



Good morning, distinguished guests, esteemed colleagues, and friends,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the launch of the East Africa Region Global Health Security Summit Advocacy Breakfast. Thank you for joining us this morning to be part of such an important and timely event.

As we gather here today, we are reminded of the critical importance of building resilient health systems and strengthening global health security across East Africa. The past few years have highlighted the vulnerability of communities to emerging health threats, whether from pandemics, disease outbreaks, or natural disasters. But these challenges also present us with an opportunity – an opportunity to collaborate, to innovate, and to advocate for a healthier and more secure future for all.

This breakfast is not just about discussing the challenges we face, but also about celebrating the collective efforts that will drive real change. Together, we can advocate for stronger policies, better resources, and a more coordinated approach to global health security in the region. It is about bringing together diverse stakeholders – governments, health experts, civil society, and the private sector – to work towards a common goal: ensuring that the people of East Africa are better prepared to face any health threat.

As we engage in meaningful conversations today, let us keep in mind that our success relies on collaboration, shared knowledge, and a commitment to putting people’s health at the center of our work. We are here to build partnerships, share insights, and most importantly, to act with urgency and determination.

Thank you for your presence, your leadership, and your dedication to this vital cause. I look forward to the discussions and collaborations that will come from today's breakfast launch.

Together, we can make a lasting impact in securing the health and well-being of our region and beyond.

Welcome once again, and I wish us all a productive and inspiring gathering.

Dr Mazyanga Lucy Mazaba

Regional Director for the Eastern Africa Region of the Africa CDC