



# **RAISING AWARENESS OF THE VALUE OF IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION**

**ABUJA, NIGERIA  
23rd-29th APRIL 2022**





**Together  
We Can  
Save  
LIVES!!**



**#VaccinesWorkForAll**

# African Vaccination Week Symposium

Equitable Vaccine Access, Resilient Communities

**Abuja, Nigeria, 27 and 28 April, 2022**

Every year between the 23rd and 29th of April, the West African Institute of Public Health hosts an annual event to commemorate African Vaccination Week (AVW) a high-level symposium focused on Equitable Vaccine Access, Resilient Communities was organised which brought about together over 46 attendees including CSOs, Media representatives, political group representatives, stakeholders and staff from WAIPH which is aimed towards the promotion of the use of vaccines to protect all Africans against diseases.

## We envision

**Governments** that increase knowledge about effective models, actors and approaches for delivering vaccinations within the PHC system of Nigeria in general and of RI PHC service delivery

**Citizens and Communities** to draw lessons from the early country experiences with CSOs in the immunisation space and identify areas where the CSOs have had a notable impact, and areas where it can be improved

**CSOs and Media** build a more resilient responsive communities where knowledge is shared around vaccination and immunisation

**Partners and Stakeholders** to contribute to building a learning vaccination ecosystem that takes cognizance of the recent IA2030 and PHC M&E Framework to inform immunisation approaches

**Health Institutions** to assay the potential of vaccine capacity as well as the feasibility of local production and strengthen integrated service delivery, supply chain systems and front-line health workforces;









## The following were some of the primary themes discussed at the event:

### I

#### **Symposium General Overview, Objectives and introduction of Lead Speaker Dr Francis Ohanyido, DG WAIPH**

The goal of the symposium is to encourage the use of vaccines to safeguard all Africans from preventable diseases. Dr Francis Ohanyido emphasized the importance of the meeting and the necessity for all organizations to collaborate, as well as the need for CSOs and NGOs in the public health sector to widen their advocacy reach. More citizens and communities should be effectively engaged so that they can learn about vaccine research and debunk myths.

### II

#### **Presentation on Equitable Vaccine Access, Resilient Communities. Addressing the subthemes related to global strategies for leaving no behind, decolonizing vaccine production, and strengthening the vaccine learning ecosystem by Professor Olawale Tomori**

Professor Olawale Tomori hosted the discussion, which focused on the African Vaccination Week theme, global strategies for leaving no one behind, decolonizing vaccine production, and enhancing the vaccine learning environment. He emphasized that vaccination and other related services should be available to everyone, not just the elite/leaders, and that the SDGs are the driving force behind ensuring that everyone is vaccinated and that no one is left behind, and that each country should ensure that the SDGs are implemented not only at the national level, but also at the subnational, community, and individual levels.

### III

#### **Immunization Agenda 2030: A Global Strategy to Leave No One Behind Dr. Wondi Alemu, Fmr WHO Senior Advisor, Africa& Nigeria WHO Representative**

Dr Wondi Alemu made recommendations during the session Increased resource mobilization would allow for expansion of vaccine production. Building sustainable and equitable systems will aid in routine immunisation and it promote disease prevention and also developing best practices for primary healthcare restructuring systems for resilience.

## IV

### **IA2030 Implementation Framework: An Overview Dr. Francis Ohanyido, DG WAIPH**

The presentation was facilitated by Dr. Francis Ohanyido, in his speech he made it clear that the IA2030 in itself is just a vision and strategy for vaccines and immunization. To keep track of global immunisation, the world needed to come up with a system that looked at both speeding up the delivery of COVID vaccines and maintaining routine immunisation. During the discussion, the speaker emphasized the importance of speaking to politicians, the media, and women at the grass-root level.

## V

### **The road ahead for Africa's vaccine readiness capacity: Perspective Realism Professor Abdulsalami Nasidi, pioneer Director of NCDC & ED, Reach Care Foundation**

Professor Abdulsalami Nasidi moderated the discussion and spoke extensively about the importance of establishing a vaccine policy plan. Investing more on vaccine production like the African Vaccine Manufacturers Initiative, which intends to train youngsters in vaccine production using the Push and Pull system, is an example that can be duplicated at the country level (Government and Civil societies)

## VI

### **What should be top priorities for the local vaccine manufacturing agenda Dr. Ferhat Khan, Senior Advisor, United Nations SDGs Professional Support Group for Africa**

Dr. Ferhat Khan facilitated the discussion and stated that the rationale for vaccine production is to achieve a demographic dividend. Africans require access to medications and vaccines that is both reliable and cost-effective. The sustainability of vaccine production must be improved, according to the session's recommendations. "In Africa, there are just ten indigenous Value chain participants in vaccine manufacture, including North Africa, South Africa, and Nigeria." The vast bulk of African countries are absent."







When countries increase access to immunization, it not only saves lives and improves health outcomes, it also unlocks the social and economic potential of the population.

Join us in calling upon our health leaders to ensure equitable access to vaccines.



# **We commit to:**

## **Make bold health-related policy decisions across all sectors**

We reaffirm that governments at all levels have the primary role and obligation of promoting and preserving everyone's right to the best possible standard of health. To boost the IA2030 immunisation agenda, we will encourage multisectoral action and UHC by involving key stakeholders and empowering local communities. By using a Health in All Policies approach, we will address the economic, social, and environmental determinants of health and work to eliminate risk factors. We will engage more stakeholders in achieving Health for All, ensuring that no one is left behind, while also addressing and managing conflicts of interest, increasing openness, and implementing participatory governance. We will work to minimize or alleviate conflicts that destabilize health-care systems and reverse progress. In emergencies, we must adopt coordinated and inclusive measures to expand the IA2030 immunisation agenda as a cornerstone of UHC, ensuring continuity of care and the provision of vital health services in accordance with humanitarian values. To strengthen immunisation, we shall allocate and supply appropriate personnel and other resources. We salute governments that have shown great support for immunisation through their leadership and example.

## **Establish a robust Immunization Joint Learning Network**

We will continue to Call on CSOs and policymakers to broaden advocacy to hold government accountable. We will expand the role of CSOs in accountability platforms, so that they can take the lead in the final decision-making process. Sustainable PHC that improves health systems' resilience to prevent, identify, and respond to infectious diseases and outbreaks will benefit us.





Through  
*Immunization*  
we save  
**LIVES !**



## **The success of vaccination in Africa will be driven by:**

### **Science, Technology and Innovation**

The use of science, technology and innovation aids in closing the gap in vaccine production and would allow for research and development focus. Technology drives innovation, diagnosis and pharmacological interventions. Technology management systems is a target for planning, execution, implementation and distribution of vaccines across African regions. Health Technology would boost local production, and public health systems, strengthen African economies and in turn, save lives which is the core drive of vaccination.

### **Advocacy**

Vaccination activities and campaigns are an impactful channel through which the visibility of African Vaccination can thrive. Effective Advocacy can help facilitate dialogue, identify false information about vaccines and debunk such information. Advocacy can be in various forms and targets mass coverage, it enhances public trust in vaccination.



## Enabling Environment

Increased government funding for local vaccine production is a critical strategy. Guideline laws and policies that ensure community empowerment are part of a helpful enabling environment. In Africa, an enabling environment comprises of policies and institutions in the economic, social, political, and religious realms that might influence or effect vaccination.

## Public Health Education and Promotion

It aids in advancing the knowledge of Public Health measures in individuals. Public health promotion allows for Human resource involvement. It communicates information about social, economic, political and environmental conditions that impact health systems. Health systems are strengthened through educating future leaders in the field of public health.

## Human Resource Management

Proper Management of Human Resources plays a significant role in the distribution of health care workers, Public Health Professionals, Health Technicians and Academics. Human resource management has a wide impact on the ability to deliver effective services. There are certain managerial tools that ensure the effective functioning of human resources, workforce training, merit-based recruitment, work-based incentives and infrastructure management are feasible approaches to quality healthcare delivery.



- **The Government, Civil Society Organisations, Politicians and the Media are encouraged to support this movement.**
- **Need to broaden our advocacy around vaccination and strengthen uptake.**
- **We can and will achieve universal health and well-being by working together and leaving no one behind.**
- **Come up with an immunization agenda learning environment ecosystem for vaccination in the African space.**





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