Shaping an African-European Partnership on Health –

Perspectives from Civil Society

Virtual Conference

7 December 2021

WORKSHOPS

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM CET

Workshop 1 - How to accelerate the equitable distribution of vaccines on the African continent?

Language: English, with simultaneous French interpretation

Until November 2021, from over 7 billion vaccine doses distributed globally, less than 2% reached people in low-income countries. In the African region only 5% of the population received full vaccination, while in Europe an average of 60% of the population could be immunized. COVAX, the international instrument for a fair distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, could not reach its aim to immunize 10% of the population in each country by September. It is highly questionable whether the next milestone, to reach a vaccination rate of 40% in each country until end 2021, will be met.

This workshop will focus on the current situation in African countries, the hindering factors for vaccine equity and will discuss solutions for an expansion of vaccination programs. Together with representatives from the African civil society, three different aspects will be addressed:

1. What is the African situation concerning availability of and capacity for vaccine distribution? How does COVAX contribute to vaccine access and what other sources for vaccine are there?

2. Waiver of Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and technology transfer: How can these concretely contribute to the roll out of access to Corona vaccines and epidemic responses in general? And what is the reality of manufacturing capacities in the African region?

3. How do African health actors deal with the problem of vaccine hesitancy in various countries? What are the main reasons for vaccine hesitancy and what measures to put in place to counteract it?

Chair/Reporting: **Mareike Haase**, Bread for the World (Germany)
Dr. Gisela Schneider, German Institute for Medical Mission (Germany)

Speakers:

- **Patricia Kamara**, Christian Health Association of Liberia – CHAL (Liberia)
- **Eckrem Mwale**, Nkhoma Synod (Malawi)
- **Richard Neci**, Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network - EPN (Kenya)
- **Candice Sehoma**, Doctors without Borders (South Africa)

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Workshop 2 - How can digitization help enhance healthcare outreach and support the fight against pandemics?

Language: English

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated a fundamental global transformation towards new digital and artificial intelligence (AI)-based technologies in healthcare. The use of new digital tools and AI for tasks ranging from outreach and mapping to contact tracing or diagnostics has been rapidly expanding in many countries over the past year as a response to the current crisis in global public health.

This workshop will present the experience with Nigeria in deploying digital tools to improve health literacy, change behavior and thus and minimizing the spread of inaccurate information regarding the pandemic. It will bring insights from the project implementation and guide participants on their way to designing an adequate digital campaign to scale community outreach.

Chair/Reporting: **Judith Aßländer** and **Carolin Gunesch**
German Leprosy and Tuberculosis Association – GLRA (Germany)

Speakers:

➢ **Ajuluchukwu Edechiene**, German Leprosy and Tuberculosis Association – GLRA (Nigeria)
➢ **Marcel Heyne**, URIDU (Germany)

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Meeting-ID: 960 9690 1977
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Workshop 3 - How to ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights for all?

Language: English

For people to lead healthy and self-determined lives, they must be able to make decisions about their own bodies and about all issues of reproduction and sexuality. Strengthening sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), especially for young people, is therefore an essential part for advancing sustainable health systems. This workshop will provide space for discussion on how the AU-EU partnership can contribute to the promotion of SRHR for all and what role CSOs can play in this.

Chair/Reporting: **Alisa Kaps**, Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung – DSW (Germany)
Caroline Kwamboka, European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual & Reproductive Rights – EPF (Belgium)

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https://zoom.us/j/94050793059?pwd=VThYWDFYM21OdzhMK1ZYMmhJdVFYUT09

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Workshop 4 - How can the access to prevention, treatment, care and the consideration of key populations be strengthened within Universal Health Coverage (UHC)?

Language: English, with simultaneous French interpretation

Addressing inequalities and focusing on the vulnerability of certain key populations is an important approach of UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) to close existing gaps in coverage. It is also an important prerequisite for achieving universal health coverage (UHC), which is one of the targets of the health-specific Goal 3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Target 3.8).

The workshop will highlight the situation of some of the key groups affected on the African continent that are sometimes "forgotten" and will discuss how human rights aspects come into play in this context. Positive examples of the involvement of key populations and civil society will be presented, especially in programme planning and implementation and also in relation to independent monitoring organised by members of key populations.

Chair/Reporting: **Melanie Otto and Peter Wiessner**
Action against AIDS (Germany)

Speakers:

➢ **Allan Maleche**, Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS – KELIN (Kenya)
➢ **Rosemary Mburu**, Global Fund Advocates Network Africa Hub - GFAN (tbc)
➢ **Representative of key population** (tbc)

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