

2024 AGENDA FOR ACTION FOR AFRICAN LEADERS **Africa's Vision On Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, & Response**

Pandemic threats are increasing in frequency and severity, posing an existential threat to our economies, achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the collective security and survival of humanity. Africa is particularly vulnerable to pandemic threats. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the fragility of Africa's health systems, the inequities in access to healthcare, and the continent's reliance on imported medical supplies. Climate change is also altering the distribution of vectors and pathogens, making new areas vulnerable to diseases, e.g., the spread of malaria to higher altitudes in Africa. Human activities such as deforestation, encroachment on wildlife habitats, and intensive farming are also leading to an increase in the number of zoonotic diseases, such as Ebola and Nipah.

In April 2023, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) launched Africa's New Public Health Order (NPHO), a long-term vision for a more resilient, inclusive, and equitable public health system in Africa. This new vision seeks to address the fundamental challenges that have made Africa vulnerable to public health threats in the past. The NPHO is an ambitious but achievable goal, and its potential benefits are immense. It will require a sustained commitment from African leaders and the international community to achieve it.

We, the undersigned organisations, are calling on African leaders and ministers to bring new urgency and political resolve to prevent the next pandemic crisis and **commit to the following agenda for action to secure progress towards Africa CDC's vision for a New Public Health Order, reporting back at Africa Union's annual general assembly on progress:**

Commit to secure the additional, long-term domestic financing needed to close critical pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (pandemic PPR) funding gaps in Africa.

- As their economies grow, African states must **mobilise additional, long-term domestic pandemic PPR financing**. Pandemic PPR investments must be in addition to existing health and development financing.
- African governments must fulfill their [commitment](#) to allocating **at least 15% of their annual budgets to health** to help to reduce reliance on external donors and ensure that African countries have the resources they need to build and maintain resilient health systems.
- African political, business, philanthropy, and private sector leaders must promote **innovative domestic financing mechanisms** including public-private partnerships.
- African states should contribute to **financing the Pandemic Fund's** annual US\$10.5 billion goal according to their ability to pay, and financing should be additional to existing health and development commitments.
- Africa leaders must work with development partners, including multilateral development agencies, sovereign high-income countries and African philanthropy to create relationships based on **solidarity-driven development cooperation** for shared global health challenges, founded on equity, departing from the asymmetric "donor-recipient" model.

Commit to address current global imbalances by augmenting Africa's collective voice on global health matters and building regional and global partnerships.

- African countries should **strengthen regional and global public health collaboration**. African countries should work together with other countries and international organizations to share best practices and resources and to coordinate their response to public health threats.

- African states and civil society must work together to ensure that Africa's collective voice is heard and African positions on the global health security agenda are reflected in the ongoing **pandemic accord negotiations, International Health Regulations amendments, and the upcoming COP28**. All African countries must engage in these processes to the extent possible and make it a political priority.
- African countries should **strengthen African institutions for public health** and provide full support to continental institutions for public health, including Africa CDC and the African Medicines Agency (AMA), in execution of their mandates.

Commit to critically expand local health product manufacturing in Africa — currently only 1% of the continent's human vaccine needs manufactured on the continent.

- African political and business leaders must cooperatively establish and invest in **networked regional and sub-regional R&D and manufacturing hubs for vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics**.
- African states, civil society, and regional organizations must call upon **all vaccine purchasing mechanisms** — such as the Global Alliance for Vaccination and Immunization (Gavi), multilateral institutions, philanthropies, and other stakeholders — to **purchase at least 30% of vaccines from African manufacturers**.
- African political, civil society, and business leaders must call upon governments, multilateral organisations, philanthropies, private sector, and civil society organizations to **remove trade and intellectual property-related barriers to support Africa-based health product production**.

Commit to make African health systems gender responsive, pandemic- and climate-resilient.

- African political and business leaders must **strengthen Africa's health workforce** by building health worker capacities and capabilities, ensure access to social protection programmes — including for women health and care workers — as well as expand and strengthen community gender responsive health workers' programs in Africa.
- African governments must **design and implement gender responsive health policies and programmes based on gender-disaggregated data** and **increase the representation of women in leadership and decision-making positions** in the health sector.
- African political and business leaders must **make supply chains pandemic- and climate-resilient**. This will require building context-specific resilience and climate-sensitive disease surveillance to sourcing ingredients to the manufacturing, stockpiling, and delivering countermeasures.
- African governments must **invest in gender responsive primary health care and Universal Health Coverage** to improve health services in non-pandemic times, ensuring systems, policies, structures, and personnel are in place to flex and nimbly respond during health emergencies and to deliver technologies to the last mile.

We urge you to commit to these pandemic PPR priorities and deliver on them to help protect Africa and humanity from another devastating pandemic crisis, and build a more resilient, inclusive, and equitable public health system in Africa.

Yours sincerely,

1. Action for Rural Women's Empowerment (ARUWE)

2. Action Group for Health Human Rights and HIV/AIDS (AGHA)
3. Advocacy Network Africa
4. Afya na Haki (Ahaki)
5. Amis des Étrangers au Togo (ADET)
6. Amref Health Africa
7. Association For Promotion Sustainable Development
8. BudGIT Foundation
9. Burundi Secours
10. Coalition for Health Promotion and Social Development (HEPS-Uganda)
11. Coalition for Health Research and Development (CHReaD)
12. Community and Family Aid Foundation-Ghana
13. Community Working Group on Health (CWGH)
14. Dream Weaver Organization
15. DUMAIC GLOBAL HEALTH
16. East African Health Platform (EAHP)
17. Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS and Health Service Organizations (EANNASO)
18. Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network
19. Gavi CSO's Constituency
20. Generative Global Health Network (GGHNET)
21. Global Health Advocacy Incubator
22. Growth Dimensions Africa (GDA) Trust
23. International Community of Women Living with HIV Eastern Africa (ICWEA)
24. Kamukunji Paralegal Trust (KAPLET) Kenya
25. LightHouse Trust
26. LiveWell Initiative LWI
27. Lwala Community Alliance
28. Nigeria Health Watch
29. ONG AVES (Association des Volontaires pour l'Environnement Sain)
30. Organisation Congo Prévention Secours
31. Outreach Scout Foundation
32. Pandemic Action Network
33. PANdemic Preparedness PlaTform for Health and Emerging infections Response (PANTHER)
34. PATH
35. Peoples Health Movement Kenya
36. Resilience Action Network Africa
37. Rwenzori Center for Research and Advocacy (RCRA Uganda)
38. Southern Africa Heath Technologies Advocacy Coalition (SAHTAC)
39. Speakup Africa
40. Teenaid International
41. The Access Challenge
42. The Society for Children Orphaned By AIDS Inc. (SOCOBA)
43. Uganda Child & Aid Development Foundation (UGACAD)
44. Uganda National Health Consumers' Organisation (UNHCO)
45. Uganda National Institute of Public Health (UNIPH)
46. Uganda Peace Foundation

47. VillageReach
48. WACI Health
49. Women in Global Health Zimbabwe
50. Women With a Mission
51. Wote Youth Development Initiatives
52. Youth and Women for Change in Eswatini