



Kenya Healthcare Federation holds the annual Health Sector Round Up

Kenya Healthcare Federation hosted the annual Health Sector Roundup Forum, on 10th December 2019 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Upper Hill, Nairobi. The meeting was graced by Dr. Rashid Aman, Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr Ademola Olajide, United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) Representative for Kenya, Ministry of Health officials, Development Health Partners and officials from Faith Based Organizations. The event was sponsored by Sustainable Development Goals(SDG) Partnership Platform and Intrahealth International.

In his opening remarks, the CAS applauded the fruitful partnership that the Ministry of Health has had with the private through several engagements which include: Ministerial Stakeholder Forum, Speakers Round Table, Senate Round Table and engagements with the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Security Dr.Fred Matiangi



Dr. Rashid Aman, Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health, giving his remarks at the Health sector round up, held at Radisson Blu hotel, Upper Hill, Nairobi.

The CAS mentioned that in Universal Health Coverage (UHC), the Ministry focused on strengthening the health systems in 2019, in the pilot counties this includes the human resource for health and the supply chain which are very vital. The CAS in his remarks mentioned that there are still other building blocks that are weak and needs to be strengthened this includes: The supply chain, Human Resource for Health and information management. "Going forward the Ministry of Health wants to focus on strengthening primary healthcare and the supply chain will be heavily on primary healthcare. The government is very keen on supporting local manufacturers of pharmaceuticals. This will see improvement in the affordability of healthcare. The CAS reiterated.

Mr. Joel Lehmann presented on research study on digital health in Kenya and how it can be improved to make health care more accessible. Mr. Lehmann emphasized that there are high expectations that digital health technologies will improve access and affordability of quality healthcare. From his findings, he mentioned that there were many technologies that were launched in Kenya, often as part of internationally funded projects and pilots yet the results for improvement were very low.

He advised the members present who are into innovations in healthcare to identify a small number of digital interventions that are particularly promising, and support them to be scaled up.



Mr. Joel Lehmann, Infospective Research, presenting the research study on digital health in Kenya

There is shortage of health workers in the country and this indicates that there will be challenges towards the delivery of Universal Health Coverage. Intrahealth through a USAID funded project Afya Elimu Fund, provides affordable students financing to students training at middle level medical training colleges this however has challenges because it's able to supports 50% of KMTCT tuition fees which is Ksh.40,000 and the total tuition fee is Ksh.80,000.

The main objective of intrahealth International through the Afya Elimu Fund includes: Increase the number of health workers in the Country, Increase the number of health workers from marginalized areas, facilitate Kenyans from humble background who desire to pursue training as health workers Increase number of health workers in specific cadres.

IntraHealth International challenged the Ministry of Health to Support Afya Elimu Fund (AEF) as the beneficiaries will drive the ministry's agenda, establish Ministry of Health Training Revolving Fund (TRF) that can be managed in partnership with HELB.

Kenya Healthcare Federation has recorded a lot of achievements for the year 2019 which include: Membership Growth by 30%, co-hosted 3 Ministerial Stakeholder Forums (MSF), launched the annual federation magazines, held four very productive quarterly committees meetings. Speaking during the roundup, the KHF chair, Dr. Amit N. Thakker appreciated the Board of Directors, committee chairs and the secretariat who have worked tirelessly to see the federation achieve the set objectives for the year 2019. He also said that the year 2020 will be very busy with higher expectations in growth. In addition, he thanked the Ministry of Health for the continuous support and partnership that saw the delivery of the health Agenda.



Dr. Amit N. Thakker, giving the opening remarks during the Health Sector Roundup Dinner held at Radisson Blu Hotel, Upper Hill, Nairobi

12th Ministerial Stakeholder Forum

The Ministry of Health (MOH) hosted the 12th Ministerial Stakeholder Forum (MSF) on 9th December 2019, at Afya House, Nairobi. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Rashid Aman, Chief Administrative Secretary, MOH, and co-chaired by Dr. Amit N. Thakker, chair, Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF). The meeting was also attended by, Dr. Fred Siyoi, CEO, Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and Mr. Nicodemus Odongo, acting CEO, National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). In his opening remarks Dr. Aman, congratulated the team for the consistency in the MSF meetings which are very productive.



Dr. Rashid Aman, chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health and Dr. Amit N. Thakker, Chairman, Kenya Healthcare Federation During the 12th Ministerial Stakeholder Forum, held at Afya House

He also applauded the government for the structure model of engaging with the private sector through KEPISA "We are reaching a very critical point in Universal Health Coverage (UHC), as we approach, one year since the UHC launch, we need to learn from the pilots and plan on how to scale up. The national roll up is yet to happen soon, and there is a lot of preparations going on towards the national roll out. Even as we prepare, there is a lot of positive things that we've learnt from the pilot which include: improvement in the demand for services, proper utilization and flow of fund to the counties, utilization of the operation maintenance funds.

We still need to look at mechanisms of funds flow between the two governments i.e. National and Counties, also we are looking at decentralization of funds at the counties level so as to ensure they get to the facilities." Dr. Rashid Aman

In his opening remarks, Dr. Amit N. Thakker, Chairman, Kenya Healthcare Federation mentioned that MSF has been very fruitful and he requested that in future MSF forums, we should have many other relevant sagas and parastatals join the forum. "We need to have more sagas join the forum. We also need to meet with Ministry of Finance especially in the 13th and 14th MSF, this ministry is very vital especially when we are discussing the cost of healthcare and affordability." Dr. Amit N. Thakker, Chair Kenya Healthcare Federation.

Dr. Thakker also pointed out that from the several engagement with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) platform there has been a call for the private sector to invest in primary healthcare, supply chain and digital health so as to make healthcare more accessible.

One of the key issues affecting the private sector was the NHIF delays in accreditation of health facilities. Mr. Nicodemus informed the attendees that there has been changes and a taskforce (Kenya Health Professional Oversight Authority, KHPOA) was established to oversee the inspection of the facilities.

He further informed the attendees that there has been delays in capitation this is because the data cleanup which is being sorted out and almost completed. There were also issues raised on e-claims of which the NHIF CEO, informed the private sector that the e-claims were put off because of double claiming. He also informed the private sector that NHIF gets overwhelmed with claims that are unjustified. The private Health Sector through it's expertise will meet with the NHIF to discuss on the efficiency of claims.



The Ministry of Health and Kenya Healthcare Federation leadership during the 12th Ministerial Stakeholder Forum at Afya House

There has been multiple regulation of Healthcare Products i.e. pharmaceuticals and supply of medical equipment. This has resulted in high cost of healthcare and delay in surgical procedures. The CAS informed the attendees that the Ministry of Health through World Bank and IQVIA is conducting a detailed diagnostic of the pharmaceutical Sector.

The objective of the study is to conduct in depth pharmaceutical sector dive, analysis of the value chain's strengths and weaknesses, players and their historic performance, growth trends, and challenges of entry and operation in the market. The study will also evaluate investment and growth constraints along the value chain and come up with recommendations on how these can be addresses to make Kenya more competitive for pharmaceutical investments the study will support Kenya's Universal Health Coverage Agenda. The CAS emphasized that the government is very keen to support the local manufacturers as the local pharmaceutical manufacturer touches on manufacturing which is one of the Big4 Agenda.

There was an agreement that the Ministry of Health, Kenya Health Professionals Oversight Authority and National Hospital Insurance Fund will work together with Kenya Healthcare Federation in the facilities inspection. It was agreed that there should be a meeting between KMPDB and KHF ICT committee to discuss on: endorsement for ICD 10, procedure codes and proposed e-health rules to guide telemedicine. There will also be a meeting between PPB and KHF/ ICT committee to discuss on endorsement and access to ATC codes.

The committee was also requested to schedule a meeting with NHIF representatives to discuss on the best solution for e-claims. The NHIF acting CEO mentioned that, NHIF gets overwhelmed with unjustified claims and as a result they had to put off the e-claims also because of double claiming.

The relaunch of International Immunization Managers

The Sabin Vaccine Institute partnered with Kenya Healthcare Federation and Lattice Consulting on an engagement forum towards the relaunch of the International Association of Immunization Managers IAIM Network. The forum aimed at best understanding how the institute can design a new platform to meet the management and leadership needs of immunization managers while considering current immunization priorities.



County Health Representatives together with Sabin institute representatives during the engagement forum towards the relaunch of the International Association of Immunization Managers IAIM Network

The forum was held on 3rd October 2019 at IBIS Styles Hotel in Westlands. The forum, brought together County Health Representative in the few selected counties including: Isiolo, Kisumu, Machakos, Nyeri, Uasingishu, Kitui, Kirinyaga and Kiambu County.

Some of the challenges that were discussed from the county perspective included: insufficient Health workers, insufficient vaccines, lack of education and awareness on the importance of immunization, geographical location of the dispensaries/health facilities, mothers have to walk long distances to get the immunization services from a health facility, technology and electricity challenge; some of the facilities lack electricity which is essential for the storage of the vaccines. Poor data collection and recording.

Sabin Institute through the International Association of Immunization Managers will continue to engage the federation and the counties to outline better ways of scaling up immunization in the counties.

Private sector participation in the regulation issues affecting the Health Sector

The Health Regulations Quality and Standards Committee held a meeting to discuss key regulation issues in the health sector that are affecting the delivery of quality healthcare countrywide. The meeting was held on 28th November 2019 at the Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices in Nairobi. One of the key issues discussed was the closure of health facilities and delay of accreditation by National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). There were 811 facilities that were closed after inspection. The Ministry of Health through NHIF is carrying out another round of inspection. However the committee was informed that the accreditation delays issues were raised and discussed at the ministry where KHF was informed that the delays came about due to changes in the Ministry of Health structure.



Health Regulations Quality and Standards committee meeting at Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices.

The Ministry of Health has created an Institution Kenya Health Professional Oversight Authority (KHPOA) to tackle accreditation matters, KHPOA will ensure supportive inspections countrywide are being conducted and the result of the inspection will inform NHIF accreditation. The MOH in 2012 had an Act that regulates breast milk, There are critical concerns in the industry as they are trying to change the standards by which the regulation which came up this year to operationalize the ACT, Kenya was trying to deviate from the East African Standards which was challenged, Healthcare professionals on the same are already regulated by their respective regulatory bodies.

The committee championed by Mr. Kevin Saola, Nestle designed a position paper which was submitted by KHF to MOH. A dual approach was taken to solve this matter – Worked with KHF to access the MOH and Kenya Association of Manufacturers through which they have met the Ministry of Trade. The document is still being reviewed by the two ministries and currently awaiting Meeting with the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Trade to submit the policy.

Dr. Daniella Munene, CEO, Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya, shared a presentation on the ongoing review of the bill on cannabis. The reactions of the committee members on the bill included: In terms of devolution is there a country that has legalized it that has the same devolution set us Kenya, What will be the channels of distribution to the end user and what are the regulation strategies? is there any other country that has legalized it in the region – if not this may increase its trade to other countries, If we can treat it as a raw material and it remains illegal, due to poverty levels, legalizing it could be a different case, There are dosage level for medicinal reasons, is there dosage level for recreational purposes, Legalizing it for recreation will lead to a public and safety health risk.

The successes of legalizing Marijuana are due to paramedical industry and not the medicinal industry, The paramedical industry in this case may take over the medicinal purposes, May be start from a pilot stage from the medical industry in a well control and regulated framework, Total approach should be from the medical perspective and fully controlled from medical industry and not from the political or commercial angle.

Kenya Dental Association (KDA) presented the irregularities surrounding the oral health profession with the aim at protecting the patients. In additional. There are Challenges faced when coming up with guidelines these challenges include: High disease burden where 40% of children below 5 years have dental challenges and 70% of adults have dental issues, inadequate information on oral health, most dentist are domicile in urban areas matching



Dr. Daniella Munene, CEO, Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya, presenting the Cannabis Bill during the Health Regulations Quality and Standards committee meeting

the problem verses the personnel verses the services, Loophole with KMPDB on who is practicing in which facility, Challenge in terms of practice around issues of task shifting, Issues of licensing – this should be looked at it from three angles, needs to look at it from KMPDB, Look at it from the individual level and from the facility level – do facilities have the right staff and there is need of advocacy.

The committee agreed to support KDA through including points: KDA should prepare a position paper and share their guidelines with the committee, Describe what these carders can do and what they are not allowed to do, KHF to support with advocacy on scope of practice once guidelines are clear and Include Kenya Dental Association and oral health on UHC Conversation.

Celebrating an SDG Pioneer for Good health and Well-being



Dr. Joyce Sitonik was this year, at the UN General Assembly 2019, recognized by United Nations Global Compact Network as an SDG Pioneer for NCD Prevention in the Workplace. She is currently Head of Clinic Business Operations at AAR Healthcare (Kenya) Limited and the AAR Wellness Program Coordinator. With an impressive network of 40 outpatient centers and one hospital, AAR Healthcare is a leading medical and emergency service provider in East Africa and has been an active participant in the UN Global Compact since September 2008.

Launched in 2000 as special initiative of the UN Secretary-General, the United Nations Global Compact works with companies globally to align their operations and strategies with ten universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. The UN Global Compact guides and supports the global business community in advancing UN goals and values through responsible corporate practices. With more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and 70 Local Networks, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world. The Kenya network is the local focal point working to support 1000 Kenyan companies to integrate the ten principles and SDGs within core business.



Dr. Joyce Sitonik at the UN General Assembly, being recognized by the United Nations Global Compact Network as an SDG Pioneer for NCD Prevention in the Workplace.

In May this year, Global Compact Network Kenya recognized Dr. Sitonik as the first ever Kenya SDG Pioneer — young business leader who is championing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through her company and inspiring others to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As the winner of the national round, Dr. Sitonik then competed in the global round in a rigorous and competitive selection of >300 applications from diverse regions of the world. In the end, a multi-stakeholder selection group comprised of representatives from civil society, academia, the Global Compact Board, the UN and previous SDG Pioneers voted for her inclusion as a 2019 SDG Pioneer.



Dr. Sitonik's moments captured on the camera at the UN General Assembly,

When making the announcement recognizing the 2019 SDG pioneers, Lise Kingo, CEO & Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Said "Leadership in the 2030 era requires change agents. Change agents do not sit around waiting for the future to happen. They create it. They do not choose the path of least resistance. They stay the course, also when they are ridiculed or fought. In the end — they win. They have the future on their side."

Dr. Sitonik hopes that this award will inspire more young leaders in to innovate and implement homegrown solutions to current and emerging healthcare challenges in Africa.



Dr. Joyce Sitonik speaks onstage during WE Day UN 2019 at Barclays Center, New York City.

MOMENTS THROUGH THE LENS



Private Health Sector to develop private sector PPFP strategy

Jhpiego and MSD for mothers, through Postpartum Family Planning (PPFP) choices project held a workshop on 16th October 2019, at Sarova PanAfric Hotel in Nairobi to engage the private Health Sector (represented by Kenya Healthcare Federation) players to contribute towards the development of a private sector PPFP strategy. This strategy will then feed into the Ministry of Health (MOH's) larger country scale up plan. Offering modern contraception services as Part of care provided during childbirth increases postpartum contraceptive use and is likely to reduce both unintended pregnancies that are too closely spaced. The recommended interval before attempting the next pregnancy is at least 24 months/two years based on a consultation convened by the World Health Organization (WHO). This helps in reducing the risk of adverse maternal, perinatal and infant outcomes.



Kenya Healthcare Federation, JHPIEGO team and representatives from National Hospital Insurance Fund during the Workshop at Sarova PanAfric Hotel in Nairobi

Jhpiego workshop aimed at getting the challenges and views PPFP from the private sector that may be hindering the success of IPPF advocacy. From the discussions, it was realized that a bigger percentage of women do not take the PPFP major reasons including: Financial challenges, lack of awareness and sensitization, religion and culture, decision on spacing on the interest of the couples and lack of advocacy. This was inline with the finding on the PPFP counties of study; County of Control-Kilifi and County of Intervention- Meru.

Jhpiego has been working in the two counties on scaling up family planning through: Demand Generation on media platforms both print and electronic, capacity building of the providers, equipping the facilities. However there is need to scale up the PPFP and adopted by the public and private health sector and the following were agreed as they initial steps towards scaling up: Education, creating awareness and sensitization to both the providers and the women, enough advocacy to be done, discussion on financial flexibility and affordability, engaging the community health workers in community sensitization, engaging the private sector in advocacy.

Jhpiego will continue engaging the private sector through Kenya Healthcare Federation and other health sector players towards drafting and endorsing of the PPFP strategy.

The ICT committee meets to discuss on Data Governance and Data Exchange policy

The ICT and mobile Health committee of Kenya Healthcare Federation held it's quarterly meeting on 23rd October 2019, KHF offices in Nairobi, The meeting was chaired by Dr. Tooroti Mwirigi, Carepay Limited. One of the key achievements that the committee has made this year is the development of the Data Exchange policy paper. Dr. Daniella Munene, CEO, PSK, updated members the committee members that the Committee met and used expert's opinion to strategies and research on both local policies and international guidelines for the policy document.



The ICT and Mobile Health committee meeting at Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices

The policy is about the proposed standardized way of sharing data between organizations. The policy was endorsed by the KHF Board of Directors during a meeting in September 2019. There is need to actualize the policy, therefore the committee chair called upon the KHF members to educate and train the organizations on the usage and implement the policy. The policy will be presented to the members during the bi-monthly members meeting in November.

A data governance framework team was appointed to work on data governance for sharing this is because the unique identifier is only for adults through the Identification Numbers, however there is need to generate a unique identifier that will capture children on which the subcommittee was asked to generate. The Technical Committee was tasked to develop the standards and establish how members of KHF can access these standards to use them to exchange standards and the standards should be practiced by KHF members.

The committee had a follow up meeting with Mr. Thurairam Gatuyu, Kenya Law Reform Commission, on 20th November 2019, at The Safaricom Centre, Nairobi. Some of the discussions included: the regulations of registration may take time and the Government is working on a criteria for it. The Cabinet Secretary will prescribe the registration process. Rationale behind the concept of registration is so that the regulator is able to understand and monitor the space they are regulating, Data transfer out of Kenya - Only to countries that have clear safeguards and adequately implementing data protection policies. Reference section 49(2,3) and A data subject has the right to rectification, erasure and portability of their data among other rights outlined in the act. The right of portability means that a data subject can ask an organization to transfer their personal data to another organization.

Bridging Patients Access Gap through sustainable solutions

Axios International partnered with Kenya Healthcare Federation in bringing together Key Opinion Leaders from various sectors in the healthcare industry, to share practical steps and considerations for improving access to treatment in Sub-Saharan Africa. The breakfast meeting was held at Radisson Blu Hotel, Arboretum, Nairobi. Axios International a Healthcare Access Company, marks successes and achievements for over 20 years of specialized experience in developing practical and sustainable solutions to patient access challenges in developing countries and emerging markets.



L-R Ms. Roshel Jayasundera, Louis Machogu, Pro. Nicholas Abinya, Dr. Eva Njenga and Ms. Julia Ouko in a panel discussion during Axios breakfast meeting on patients access Program held at Radisson Blu Hotel Arboretum

There was an indepth discussion on improving access to treatment in Sub-Saharan Africa, explore the key challenges and innovative solutions for improving access sustainably and top healthcare access priorities today in the region, such as availability and affordability of specialized medicines, disease education, and adherence to prescribed treatment. From the discussions, the participants including patient representative suggested that when dealing with patient, it's important to walk the journey with them, come up with sustainable solutions that will keep the patient well informed and also where they are able to access the healthcare services without strain.

There should be a strong collaborations between the patients and the providers so that the patient can be able to interact with the provider at any given time. There was also a unanimous agreement that while advocating for patients especially cancer, diabetes and hypertension, the patients should be included in the advocacy platform to present the challenges of which they best understand.

Kenya Medical Association participates in the 70th World Medical Association General Assembly

The Georgian Medical Association hosted 70th, World Medical Association General Assembly, Sheraton Tbilisi Metechi Palace Hotel, Tbilisi, Georgia from 21st to 26th October 2019. The event was well attended by over 300 representatives from more than 100 countries worldwide.

Dr. Jacqueline Kitulu, President, Kenya Medical Association represented Kenya at the conference where she spoke on Gender Equality and balance with a reflection of KMA experience, during the Junior Doctors Network meeting.



Dr. Jacqueline Kitulu, President, Kenya Medical Association, representing Kenya at the World Medical Association Assembly, Sheraton Tbilisi Metechi Palace Hotel, Tbilisi, Georgia

Kenya Medical Association was honoured to be the host of the 224th World Medical Association council session in April 2023. Kenya Healthcare Federation joins KMA in congratulating Dr. Lynda Kemunto, who is currently the convener of Young Doctors Network at KMA, and was elected to the World Medical Association Junior Doctors Network management team for the year 2019/2020.

The Nakuru County in partnership with Kenya Medical Association, held the first health symposium at the Lake Naivasha Resort from 24th -25th October 2019. The theme of the symposium was enhancing health service delivery by a sector wide approach. The six major areas that were discussed towards the delivery of quality healthcare include: Medical products and technologies – a look at Kenya Medical Supplies Authority, Health Research ,linkages & training opportunities, Service Delivery & best practices, Healthcare Financing & Health Insurance, Health Information systems, medical records and data linkages



Dr. Anastasia Nyalita, CEO, Kenya Healthcare Federation speaking at the Nakuru County Health Symposium

The Kenya's Public and Private Health Sector sets the pace for Universal Health Coverage in Africa and beyond

The Health Sector in Kenya has made major progress towards making Universal Health Coverage a reality. The key building blocks of UHC included: Support of the local manufacturers of drugs this will results in lowering of the cost of healthcare, innovations and technology, Strengthening of the Human Resource for Health, health systems, National Hospital Insurance Fund and engagements with the private health sector through public Private Partnership Platforms, and now the major focus will be on primary healthcare.



The Nigerian Delegation meeting at Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices

The efforts made by the Ministry of Health has made Kenya shine and be emulated by many African Countries including the Diaspora. The Ministry of Health and Kenya Healthcare Federation welcomed delegations from Nigeria and Uganda Parliaments who were on a study tour on Kenya's UHC success story. Some of the major strong point were picked by the two delegations were: the strong advocacy role by the private health sector, firm Public Private Partnership engagements and ensuring that the public health insurance covers the poor and the marginalized.



The Ugandan Delegation meeting with Kenya Healthcare Federation Healthcare Financing Committee team at KHF Offices

Kenya Healthcare Federation partnered with Kenya Diaspora Association for the 2019 Kenya Diaspora Home Coming Convention.

The convention majorly focused on the BIG 4 Agenda which include: Affordable Housing, Universal Health Coverage, Manufacturing, Food Supply and Security.

Other Key sectors that were discussed include: Education, Agribusiness, Youth Education and Unemployment. The KHF chair, Dr. Amit N. Thakker spoke on leveraging private sector & diaspora participation in the BIG 4 Agenda. Speaking during the convention, The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health, Hon, Sicily Kariuki, called upon the diaporra to join in the partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Private Health Sector towards making Universal Health Coverage a reality.



Hon Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution and ASALs, visiting the KHF Booth

Kenya Healthcare Federation welcomed the newly established Rural Private Hospitals Association (RUPHA) to the KHF membership. This happened during the RUPHA's First convention that was held at the Pride Inn Hotel in Westlands. Speaking during the Convention the KHF chair, Dr. Amit N. Thakker encouraged the RUPHA members to join Kenya Healthcare Federation Membership which presents the best and strong advocacy platform.



Dr. Amit N. Thakker welcoming RUPHA's chairman, Dr. Brian Lishenga into KHF membership

Strengthening the Human Resource for Health and neglected cadres

The human Resource for Health Committee of Kenya Healthcare Federation held the last quarterly meeting on 24th October 2019, at KHF offices in Nairobi. The committee which is also working with the Multi Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) has seen major progress made in strengthening of the neglected cadres. Currently, Emergency Medicine Policy, was shared with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and pending the review of the Cabinet Secretary. Following the committee meeting, the below concerns were raised regarding the policy. Which public institution will be training these cadre? Has task analysis been done? What are the standard norms of the cadre? Scoping of the deployment – priority areas? What is the career progression from a public service? What is the entry job group and ceiling job group? What are the training levels? Who is their regulatory body? Who will supervise them from an operation level? and is there an implementation plan from the Ministry of Health?



Human Resource for Health committee meeting at Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices

The committee agreed that the KHF Board of Directors should have a meeting with Dr. E. N. Kamuri, appointed CEO of Kenyatta National Hospital also to engage him in the HRH committee on the discussions of HRH affairs countrywide, in which these issues also touches on the National Referral Hospital. In the alignment of delivering UHC.

Private Sector involvement in the UHC scale up

The Public Private Partnership (PPP) committee of Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF) held the last committee meeting on 8th November 2019. The committee makes effort to ensure that the engagements between the public and the private sector happen. In addition, to ensure that the private sector is fully engaged in UHC implementation and also in the review and validation of the health Act. The committee agreed that the KHF leadership, should ensure that the private sector is engaged in the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) scale up this discussion came up after realizing that the private health sector was not involved in the pilot. The areas the committee agreed that private sector should be involved is in the design of benefit package and service delivery.



Public and Private Partnership (PPP) committee meeting at Kenya Healthcare Federation Offices

The committee also agreed to present the role of innovative healthcare solutions from private sector that could help in implementing UHC an example of Hemafuse technology by Amref Health Africa. In addition, the committee urged the KHF leadership to identify and list a few healthcare technologies and recommend them to the government for UHC implementation.

Gone Too Soon

Kenya Healthcare Federation will always remember Dr. Kenneth Wameyo, as an advocate, friend, committed and loyal.

Dr. Wameyo was the veterinarian who dabbled in marketing, media and communications. A respected leader in local veterinary circles whose influence spread across the East African region; a man who counted among his friends, media personalities, politicians, professionals, rural folk and an army of people on social media and radio listeners who embraced his friendship, without ever setting eyes on him.



Kenya Healthcare Federation holds the last Bi-monthly members meeting for the year 2019

Kenya Healthcare Federation held the last Bi-monthly members meeting on 11th November at Pride Inn Hotel in Westlands, Nairobi. The meeting was chaired by the federation chair, Dr. Amit N Thakker, In his opening remarks, Dr. Amit thanked the entire membership for the continuous support and fruitful partnership in driving the health agenda for the year 2019. Dr. Thakker also led the members in observing a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Kenneth Wameyo, former chair, Kenya Veterinary Association who passed away after a short illness at Kenyatta National Hospital. Dr. Kenneth Wameyo will be remembered as an advocate, devoted leader passionate and a people person.



Kenya Healthcare Federation chairman, Dr. Amit N. Thakker, speaking during the last bi-monthly members meeting at Pride Inn Hotel in Westlands, Nairobi

KHF Board represented by the federation chief executive officer, Dr. Anastasia Nyalita has engaged in several advocacy platforms with the national government and the counties including: Ministerial Stakeholder Forum, Speakers Round Table and Senators Round Table. Some of the key issues that have been discussed on these platforms include: Delay in Accreditation of facilities by NHIF this was listed as a great concern by KHF members who also represent the voice of the private health sector in Kenya, this has denied many Kenyans access to quality and affordable care. Incentives for local manufacturing touching on cost of production which leads to high cost of medication of which the cost is narrowed down to patients and gaps in Human Resources for Health: there is an unequal distribution of health workers especially the specialists.

At the speakers round table, there was a call to the Ministry of Health to apply global standards on supply chain processes to make the products more accessible and affordable. The attendees appreciated that Mental Health Bill is on the health agenda and the Health Amendment Bill and Radiographers Bill 2019, Cancer Prevention and control amendment bill are all on their desks. There has been unclear discussions on which body should tackle the Kenya Food and Drug Act bill but there was good news at the round table that the bill is experiencing health engagements by the senate members. KHF Director, Ms. Joyce Wanderi who was appointed by the cabinet secretary, Ministry of Health, Hon. Sicily Kariuki, into the NHIF Reforms panel, shared a report which was presented to the members by KHF chair Dr. Thakker as follows. The Panel focused on the following four priority reform areas; Financial sustainability of NHIF and UHC, health purchasing options to ensure efficient allocation of funds raised, review of the legal regulatory and governance framework of NHIF and strengthening the organizational and business processes of NHIF.

Some of the key recommendations for NHIF include: Actuarially determine premiums and benefit package entitlements in order to facilitate the sustainability of NHIF, Strengthening and improving efficiency towards strategic purchasing, through increased use of automation and information technology, strengthening the governance framework by establishing an independent accreditation and quality assurance mechanism of health service providers that will facilitate improved quality of health services, establishment of a mechanism that will facilitate the definition of health services and applicable technologies thereby leading to increased efficiency in resource allocation and Institutionalization of a governance framework that will facilitate citizen engagement and participation in the UHC Program and promote improved accountability. Having received the final report.



Kenya Healthcare Federation Members gathered for the last bi-monthly members meeting at Pride Inn Hotel in Westlands

