'For the first time we are seeing the CSOs platform active'*. She challenged that there is need to ensure that the CSO structure is consistent in engaging and is sustainable.' She also impressed on the need to keep the institutional memory alive through documentation. She impressed that strengthening the CSOs forum was one of the goals of the Ministry, towards sustainability of the component. She expressed that the ministry was looking forward to hearing KANCO's vision for the forum. She also expressed the Ministry's commitment to keep supporting the forum

Addressing the forum Executive Director KANCO, Allan Ragi, called on the need for visible, credible and public leadership to form a movement that will have impact in the region.

He underscored that this has been the backbone of KANCO's operations that has facilitated creation of partnerships and successful engagements. He challenged on the need to be strategic in engagements and in utilization the resources available

The Forum Secretary, Mr. Ken Walusala shared the objectives of the platform that brings together 12 African countries as: Peace and Security, Democracy and Good Governance, Economic Development and Regional Integration Humanitarian and Social Issues and Cross-cutting Issues. He also shared that the values of the movement as inclusiveness, ownership and partnership.

The forum Chairperson Mr. Peter Musei, thanked KANCO for the support to facilitate the meeting. He requested KANCO to walk with the forum as a partner saying they could learn a lot from KANCO's experience and expertise from the many years of programming as they embark on the strategic planning phase.

Other engagements during the forum included a training on Leadership and critical thinking by Prof. Namwamba and sharing of the thematic committee progress as well as input from the team, towards enriching the roadmap. Follow-up meetings will be following soon.



KANCO participated in the World Bank annual meetings held virtually due to the Covid-19 pandemic between the 13th October and 23rd October 2020. The session focused on investments for health through a series of engagements

Civil Society Townhall with World Bank Group President David Malpass

World Bank Group President David Malpass discussed the Bank's efforts to protect human capital, address countries' excessive debt burdens, and facilitate an inclusive, resilient recovery from COVID-19.

The CSO Townhall provided an opportunity for civil society representatives to dialogue with the President and Bank leadership. Around 150 Civil Society representatives participated in the event. CSOs posed questions on topics such as support for public health programs, climate change and resilience; debt relief and the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI); accountability measures; and the role of the Bank in supporting countries experiencing conflict and fragility during COVID-19.

President Malpass and the panel gave an overview of the Bank's efforts to help countries respond to the crisis and build back better. Depending on the needs of countries and regions, the World Bank Group is focused on alleviating poverty and inequality, debt relief for the poorest countries, increasing access to strengthened health systems and reduced health care costs, expanding safety nets, ensuring climate change adaptation and mitigation, and supporting the private sector. Inclusion of marginalized communities and vulnerable groups remains a top development agenda while carrying out these relief efforts.



Protect and Invest in People: Human Capital in the Time of COVID-19

It was noted that COVID-19 pandemic threatens to reverse gains in human capital outcomes by exposing weaknesses in health, education, and social protection systems. The discussion explored how immediate, longer-term, and forward-looking responses can lead to a more sustainable recovery. Challenges facing frontline health workers as well as youth from across the globe in responding to the pandemic, what measures they are taking to cope, and their ideas for building a resilient recovery were also discussed.

Bringing the focus to gender, Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, explained how women and girls are disproportionately affected, and suffering from “shadow” pandemics. Just like the Ebola pandemic there is a reduction in immunization uptake, increase in mortality rate and women losing jobs twice as much as their male counterparts. The need to invest in frontline health workers, particularly women was also impressed.

Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa and the Chairperson of the African Union, reported that Africa’s strategic and collaborative response is focused on saving lives and protecting livelihoods. He impressed that investments in people can lead to a resilient, inclusivity and fuel recovery.

In the private sector panel it was noted that with, the International Financing Cooperation (IFC) support, vaccine manufacturing capacity is being increased proposing the use of mobile testing clinics for primary health care services delivery after the pandemic.

Defusing Debt - Creating Comprehensive Solutions

In the event, the participants were sensitized on why debt matters right now. The need to be cautious was underscored in lieu of the risks a debt overhang could pose to countries’ including impending the ability to rebuild following the pandemic. It was also emphasized the impact rising debt levels can have on future generations especially children. The need not to restrict market access, and to think of innovative investment options for emerging markets was also underscored.

It was also noted that developing countries will need a long-term solution to debt reduction or resolution in the face of COVID-19. It was also noted that the current debt suspension by the G20, does not give countries the certainty they need, nor does it compel the private sector to work with developing countries on debt reduction or relief. Greater transparency around how much governments borrow, for what reasons and from whom is critical to getting to effective solutions.

Global Citizen Idris Elba concluded with an inspiring message: “COVID has taught us that we can only succeed together. We have brought down poverty to historic lows. Solutions exist. We’ve done it before, and we can do it again. Now is the time to recover better, together.”



@KancoKE



KANCO



www.kanco.org



@KancoKE

#StaySafe

#KomeshaCorona

