

MOH DAILY NEWS BRIEF



Continental Strategy Targets Zero-Dose Children



The Africa CDC Continental Immunisation Strategy (CIS) has been launched during the 2026 World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Nairobi, bringing renewed focus to closing immunisation gaps across the continent.

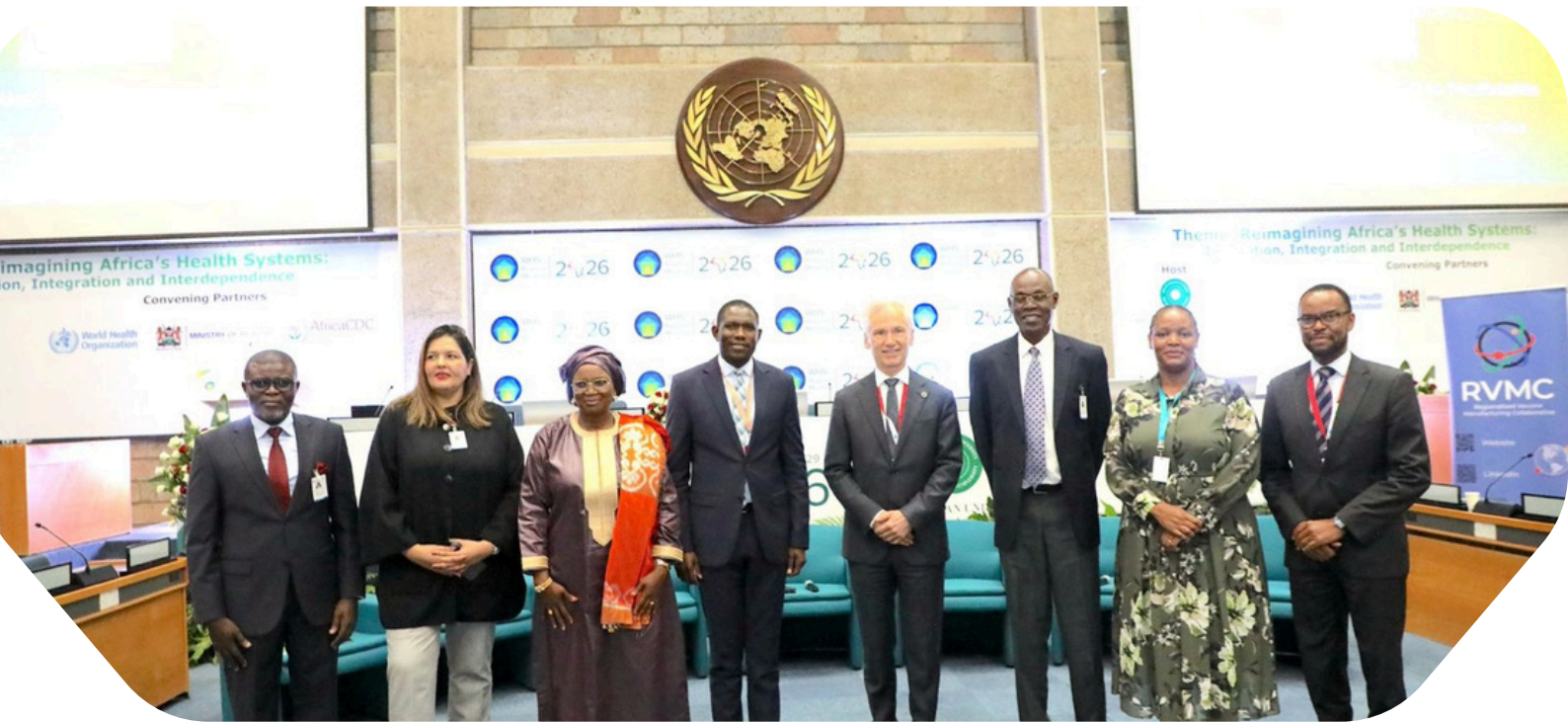
Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale joined continental leaders and partners for the high-level engagement, which also saw the release of a policy brief assessing the state of immunisation in Africa.

The strategy outlines a clear pathway centred on stronger national leadership, sustainable financing, equitable access to vaccines, and more resilient delivery systems. Priority areas include reaching zero-dose children, strengthening routine immunisation, and leveraging digital tools and surveillance systems to improve accountability and preparedness.

Kenya reaffirmed its alignment with these priorities, with ongoing reforms focused on expanding sustainable financing, integrating immunisation into primary health care, and delivering services closer to communities.

The initiative, led by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and supported by UNICEF, World Health Organization, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, signals renewed momentum towards faster, more equitable, and sustainable immunisation efforts across Africa.





Kenya Advances Regional Vaccine Manufacturing Agenda

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to regional vaccine manufacturing during a high-level panel at the 2026 World Health Summit Regional Meeting in United Nations Office at Nairobi.

The session, "From Political Commitment to Predictable Markets: Operationalising Regionalised Vaccine Manufacturing in Africa," brought together governments, partners, and industry leaders to define practical steps for implementation.

Dr. Oluga emphasised the need for predictable demand, pooled procurement, and long-term market signals to unlock investment and sustain production.



Discussions focused on financing, regulatory alignment, and advancing the African Pooled Procurement Mechanism as a "Buy African" approach.

The engagement builds on the AU Presidential Declaration under William Ruto, with a call for coordinated delivery, stronger regional collaboration, and sustainable financing to support Africa-led manufacturing and health security.

Participants included Dr. Frederik Kristensen, Dr. Michael Lusola, Dr. Chimwemwe Chamdimba, Dr. Mariatou Tala, Farah Losper, Dr. Peter Okwero, and Prof. Richard Oduor.





Data-Driven Approach Boosts Kenya's Malaria Fight

Kenya is scaling up data-driven approaches to malaria control to sustain progress and maximise impact amid tightening global financing.

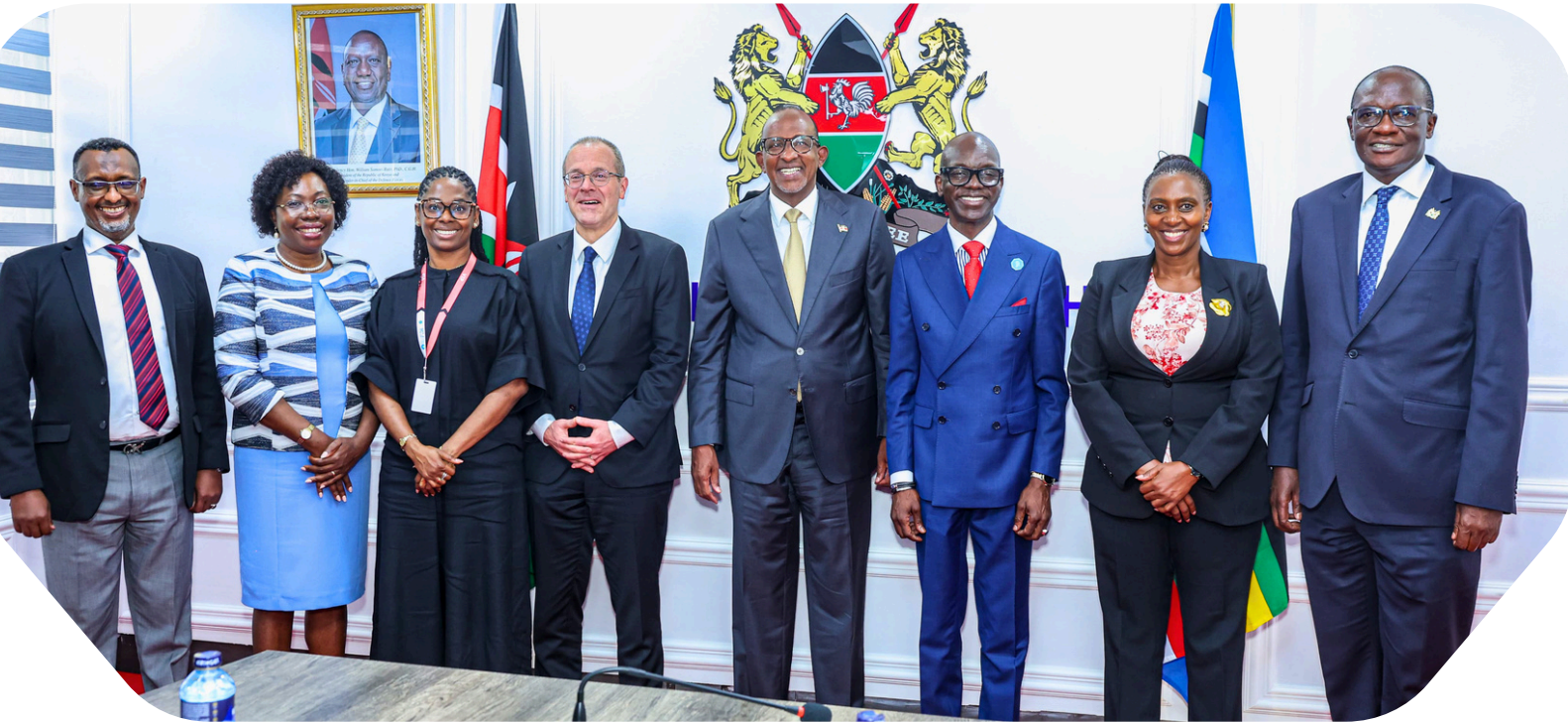
The country is advancing precision public health by targeting high-burden areas, improving efficiency in resource use, and ensuring investments deliver measurable outcomes.

A key intervention is the rollout of Multiple First-Line Therapies (MFTs) to preserve the effectiveness of antimalarial medicines and slow the emergence of drug resistance.

Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni outlined these priorities while opening a three-day workshop convened by the RBM Partnership to End Malaria in Nairobi.

The forum has brought together delegates from over 35 countries, alongside global and regional partners, to align strategies on optimising malaria interventions and maximising available funding.



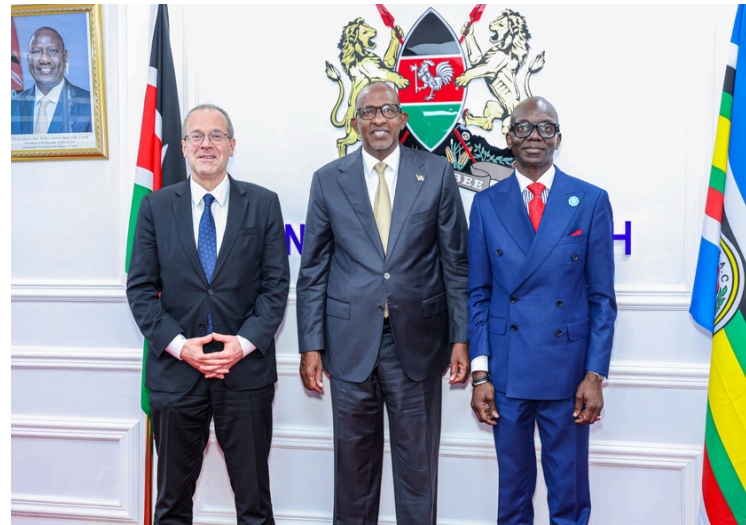


Kenya Strengthens Cooperation with WHO Regional Leadership

Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale hosted senior leadership from the World Health Organization on the sidelines of the 2026 World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Nairobi, reaffirming Kenya's commitment to strengthening its health system and advancing continental priorities.

The meeting brought together WHO Regional Director for Africa Dr. Mohamed Yakub Janabi, Regional Director for Europe Dr. Hans Kluge, and WHO Kenya Country Representative Dr. Neema Kimambo.

Discussions focused on Kenya's health sector reforms under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), with emphasis on Universal Health Coverage anchored on resilient systems, equitable access, and sustainable financing.



Key areas included strengthening global health cooperation amid fiscal and geopolitical pressures, advancing local pharmaceutical manufacturing, and enhancing regulation through the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, alongside Kenya's role in global health diplomacy to advance African priorities.

Discussions also covered South-South and Africa-Europe cooperation in workforce development, digital health, technology transfer, equitable supply chains, regional health security in the Horn of Africa, and integration of traditional medicine with support from the World Health Organization.

The Cabinet Secretary was joined by Dr. Ouma Oluga, Mary Muthoni, Dr. Patrick Amoth, and other Ministry officials.





Muthoni Calls for Reforms to Advance Women’s Leadership in Health R&D

Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni has called for targeted reforms to address structural barriers limiting women’s leadership in Africa’s health research and development systems.

Speaking at a high-level panel, “Designing Power: Women Leading Africa’s Health R&D Systems,” during the 2026 World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Nairobi, she emphasised the need to close gaps in access to funding, strengthen representation in decision-making spaces, and support progression into senior scientific and policy leadership roles.



The Principal Secretary highlighted Kenya’s commitment to creating an enabling environment for women-led research and expanding institutional opportunities as part of broader efforts to promote inclusive and equitable health systems.

She underscored that strengthening Africa’s health R&D systems will depend on ensuring women are not only participants in research and innovation, but also active decision-makers shaping priorities and outcomes.

The session brought together policymakers, researchers, innovators, and development partners to advance collaboration on inclusive health research systems.

HEALTH AND INNOVATION





Kenya Engages Amsons on Maternal Health Partnership

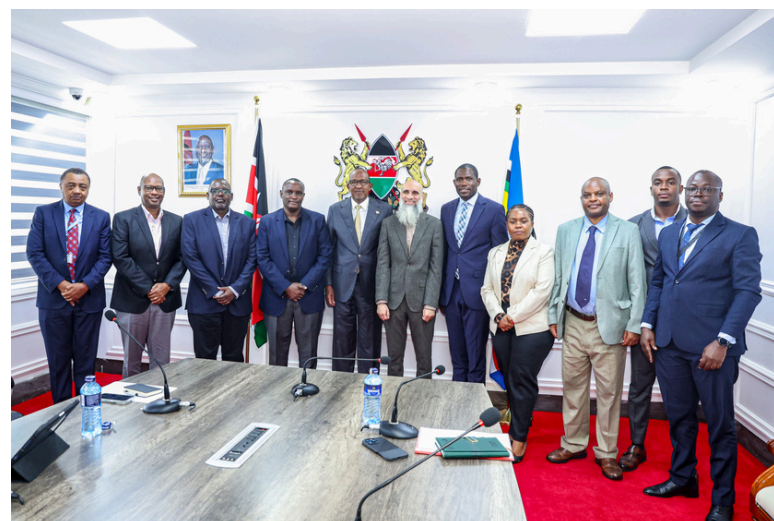
Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale held talks with a delegation from Amsons Group of Companies led by Group Assistant Managing Director Ahmed Abdallah on a proposed partnership to establish ten mother-and-baby hospitals across nine counties.

The discussions focused on a USD 40 million corporate social responsibility initiative, "A Promise to Life," aimed at expanding access to maternal and newborn health services in underserved and high-burden areas, in support of Kenya's Universal Health Coverage agenda.

Aligned to Sustainable Development Goal 3, the programme will be implemented in phases, starting with three facilities and scaling up through 2028. Each hospital is projected to serve at least 300 patients daily, strengthening service delivery for mothers and newborns.

Hon. Duale noted the initiative comes at a critical time, citing persistent gaps in maternal and newborn outcomes, and emphasised its potential to reduce inequities in access to essential care. He also highlighted ongoing sector reforms to improve efficiency, accountability, and service delivery.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga, Director of Nursing and Curative Services Dr. Andrew Toro, Amsons Project Lead Martin Kariuki, and other Ministry officials.





New Malaria Treatment Approach Targets Drug Resistance

Kenya is strengthening its malaria response through the rollout of Multiple First-Line Therapies (MFT), a strategic approach aimed at preserving the effectiveness of antimalarial medicines, slowing drug resistance, and improving long-term treatment outcomes.

The progress was highlighted during discussions on building human research capacity for malaria elimination in Africa at the ongoing World Health Summit Regional Meeting.

Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni cited Kenya's growing research and innovation ecosystem, anchored by Kenya Medical Research Institute, as key to supporting clinical research, implementation science, and health innovation.



She noted that adoption of MFT marks a significant shift in treatment policy, underscoring the need for sustained research, strong monitoring systems, and collaboration to ensure effective rollout and measurable impact.

The Principal Secretary also emphasised strengthening African-led research, expanding laboratory and surveillance capacity, and deepening partnerships to accelerate malaria elimination and sustain gains across the region.





PS Muthoni Calls for Stronger Cross-Border Epidemic Response

Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni has underscored the need to strengthen cross-border surveillance, enhance timely information sharing, and scale up joint response mechanisms to better prevent and manage epidemic and pandemic threats.

She spoke during a high-level side event at the 2026 World Health Summit Regional Meeting in Nairobi, held under the theme "Resilient Systems, Rapid Response: Innovative Strategies for Africa's Short- and Long-Term Epidemic Preparedness."

The Principal Secretary highlighted Kenya's progress in emergency preparedness, including a National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre and 26 county-level centres to improve coordination. She also pointed to expanded genomic sequencing capacity and strengthened surveillance through the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) strategy.

She further cited investments in workforce readiness, with 120 African Volunteer Health Corps personnel and 70 Public Health Emergency Management staff trained for rapid deployment.

The session brought together policymakers, experts, and partners to advance collaboration and share practical approaches to strengthening epidemic preparedness across Africa.

