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# Taskforce Okays Domestic Resource Mobilization For Health in Africa

July 12, 2023 10:33 pm



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The Declaration by the Parliamentarians taskforce on Domestic Resource Mobilization for Health in Africa has been endorsed by 15 Members of Parliament from all over Africa

By: John Kariuki

A lawmakers' taskforce has recommended domestic resource mobilization for health in Africa on the sidelines of the African Union summit.

In a statement released at the Norfolk hotel in Nairobi, the Parliamentarians noted:

"We, Parliamentarians from Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Ghana, Kenya, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Zambia and Zimbabwe gathered in Nairobi on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the sidelines of the African Union summit to reflect and discuss health financing in Africa.

Cognizant of the need to formalize genuine collaboration between parliamentarians and civil society, we propose for an effective advocacy program on sustainable domestic resource mobilization for health in Africa, through a platform for exchanging information, sharing best practices, strengthening political synergies.

Our recommendations resulted in the creation of the Parliamentarian Taskforce on Domestic Resource Mobilization For Health in Africa, with the objectives of engaging Parliamentarians in their respective countries on issues such as the Mobilization of national resources for health, strengthening of community health, universal health coverage and addressing gaps in funding for the fight against HIV, Tuberculosis and malaria."

The African Union member states have subscribed to a solid normative legal framework on the right to health, they have committed to its agenda 2063, whose aim is to transform the potential threat posed by the expected doubling of its young population by 2050, into a "demographic dividend", bringing economic growth and higher living standards, and they also subscribed to the sustainable development goals which aim to significantly increase the health budget to ensure that everyone benefits from Universal Health Coverage.

Notably many African states are struggling to meet their commitments to mobilise domestic resources, yet investing in health is **investing in human capital**, creating **stable jobs**, stimulating economic growth and reducing inequalities.

Under **recommendations**, they resolved that African governments in a multisectoral approach work in synergy with Parliamentarians, civil society and the private sector to implement sustainable strategies for mobilising domestic resources and for a significant increase in health budgets, given that a healthy nation is indispensable to Africa's socioeconomic transformation as envisaged in Agenda 2063.



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