





Call for a stand-alone health data privacy and security resolution for countries.

EANNASO, OMUKA, Agri Thamani Foundation, and Girls First Initiative (GFI) call on the World Health Organization (WHO) and the member states to develop a global health data governance framework to maximize the value of health data for the public good – to achieve health for all in the digital age.

7th April 2023: To be released Immediately.

7th April 2023 marks World Health Day 2023, while the World Health Organization is also celebrating its 75th anniversary. Organizations around the world are calling for attention to health data governance in this key international moment.

All industries, regardless of their sector, should protect the sensitive data of clients and customers. This is especially true for the health industry due to the sensitive nature of health data, which may contain deeply personal information about individuals.

In the USA alone, cybersecurity had increased from 14 million in 2018 to 34 million cases in 2020 to 45 million in 2021. This has seen the number tripled in the last 3 years as per a report by <u>FIERCE Healthcare</u>. According to the <u>Global Risk Report</u> 2022 by World Economic Forum, cybersecurity measures put in place by governments, organizations, and individuals are being rendered obsolete due to the growing sophistication of cybercriminals

With health systems becoming increasingly digitalized, the question remains of how safe our health data or health information is. Given the burgeoning adoption of technology and digital tools in the health sector, there is a need to regulate how our health data is collected, stored, managed, and disposed of, and for what purposes it is being used. This calls for increased attention to data security and policies that govern how healthcare data is used.

While many countries have data protection laws, the specific sensitivities around health data and its importance in maintaining the health and well-being of both individuals and the wider population, justify a health-specific data governance framework.

My Data Our Health is a global campaign starting a public conversation on questions around our personal health data. As we celebrate World Health Day, we as healthcare stakeholders and partners in Tanzania are calling for government leaders and other stakeholders to take action on a global health data governance framework:

1. Pass a resolution to develop a global health data governance framework to create a set of global standards on the use of our health data at the upcoming World Health Assembly in May 2023.









- 2. Support governments to domesticate and adapt the global health data governance framework into the national health data policies.
- 3. Ensure that national, regional, and global data resolution guidelines are developed through an inclusive, multi-stakeholder process that includes the voices of civil society, as well as youth, women, and marginalized communities.

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About the MyDataOurHealth Campaign

#MyDataOurHealth is a global campaign led by Transform Health and its partners to bring attention to the potential of health data to improve health for all, and the urgent need for a health data governance framework that enables its safe, equitable, and beneficial usage.

About the World Health Assembly

The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board. The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed program budget. The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.