



**“Substandard and falsified medical products are a threat to patient safety, health security and economic development. Addressing this challenge requires a coordinated whole-of-government approach.”**  
— Aden Duale

## Kenya Strengthens Ebola Preparedness Through Coordinated Partner Support

Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale convened a high-level consultative meeting with the United States Government, development partners and key stakeholders to review Kenya’s preparedness for the regional Bundibugyo Ebola Virus Disease (BEVD) outbreak and strengthen coordination despite the country having no confirmed cases.

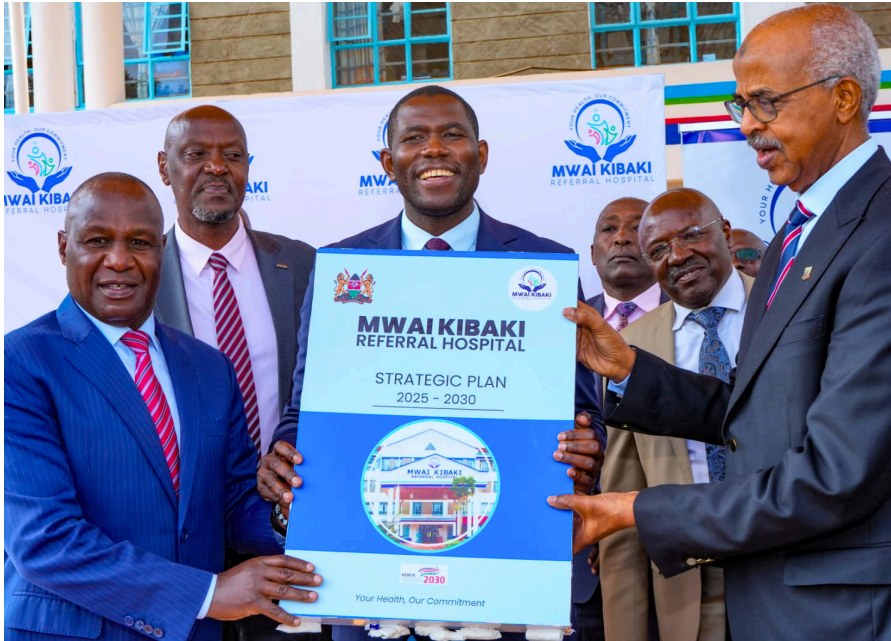
The meeting assessed progress made, identified priority gaps and reaffirmed a coordinated approach to enhance disease surveillance, laboratory capacity, emergency response, infection prevention and control, and preparedness at points of entry and health facilities.



Kenya has identified 25 high-risk counties for intensified preparedness activities through the Kenya National Public Health Institute (KNPHI), with the country’s Ebola preparedness score now standing at 66 per cent. The Cabinet Secretary called for accelerated partner support to strengthen isolation capacity, laboratory systems, rapid response teams, PPE supplies and healthcare workforce deployment.

Hon. Duale also reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to transparency and coordinated implementation through the One Plan, One Budget and One Monitoring Framework, while appreciating the continued partnership between Kenya and the United States in strengthening national health security and emergency preparedness.





**“Strong referral hospitals bring specialised care closer to the people.” — Dr. Ouma Oluga**

## Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital Transitions to Autonomous National Referral Hospital

Principal Secretary for Medical Services, Dr. Ouma Oluga, presided over the official handover of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital (MKRH) from the management of Kenyatta National Hospital, formally transitioning the facility into an autonomous State Corporation and a fully-fledged National Referral Hospital.

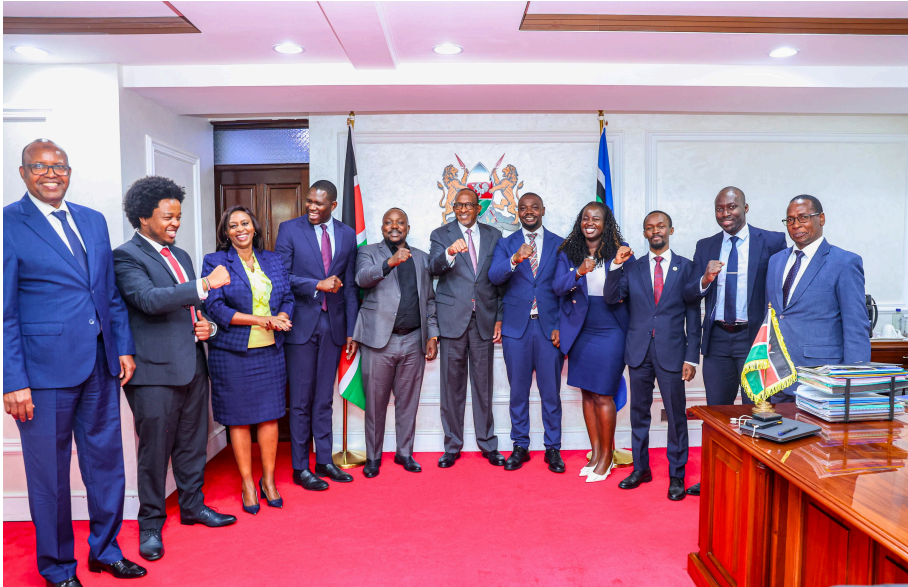
The transition marks a significant milestone in strengthening Kenya’s national referral healthcare system by expanding access to specialised healthcare services, enhancing institutional governance and bringing advanced care closer to communities.



During the ceremony, Dr. Oluga launched the Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital Strategic Plan 2025–2030, which will guide the hospital’s growth in specialised healthcare, medical education, research and institutional excellence in support of Universal Health Coverage.

The Principal Secretary also reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to supporting MKRH’s full operational independence, while commending ongoing infrastructure expansion, including the Mwai Kibaki Tower, which will strengthen specialised clinical services, training, research and critical care capacity.





**“Healthcare workers remain at the heart of Universal Health Coverage.” — Hon. Aden Duale**

## Government Reaffirms Commitment to Doctors’ Welfare and Health Sector Reforms

Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale held a consultative meeting with the leadership of the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU) to review progress on labour matters and reaffirm the Government’s commitment to strengthening collaboration with healthcare workers under the Taifa Care programme.

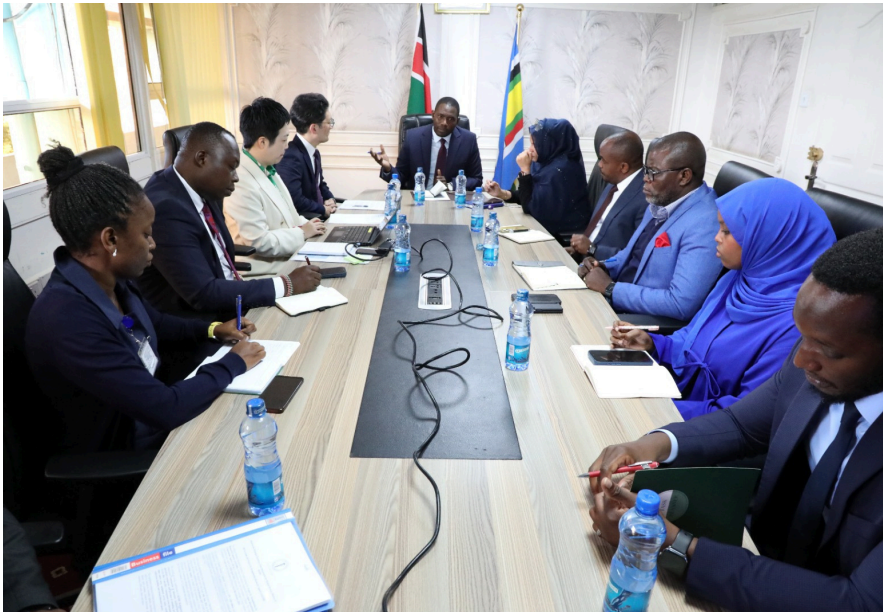
The Ministry confirmed measures to fast-track implementation of the doctors’ Collective Bargaining Agreement, including activation of the Integrated Personnel and Payroll Database (IPPD) code, payment of the 2024/2025 salary arrears through the September Supplementary Budget, and resolution of outstanding arrears affecting Ministry of Health doctors.



The meeting also agreed to revise the Social Health Authority (SHA) remittance deadline from the 9th to the 25th of every month to ensure uninterrupted medical cover for healthcare workers, while preparations for negotiations on the 2025–2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement are set to begin next week.

The Government further reaffirmed its commitment to progressively recruit 2,000 doctors, strengthen staffing across health facilities, resolve operational issues affecting national referral hospitals, and continue annual medical internship placements to support delivery of quality, accessible healthcare for all Kenyans.





**“Investing in local manufacturing strengthens Kenya’s health security.” — Dr. Ouma Oluga**

## Kenya and Japan Deepen Health Cooperation

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga met with the Japan–Kenya Joint Technical Working Group and Japan’s Chargé d’Affaires, Mr. Hori Tomonobu, to review progress in health cooperation, focusing on local pharmaceutical manufacturing, regulatory collaboration and health research.

The meeting welcomed Japan’s commitment to mobilise KSh 3 billion to support Kenya’s local vaccine manufacturing agenda through the State Department for Medical Services and KEMRI, alongside progress in strengthening regulatory harmonisation, expediting medicine approvals and combating substandard and falsified medical products.

Dr. Oluga noted that the partnership will strengthen Kenya’s capacity for vaccine research and production, enhance access to quality, safe and effective medical products, and support the country’s long-term goal of building a resilient and self-reliant health system.

Also present were Japan’s Chargé d’Affaires Mr. Hori Tomonobu, Japan Technical Advisor Ms. Kanako Okano, Directors Dr. Nazilla Ganatra and Ahmed Omar, Prof. Oduor of the Kenya Biovax Institute, and representatives from the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI).





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