

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**2ND MEETING OF THE EAC REGIONAL THINK TANK
ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FOR HEALTH AND HIV&AIDS**

**NAIROBI SAFARI CLUB
NAIROBI, REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

12th -13th May 2016

MEETING REPORT

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MAY 2016

1- BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

The 11th EAC Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health directed the Secretariat to revitalize the EAC Regional Think Tank on HIV Prevention and Control to discuss Sustainable Financing for Health and HIV&AIDS. The Think Tank convened its first meeting from 15th to 17th April 2015 and among other agenda issues, proposed nominees to constitute an Expert Working Group (EWG) on Sustainable Financing. The EWG role is to provide technical guidance and leadership on regional initiatives aimed at sustaining health and HIV & AIDS programming at both the regional Partner State levels. Specifically the Expert Working Group's role is to:

- i. Oversee and provide technical guidance in the development of the Sustainable Financing Analysis Report for the EAC region;
- ii. Facilitate the undertaking of sustainable financing analysis for the EAC region with support; and
- iii. Convene the High Level Dialogue (HLD) Meeting between the Partner States' Ministers responsible for Finance and their Directors of budget with Ministers responsible for Health, including regional and international stakeholders.


The 2nd meeting of the Think Tank was held from 12th to 13th May, 2016 to consider the progress made by the EWG on sustainable financing.

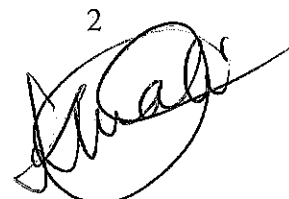
1.2 Convening of the Meeting

The EAC Secretariat convened the 2nd meeting of the EAC Regional Think Tank on Sustainable Financing for Health and HIV and AIDS in accordance with the EAC Calendar of Activities for the Financial Year 2015/2016. The meeting was held from 12th to 13th May 2016 at Nairobi Safari Club, the Republic of Kenya.

1.3 Constitution of the Bureau

In accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the East African Community, the meeting was chaired by **Dr. Robert Josiah**, Deputy Programme Manager National AIDS Control Programme, Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Children and Elderly, United Republic of Tanzania and **Dr. Isaac Kadowa**, Principal Medical Officer Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda, was the rapporteur, supported by the EAC Secretariat.



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The meeting was attended by Partner States experts from the Ministries Responsible for Health, Finance, EAC Affairs as well those from the National AIDS Commissions/Councils. Also present were representatives of civil society organisations and Development Partner Representatives. The list of participants is hereto attached as **Annex I**.

1.4 Agenda of the Meeting

The meeting considered the programme for the meeting and adopted it with minor changes and is hereto attached as **Annex II**.

1.5 Remarks by the Chairperson

The Chairperson welcomed all the experts and thanked them for attending the crucial meeting which was convened to plan and facilitates the hosting of the High Level Ministerial Dialogue (HLMD) on Sustainable Financing. He noted that the HLD will be a key highlight as the regional decision and policy makers will be expected to pronounce concrete plans for long term sustainable Health and HIV and AIDS programmes for the region.

He concluded his remarks by wishing the delegates fruitful deliberations.

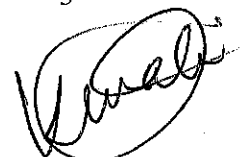


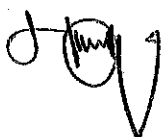
1.6 Meeting Objectives

The main objective of the meeting was to finalise plans for convening the EAC High Level Dialogue scheduled for June 2106. Specifically the meeting aimed to;

- i. Review and make inputs on the work done by the Expert Working Group (EWG) on sustainable financing in line with its mandate;
- ii. Streamline preparations for the High Level Ministerial Dialogue (HLMD).

The expected outputs of the meeting were:

- i. Finalised Issue Paper for the EAC HLMD on Sustainable Financing for Health and HIV and AIDs;
- ii. Adopted report on 'Sustainable Financing Analysis of Universal Health and HIV Coverage in the East Africa Community';
- iii. Conclusion of logistics for the HLMD, including the programme, budget and participation.
- iv. Meeting report.



2.0 Consideration of the various items on the agenda.

2.1 Presentation of the progress report of the EAC Expert Working Group (EWG) on Sustainable Financing

Mr. Rogers Enyaku, the Rapporteur of the EWG on Sustainable Financing, presented an update on the progress so far made by the team in spearheading the sustainable financing agenda for the EAC region. The presentation highlighted the processes so far undertaken, which have culminated in the development of the *Sustainable Financing Analysis of Universal Health and HIV Coverage in the East Africa Community*. From the analysis report, an Issue Paper has been drafted to be used to guide the discussions during the HLMD. The EWG also concretised plans for the HLMD meeting, including identifying key high level participants, a budget and a programme.

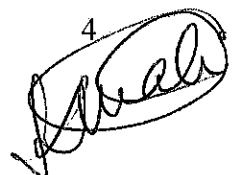
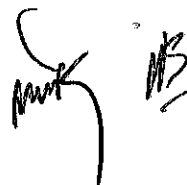
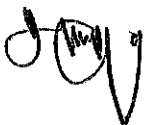
The detailed presentation is hereto attached as **Annex III**.

Following the presentation, the think tank made the following comments:

- i. It is crucial to enlist the support of the Summit of Heads of State in the debate for sustainable financing for health.
- ii. The proposed presentations of the country positions on sustainable financing to be made during the HLMD run the risk of being too broad hence there is need to guide the speakers to be specific on details.
- iii. The experts noted the importance of engaging both the ministers of Finance and Health in the HLMD. It was agreed that the ministers of finance make country position papers highlighting existing initiatives on sustainable financing being undertaken and a roadmap for embracing the recommendations of the HLMD.
- iv. The experts pointed out that the HLMD should be used as an opportunity to push for a political paradigm shift in the way resource allocations for health are made.

The above observations will be taken into account while updating and briefing the respective Partners States experts and stakeholders who will participate in the HLMD. The comments were also used to inform the review of the guidelines for county specific presentations to be made during the HLMD as outlined below:

- i. Brief Background
- ii. Existing Financing Sources
- iii. Gaps



- iv. Available options for Sustainable Financing for UHC (Health & HIV)
- v. Road map towards Sustainable Financing for UHC & HIV
- vi. Feedback on the options proposed by the analysis report
- vii. Success stories & Challenges

The EAC Secretariat informed the meeting that they are keen on briefing and lobbying the EAC Heads of States on sustainable financing for Health and HIV/AIDS.

The Think Tank recommends to;

- i. **The EAC Secretariat to officially submit the guidelines for the country presentations to facilitate drafting of the country position papers by the Partner States, by 16th May 2016;**
- ii. **The Partner States to prepare country position papers on sustainable financing initiatives to be presented during the HLMD as per the guidelines above and submit to the EAC Secretariat by 10th June 2016; and**
- iii. **The EAC Secretariat to share the Communiqué arising from the HLMD with the Summit to further seek their support for increased domestic financing for health and HIV & AIDS in the region.**


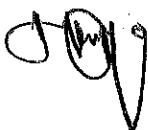
2.2 Consideration of the programme for the High Level Dialogue (HLD) on Sustainable Financing

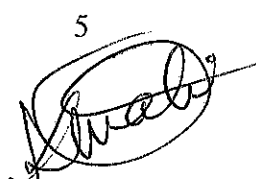
The EAC Secretariat presented the draft programme for the HLMD which will be held on 23rd June 2016 during the 12th Sectoral Council of Ministers of Health.

The main objective of the HLMD will be to share experiences on innovative and possible domestic financing options for sustainable Health and HIV coverage in the Partner States.

Specifically the High Level Meeting will;

- i. Develop an understanding of available innovative financing mechanisms being adopted as sustainable financing for health and HIV & AIDS in other African countries;
- ii. Document current EAC country positions on domestic financing for Health with specific interest on sustainable HIV and AIDS Financing, clearly outlining existing structures and mechanism that are in place



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- iii. Recommend strategies for alternative financing for Health and HIV and AIDS to ensure ownership and sustainability
- iv. Identify and recommend possible alternative domestic sources of funds that could be adopted for the EAC region; and
- v. Review and adopt a framework for sustainable financing for the EAC Region

The meeting reviewed the programme for the HLMD, provided input on the most appropriate speakers/presenters for the occasion and agreed on the proposed content of the presentations to be made on the day. The revised programme is hereto attached as **Annex IV**.

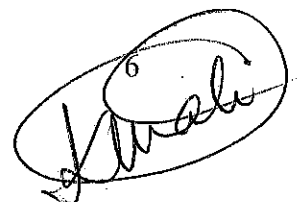
The Think Tank recommends to the EAC Secretariat to:

- i. **Revise the HLMD Programme based on the input by the Think Tank and share it with Partner States by 16th May 2016; and**
- ii. **Identify and invite a prominent expert and passionate advocate of sustainable financing for Health and HIV and AIDS to give a key note address during the gala dinner on the eve of the HLMD and also moderate the Ministerial discussions.**

2.3 Consideration of the Issue Paper on Sustainable Financing of Universal Health and HIV Coverage in the East Africa Community Partner States

The EWG on Sustainable Financing drafted an Issue Paper based on the report on *Sustainable Financing Analysis of Universal HIV and Health Coverage for the East Africa Community*, to be used to facilitate the discussions during the HLMD. The Think Tank noted the progress made by the EWG in drafting the Issue Paper and reviewed with a focus on the recommendation matrix. The revised Issue Paper is hereto attached as **Annex V**.

The Think Tank recommends to the EAC to finalise the Issue Paper based on the inputs of the Think Tank and submit to the Partner States by 16th May 2016.



2.4 Consideration of the Concept Note and Budget for the High Level Ministerial Dialogue on Sustainable Financing For Universal Coverage Of Health and HIV&AIDS

The EAC Secretariat presented the Concept Note for the HLMD for review and consideration by the Think Tank. The Concept Note provides a background and rationale for the meeting and identifies the key expected participants. The meeting made the following observations:

- i. The concept note should be edited and further summarised
- ii. The participants list as presented in the concept note is not conclusive as it excludes some important stakeholders
- iii. The objectives should be focused to reflect the aim of the HLMD

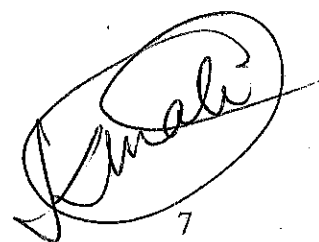
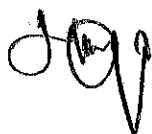
The Think Tank also considered and reviewed the proposed budget for the HLMD. The total budget for the HLMD is USD 178,700 with only USD 70,000 available at hand. The meeting noted the need to continue mobilising additional resources to cater for the deficit.

The Think Tank revised and edited the concept note which is hereto attached as **Annex VI**.

The Think Tank recommends to the EAC Secretariat:

- i. **The EAC Secretariat to revise the concept note and submit it to the Partner States by 16th May 2016; and**
- ii. **The EAC Secretariat to send the request for Partner States nominees to the HLMD by 16th May 2016**
- iii. **To mobilise additional funds from partners and stakeholder to ensure the HLMD is successfully convened**

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 17.00hrs.



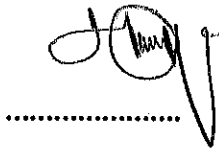
Signed on this 13th day of May 2016



**Mr. Ali Kimwaga
Muhiddin**

Social Planner and M
and E Specialist
Ministry of Finance -
ZUSP

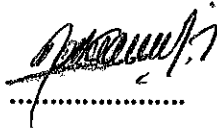
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**Mr. Wakarerwa
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General Director
Resources
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**THE REPUBLIC OF
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