

INCREASE SUSTAINABLE DOMESTIC FINANCING TO MAKE UHC A REALITY IN AFRICA

We health advocates in Africa, convened by Rwanda NGO forum on HIV/AIDS and Health Promotion in collaboration with the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN – Africa), AHF Rwanda, Ihorere Munyarwanda Organization (IMRO) and Health Development Initiative met on 1st -2nd March 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda to deliberate on “making UHC a reality in Africa” ahead of the Africa health Agenda International Conference (AHAIC) 5th – 7th March 2019.

The pre- conference gathered more than 40 participants including the Rwanda Ministry of Health, UNAIDS Rwanda, WHO Rwanda, Rwanda Social Security Board, SDG Center for Africa, and members of Civil Society in Africa.

Realizing that 18 years after Abuja Declaration, only 2 out of 55 AU member states have met Africa's target of allocating at least 15% of the government budget to health, according to the Africa Scorecard on Domestic Financing for Health (2018). We are concerned that the commitment by our governments to increase domestic financing for health to 5% of GDP has not yet been realized

<http://www.aidswatchafrica.net/index.php/africa-scorecard-on-domestic-financing-for-health>

Noting that ending AIDS, TB and Malaria will require increased sustainable domestic financing with financial risk protection especially for the people most affected and vulnerable. Ensuring that AIDS, TB and malaria services are comprehensively addressed in universal health coverage (UHC) programs is critical to ending the three diseases and achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3. Attaining the highest possible standard of health is a fundamental right of every human being, as stated in the Constitution of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Cognizant of the fact that at least half of the world's population do not have full coverage of essential services with 11million Africans falling into poverty each year due to high out of pocket payments for health, unless health interventions are designed to promote equity, persisting gaps in service coverage will remain.

Following the upcoming 6th Replenishment of the Global Fund in October 2019 which presents yet another opportunity to raise additional resources and mobilize partners towards ending AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030.

We applaud the African Heads of state under the leadership of H.E Paul Kagame, President of Republic of Rwanda, for launching a New Continental Initiative ‘**The African Leadership Meeting**’ aimed at increasing commitments for health in Africa, a right step in the right direction for African leaders to champion Domestic investments on health including the 6th replenishment of the Global fund.

Through this call to action, Health advocates in Africa are urging Governments, Development Partners, private sector, communities and Civil society as stakeholders to take urgent action in order to make UHC a reality in Africa.

We specifically call all African governments to;








1. Increase political will and leadership by investing at least 5% of GDP to health to make UHC a reality in Africa.
2. Increase African governments contributions to the 6th Global Fund Replenishment.
3. Mobilize support for a successful 6th Replenishment of the Global Fund – Fully funded Global Fund.


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4. Increase Investments in Primary Health care (PHC) especially support for Community health workers (CHWs).
5. Improve CSOs and citizen's engagement in decision making processes at all levels.

As civil society, we commit to strengthen citizen led social accountability mechanisms through constructive engagement with all stakeholders in making UHC a reality in Africa.


Signed; on behalf of African Civil Society


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