



Communiqué

Mombasa, Kenya, January 30, 2025

East Africa Region Global Health Security Summit: Mombasa, Kenya 30th Jan 2025

Preamble

We, the Nine (9) participating Member States of the CDC Eastern Africa Regional Coordinating Centre (EA-RCC): (Union of Comoros, Federal democratic republic of Ethiopia, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Rwanda, Republic of South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Uganda) at the first East Africa Region Global Health Security Summit held from 28th to 30th January 2025, which included representatives from multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector, (see Annex 2) gathered in Mombasa to address the critical and urgent challenges to health security in the region.

Mindful that the AU Eastern Africa Region is home to more than 400 million people and faces unique challenges due to its diverse health and environmental dynamics.

Recognizing that health security is a member state responsibility with a shared regional, continental and global responsibility, and requires strengthening collaboration, innovation, and resilience to safeguard the health and well-being of all people in Eastern Africa and beyond.

Acknowledging:

- **The growing impact of health emergencies** like Ebola virus disease, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, Mpox, and Marburg virus disease on vulnerable populations in Eastern Africa and the urgent need to improve



disease surveillance, response, health systems, and workforce capacity in epidemiology, research, and local medical production.

- **The Resource and financial gaps** that highlight the need for sustainable, innovative and predictable financing, partnerships, and multisectoral collaboration for health security.
- **The critical role of all stakeholders**—global and regional bodies, private sector, academia, government, civil society, and communities—in strengthening health security and response
- **The work of the Africa CDC** and its Eastern Africa Regional Coordinating Centre (EA-RCC), WHO and partners to enhance health security by coordinating surveillance, preparedness, response, and health system strengthening across Eastern Africa.
- **That Africa's dependence** on imported vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics, and health products exposes the region to significant vulnerabilities.

Reaffirming:

- That Universal Health Coverage is crucial to global health security and that there is a need to honor commitments from regional and continental forums, including the 2017 AU Declaration, 2016 Malabo Declaration, Lusaka Declaration on Public Health Emergency Operation Centres and Agenda 2063
- The importance of equitable resource allocation, timely disease surveillance, and robust health systems as cornerstones for effective emergency preparedness and response,



- That Health security relies on addressing interconnected factors like climate change, migration, culture, crises, conflict, and global movement, which drive disease spread.

Commit to:

1. Strengthening Regional Health Coordination and collaboration:

- a. Coordinate stakeholder efforts across all 14 AU Eastern Africa region Member States and enhance Africa CDC's role in health prevention, preparedness, response and health system strengthening.
- b. Enhance collaboration among AU Eastern African countries, regional economic communities, and partners for improved information-sharing, resource pooling, and coordinated responses.

2. Strengthening health systems to deliver primary health care for Universal Health coverage

- a. Enhance national and regional capacities for disease surveillance, early warning systems, and rapid response mechanisms.
- b. Invest in workforce development through training, capacity-building, and retention of healthcare professionals in workforce development and recognition.
- c. Build resilient health infrastructure for health security
- d. Ensure that health systems are resilient and accessible to all populations, particularly vulnerable groups, during health emergencies

3. Promote Innovative, sustainable and predictable Financing:

- a. Mobilize domestic resources through innovative financing including collaboration with financial institutions.



- b. Engage partners and advocate for sustained health security funding in Eastern Africa for health emergency preparedness, response, and health system strengthening.
- c. Establish contingency funds for prompt and effective response for public health emergencies

4. Address Emerging and Existing Threats:

- a. Prioritize strategies to combat emerging threats such as antimicrobial resistance, climate-induced health crises and infectious diseases.

5. Leverage Innovation and Technology:

- a. Embrace digital health solutions to improve disease monitoring, data analytics, and service delivery.
- b. Ensure equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics through innovative procurement and distribution strategies.

6. Local Manufacturing for Health Products:

- a. Enhance local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines, and medical devices, with the goal of producing 60% of the continent's health products
- b. Support stakeholders especially private sector for sustainable local manufacturing across the region
- c. Establish an environment that facilitates buy in of local health products and technologies
- d. Strengthen public private partnerships Coordination mechanisms

7. Advocate for Representation:

- a. Advocate for equitable representation and resource allocation that address health challenges faced by African nations.



- b. Advocate for stronger health security policies by prioritizing IHR, regional integration, and policies focused on equity, sustainability, and self-reliance

8. Promote Research for health security

- a. Strengthen health security through research and innovation, investing in diagnostics, telemedicine, and preparedness tools.
- b. Partner with academia, international researchers, and the private sector to enhance regional research capacity

9. Impact Accountability

- a. Ensure follow through of the Summit's actions, a technical team to be formed by Kenya Vision 2030 Board and Eastern Africa CDC RCC to translate the summit's actions into implementation including:
 - i. The EARGHSS report to be presented and advance implementation at the Africa Health Agenda International Conference, March 2025.
 - ii. Launch of calls for applications of the Africa GHS fellowship.
 - iii. GHS hackathon; and Joint grant writing.
- b. Advance the conceptualization and structuring of the Eastern Africa Global Health Security Fund
- c. Advance the partnership with University of Nebraska, Global Centre for Health Security to establish Africa Centre for Global Health Security

10. EARGSS 2026

- a. Resolved by the EARGSS 2025 delegates and accepted by the Hon. Minister of Health, the Union of Comoros that the 2nd Edition, East Africa Global Health Security summit shall be held in the Union of Comoros in January 2026.



Conclusion:

We, the member states and participants at the 2025 East Africa Region Global Health Security Summit, with the support of Africa CDC, WHO and partners reaffirm our shared responsibility to promote, provide and protect health in our region. We commit to translate these pledges into action by fostering collaboration, strengthening national and regional institutions, and advocating for sustained investments in health systems. Together, we can build a resilient, healthy future for Eastern Africa and the world.

**Endorsed at the East Africa Regional Health Security Summit, Mombasa, Kenya,
30th January 2025**

Annex 1: Participating member state signature

Annex 2: List of Participating Parties and signatures