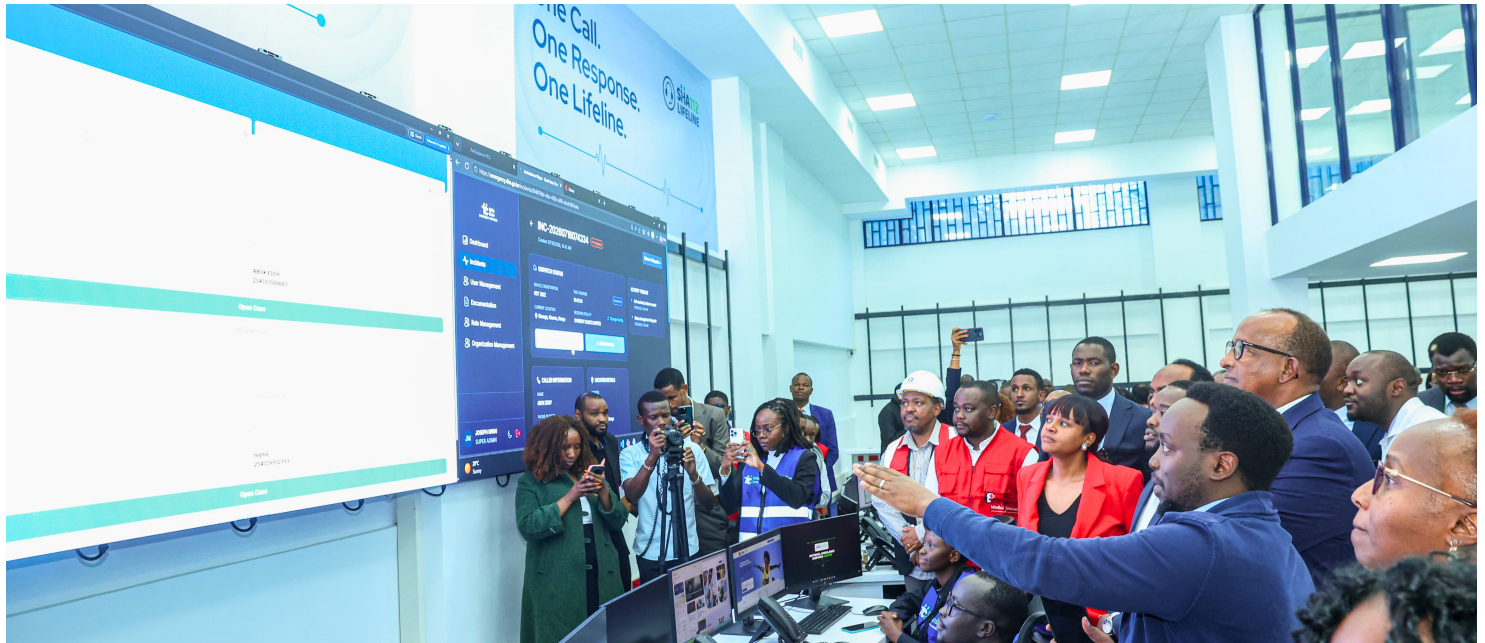




National Ambulance Dispatch Centre on course for launch

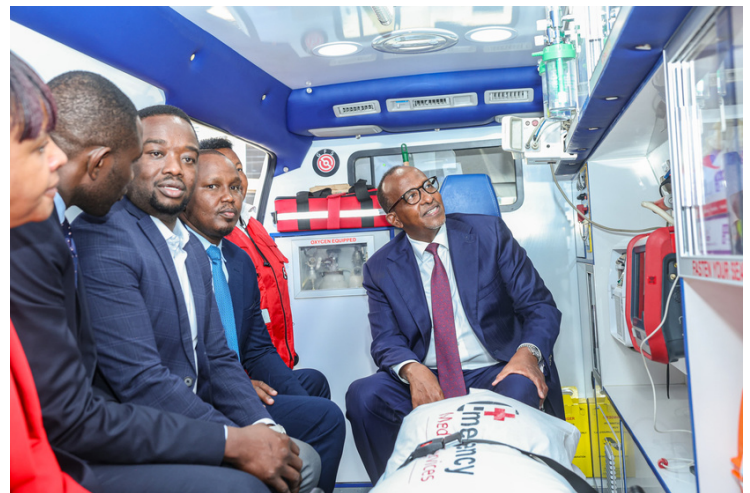
Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale inspected the National Ambulance Dispatch Centre at the Social Health Authority (SHA) Headquarters in Nairobi ahead of its official launch at the end of July 2026.

The inspection confirmed that the facility is more than 90 per cent ready for commissioning. The SHA 112 Lifeline will provide a centralised digital emergency dispatch system, coordinating emergency medical services nationwide and improving access to timely emergency care under the Taifa Care Model.

The platform has already integrated 97 KMPDC-accredited ambulances, with 186 ambulances registered. The Centre is equipped with integrated digital systems for call management, clinical triage, ambulance coordination and real-time patient referrals, supported by a trained team of 40 dispatch officers.

The initiative is expected to improve emergency response times, strengthen coordination among healthcare providers and connect patients to the nearest appropriate health facilities.

Present: Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga, Digital Health Agency Chief Executive Officer Eng. Anthony Lenayara and Social Health Authority Chief Executive Officer Dr. Mercy Mwangangi.





Partners align on digital health ahead of Kenya Health Summit

Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale convened a Health Sector Partners and Stakeholders' Breakfast Briefing ahead of the Kenya Health Summit, bringing together development partners, the private sector, professional bodies, civil society organisations and other stakeholders to align on the Summit's priorities.

The meeting reviewed progress in health sector reforms, with digital health identified as a key enabler of Universal Health Coverage under the Taifa Care Model. Discussions focused on interoperable digital health systems, data-driven decision-making, innovation and expanding access to quality healthcare services.



The Cabinet Secretary said the Summit will showcase Kenya's digital health transformation, strengthen partnerships, mobilise investment and accelerate the adoption of innovative technologies to improve health service delivery. He urged partners to continue supporting the Government's digital health agenda and to actively participate in the Summit.

Present: Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga, Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Ms. Mary Muthoni, Director-General for Health Dr. Patrick Amoth, World Health Organization Country Representative Dr. Neema Kimambo, Chief Executive Officers of State corporations and regulatory agencies, representatives of Development Partners in Health Kenya, the Kenya Healthcare Federation, civil society organisations, the Council of Governors Secretariat, United Nations agencies, Ministry directors, heads of departments and other stakeholders.





Government strengthens sickle cell care through UHC reforms

The Government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sickle cell disease through ongoing Universal Health Coverage (UHC) reforms.

Speaking at the Kenya Sickle Cell Disease Symposium 2026, Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga said reforms in health financing, digital health, workforce development and health commodity security are improving access to quality healthcare. He noted that the Social Health Authority (SHA) is reducing financial barriers to care while strengthening service delivery.



The Principal Secretary said the Social Health Insurance Fund provides an opportunity to integrate comprehensive sickle cell services, including newborn screening, early diagnosis, chronic disease management, specialist referrals and advanced therapies for eligible patients. He reaffirmed the Government's commitment to expanding newborn screening and strengthening collaboration with counties and partners to improve access to quality, affordable and dignified care.

Present: Gertrude's Children's Hospital Chief Executive Officer Dr. Robert Nyaranga, President of the American Society of Hematology Dr. Robert Negrin, Sickle Cell Federation of Kenya Chief Executive Officer Ms. Emily Gumba, representatives from county governments, development partners and other stakeholders.





EWENE partners review progress to accelerate maternal and newborn health

The Ministry of Health, led by Director-General for Health Dr. Patrick Amoth, convened a review meeting with RMNCAH stakeholders and development partners to assess progress in implementing the Every Woman Every Newborn Everywhere (EWENE) Rapid Results Initiative (RRI) following its launch by H.E. President William Ruto on 28 May 2026.

The meeting reviewed achievements, identified implementation gaps, strengthened coordination among partners and agreed on priority actions to accelerate implementation across all 47 counties.

Dr. Amoth called for urgent, coordinated and results-driven action to translate national commitments into improved county-level delivery of maternal and newborn health services. He underscored the importance of strengthening leadership and governance, improving quality of care, ensuring the availability of safe blood and lifesaving commodities, increasing skilled birth attendance, promoting respectful maternity care, enhancing public awareness and strengthening accountability across the health system.

The Ministry reaffirmed its commitment to working with counties and partners to accelerate implementation of the EWENE Rapid Results Initiative and improve maternal and newborn health outcomes nationwide.





Kirinyaga launches snakebite hotspot mapping exercise

The State Department for Public Health and Professional Standards, through the Kenya Institute of Primate Research (KIPRE) and the Kenya Snakebite Research and Intervention Centre (K-SRIC), in collaboration with the County Government of Kirinyaga, has launched a countywide snakebite hotspot mapping exercise to support the development of a locally produced antivenom.

The exercise will determine the burden and geographical distribution of snakebite cases across the county to generate evidence for prevention, improved case management, strategic antivenom distribution, strengthened surveillance and referral systems, and the development of an affordable antivenom tailored to Kenya's local snake species.

The findings will guide planning and resource allocation, strengthening snakebite prevention, preparedness and management while improving access to life-saving treatment for affected communities.





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