



### 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on the PEN-Plus Regional Strategy to address Severe NCDs in Africa (ICPPA 2026)

“Advancing progress toward SDG targets for NCDs in Africa by 2030: Reflections on PEN-Plus implementation, progress, challenges and the future”



23 to 25 June 2026



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Co-host

Strategic partner

Supported by



## Provisional agenda of the meeting

Time	Topic
<b>HIGH LEVEL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE WITH HEADS OF STATE (HOS) AND GOVERNMENTS</b>	
8:30-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration</li> </ul>
9:30-10:55	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome remarks - <b>Chief Secretary, Office of the President of Tanzania</b></li> <li>Opening remarks - <b>WHO Regional Director for Africa</b></li> <li>Statement by <b>H.E President of Rwanda</b></li> <li>Statement by <b>The Leona M. Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust - James Reid</b></li> <li><b>Cultural Performance</b></li> <li>Keynote Address: NCD burden in Africa and urgency of achieving SDG 3.4 targets – <b>H.E. President of Tanzania (Moderator from Tanzania)</b></li> </ul>
11:00-11:45	<b>Group Photo/Coffee Break</b>
11:50-12:30	<b>Progress Review of NCD Control in Africa (Moderator: Dr. Joseph Kibachio)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional NCD trends, initiatives, risk factors and health system gaps – <b>Dr Benido Impouma, Director DPC, AFRO</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An investment case for expanding health services for severe, chronic non-communicable diseases in the WHO African Region between 2025-2035 through the PEN-Plus Strategy: a modeling study- <b>Dr Gene Bukhman, NCDI Poverty Network</b></li> </ul>
12: 35-13:40	<p><b>Resource Mobilization and Accountability for NCD Action- (Round table with HoS) (Moderator: Dr. Julie Makani, Tanzania)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic resource mobilization and innovative financing mechanisms – <b>H.E. President of Ghana</b></li> <li>African NCD Compact and pooled financing mechanisms –<b>H.E. President of Burundi/AU Chair</b></li> <li>African Health Sovereignty for NCDs financing- <b>Prof Janabi, RD WHO-AFRO</b></li> <li>Strengthening financial monitoring and accountability frameworks for NCDs– <b>H.E. President of Zambia</b></li> <li>Local manufacturing and pooled procurement to improve access to medicines and diagnostics-<b>H.E. President of Cape Verde</b></li> </ul>
13:45-15:00	<b>Lunch and Bi-lateral Meetings/Media Briefings</b>
15 :10–16 :15	<p><b>Country Progress and Priorities in NCD Control and Management Panel Discussions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel discussion 1: National experiences and successes in NCD risk factor reduction and control- <b>Tanzania, Mozambique, Cameroon (Moderator: Dr Binta Sako)</b></li> <li>Panel discussion 2: Strengthening primary health care: Scaling up PEN and National Operational Plans for PEN-Plus \packages to achieve UHC – Ministers of Health) Rwanda, <b>Malawi, Benin, Eswatini, Rwanda (Moderator: Dr. George Msengi, Tanzania)</b></li> </ul>
16 :20–17 :15	<p><b>Closing Session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of key commitments</li> <li>Adoption of joint statement</li> <li>Next steps and integration with upcoming AU Summit processes</li> <li>Media Briefing</li> </ul>

## DAY 2 – 24 June

7:30-9:00	<p><b>Parallel Side Events</b></p> <p><b>UNICEF:</b> Childhood-onset NCDs being a shared agenda between the NCD and Maternal and Child Health communities/ Importance of peer support, expert patients and patient navigators in chronic care for children and young people</p>	<p><b>Parallel Side Events</b></p> <p><b>Global Coalition for Pediatrics and Congenital Hearts:</b> Calling Governments to Action on Childhood-Onset Heart Disease: Building the Case for a 2027 WHA Resolution</p>
9:05-10:05	<p><b>Session 1: Overview of PEN-Plus and Progress in the WHO African Region</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WHO AFRO: PEN-Plus Regional Strategy and Progress Towards</li> </ul>	

	<p>Regional Targets (<b>Speaker: Dr. Kofi Nyarko, AFRO</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCDI Poverty Network: Experience and Achievements in Supporting PEN-Plus Implementation and Scale-up (<b>Speaker: Dr Neil Gupta, NCDI Poverty Network</b>)</li> <li>PEN-Plus Experience in Tanzania: Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities. (<b>Speaker: Dr. Mary Mayige</b>)</li> </ul> <p>(<b>Moderator: Dr. George Msengi, Tanzania</b>)</p>	
10:10-11:10	<p><b>Session 2: Capacity Building, Training, and Mentorship for the work force for PEN Plus implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mentorship for PEN-Plus Providers: Country Experience from Malawi (<b>Speaker: Dr. Brown Khongo</b>)</li> <li>PEN-Plus Master Training and Clinician Training: Country Experience from Ethiopia (<b>Dr. Besufekad Mulugeta, Mathios Wondu Foundation</b>)</li> <li>Pre-service training: Country Experience (<b>Prof Oliva Bazirete, Dean, University of Rwanda School of Nursing</b>)</li> <li>Protocols and guidance, e-learning and other resources for PEN-Plus/ Diabetes BluePrint for the Africa - (<b>Dr. Antonio Armando, AFRO</b>)</li> <li>Q and A</li> </ul> <p>(<b>Moderator: Dr. Jones Masiye, ECSA-HC</b>)</p>	
11:10- 11:30	<b>Health Break &amp; Poster Exhibition</b>	
11:30-12:30	<p><b>Session 3: From Policy to Access: Essential Medicines, Diagnostics, and Technologies for PEN-Plus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of Essential Medicines, Diagnostics and Technologies for PEN-Plus (<b>Speaker: Dr. Colin Pfaff, NCDI Poverty Network</b>)</li> <li>Sickle Cell Disease: Opportunities for screening and testing, rapid tests, hydroxyurea, and beyond (<b>Speaker: Dr Amoakohene CHAI Ghana</b>)</li> <li>Analogue insulins and self-monitoring for type 1 diabetes: (<b>Speaker: Dr. Edna Majaliwa, Tanzania</b>)</li> <li>Rheumatic and other early onset cardiac diseases: From case detection to cardiac surgery (<b>Speaker: Dr. Thomas Aldersley, University of Cape Town, South Africa</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Dr. Olatubosun Akinola</b></p>	
12:30-13:30	<p><b>Parallel Sessions on Country experience sharing: Round 1</b></p> <p>Lesotho, Nigeria, Malawi, Kenya, Zambia</p> <p><b>Moderator: Dr Joseph Mogga</b></p>	<p><b>Parallel Sessions on Country experience sharing: Round 1</b></p> <p>Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Benin</p> <p><b>Moderator: Dr Sidi Mohamed Ould</b></p>
13:30-14:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
14:30-15:30	<p><b>Session 4: Breaking silos – Opportunities for Integration (Moderator Dr. Mary Mayige, Tanzania)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A PHC-oriented health system approach to strengthen the NCD response: Global perspective (<b>Speaker: Dr Guy Fones, WHO HQ/NMH</b>)</li> <li>Case finding and referral for PEN-Plus: Need for health system integration (<b>Dr. John Ssentamu, Liberia</b>)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synergies of PEN and PEN-Plus for comprehensive primary care (<b>Speaker: Dr. Alvern Mutengere, Zimbabwe</b>)</li> <li>• Severe childhood-onset conditions: PEN-Plus integration with Maternal and Child Health services (<b>Speaker: Dr. Raoul Bermejo, UNICEF</b>)</li> <li>• NCD integration with care for infectious chronic diseases: Experience from Uganda (<b>Speaker: MOH Uganda</b>)</li> </ul>	
15:30-17:00	<b>Parallel Side Events:</b> <b>Cancer initiatives</b> Implementation of the GICC/GPACCM and Women's Integrated Cancer Services (WICS) projects in the African Region	<b>Parallel Side Event: Ear, eye, and oral health</b>  Integration of ear, eye, and oral health as part of the WHO PEN and PEN-Plus
17: 10-17:30	Advancing implementation of the WHO guideline on Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease in high-burden settings ( <b>Speaker Dr Kouamivi Aboyigbor, TO- CVDs WHO-HQ</b> )	
17:35-17:45	<b>Wrap Up and Closure</b>	

### DAY 3- 25 June

7:30-9:00	<b>Parallel Side Events:</b> <b>Accelerating Progress toward 2030 African Region Mental Health Targets</b>  Discussing strategies to strengthen mental health services, integration with NCD care, and policy implementation, aligned with regional and global commitments.	<b>Parallel Side Events: Second Generation PEN</b>  Integrated NCD Service Delivery through a Health System Strengthening Approach
9:05-10:05	<b>Session 5: Unlocking Sustainable Financing for NCDs: Advancing the Investment Case through Multisectoral Partnerships in Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the NCD burden and financing gap in the Africa Region (<b>Speaker- Younhong Min</b>)</li> <li>• Key financing pathways: domestic resources, innovative financing, and external funding (<b>Speaker-Dr Kingsley Addai-Frimpong</b>)</li> <li>• Call to action: mobilizing political leadership and sustainable financing commitments (<b>Speaker- Dr Victor Bampoe, CEO, NHIA, Ghana</b> (<b>Moderator: Dr Ogochukwu Chukwujekwu, AFRO Health Financing Team Lead</b>)</li> </ul>	
10:05-10:30	<b>Tea break &amp; Poster Exhibition</b>	
10:35-11:35	<b>Session 6: Patient-Centered Care for NCDs</b> <b>Panel Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient-centered care in practice-</li> <li>• WHO AFRO (Disability and Rehabilitation)</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peer Support Mechanisms and Integrated Camps Experience from Mozambique (<b>Dr. Yolanda Marcelino, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane</b>)</li> <li>From community to national advocacy for PEN-Plus conditions in Kenya (<b>Dr. Catherine Karekezi, NCD Alliance Kenya</b>)</li> <li>Lived experience and preferences from PLWNCD (Speakers: sponsored advocates, (<b>Voices and UNICEF-sponsored youth</b>))</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p><b>(Moderator: Vivian Nabeta, Sonia Nabeta Foundation, Uganda)</b></p>	
11:40-12:30	<p><b>Session 7: Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for PEN-Plus Plenary Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEN-Plus surveillance, monitoring and evaluation (<b>Speaker: Dr Joseph Lou Mogga, NCD Expert</b>)</li> <li>NCDI experience in monitoring and evaluating PEN-Plus implementation in Africa (<b>Dr. Emily Wroe, NCDIPN</b>)</li> <li>AI-enabled enhancements for NCD monitoring and evaluation (<b>WHO Geneva</b>)</li> <li>Country experiences in monitoring the implementation of the PEN-Plus from Zambia (<b>Dr. Fastone Goma, CIDRZ</b>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>	
12:35-13:35	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:40-15:00	<p><b>Parallel Sessions: Country experience sharing: Round 2</b> Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Uganda, Ethiopia <b>Moderator: Dr Kouamivi Aboyigbor</b></p>	<p><b>Parallel Sessions: Country experience sharing: Round 2</b> Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Ghana, Zimbabwe <b>Moderator: Dr Antonio Armando</b></p>
15:05-16:05	<p><b>Parallel Sessions: Oral Abstracts</b> (in-person &amp; virtual) <b>Moderator: Dr January</b></p>	<p><b>Parallel Sessions: Oral Abstracts</b> (in-person &amp; virtual) <b>Moderator: Rep from Tanzania</b></p>
16:05-17:05	<p><b>Orientation for New implementing Countries WHO AFRO: Overview of next round of implementing support from WHO-AFRO (timeline, expectations, technical products in development) WHO- AFRO)</b></p> <p><b>MOH Panel from PEN-Plus Experienced Countries (Kenya, Liberia, Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was your PEN-Plus journey? How did you achieve your targets?</li> <li>How was PEN-Plus integrated within existing policy and programmatic priorities?</li> <li>How were funds mobilized to support PEN-Plus activities?</li> <li>What is your advice and recommendations for countries now initiating their programs?</li> </ul> <p><b>(Moderator: Dr. Ana Mocumbi, UEM Mozambique)</b></p>	
17:05-18:05	<b>Summary of Key Findings and Outcomes of the Conference.</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recommendations and Policy Implications</li><li>• Call for action</li><li>• Remarks by Conference Organizers</li></ul> <b>Moderator: Dr Binta Sako)</b>
18:10-18:50	<b>Closing Ceremony: Moderator: Dr Binta Sako)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Official Closing Addresses:</li><li>• WHO/Tanzania</li></ul>