



Government Intensifies Crackdown on Illicit Tobacco and Ethanol

The Government today intensified efforts to combat illicit trade and protect public health through a multi-agency inspection of confiscated cigarettes and ethanol products at the Kenya Revenue Authority warehouse in Ngoigwa, Thika.

Led by Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni, the inspection verified the seized products, oversaw the collection of samples for laboratory analysis and safeguarded the chain of custody as investigations continue.

The consignments were recovered during a coordinated operation in Makongeni, Thika West Sub-County, where authorities seized 66 drums of ethanol and 17,640 packets of cigarettes concealed beneath hides and skins. Seven suspects were arrested.

The Principal Secretary reaffirmed the Government's commitment to enforcing the Tobacco Control Act, strengthening surveillance, enhancing intelligence sharing and sustaining multi-agency operations to curb illicit trade. She also called for the swift completion of investigations, laboratory analysis and prosecution of all those found culpable in accordance with the law.





PS Oluga Visits Ghana Medical Simulation Centre

On the sidelines of the African Union Extraordinary Session, Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga, accompanied by Kenya's Ambassador to Ghana H.E. Shem Amadi, visited the Medical Training and Simulation Centre at the University of Ghana Medical Centre, where he was received by the Centre's Director, Dr. Christian Owoo.

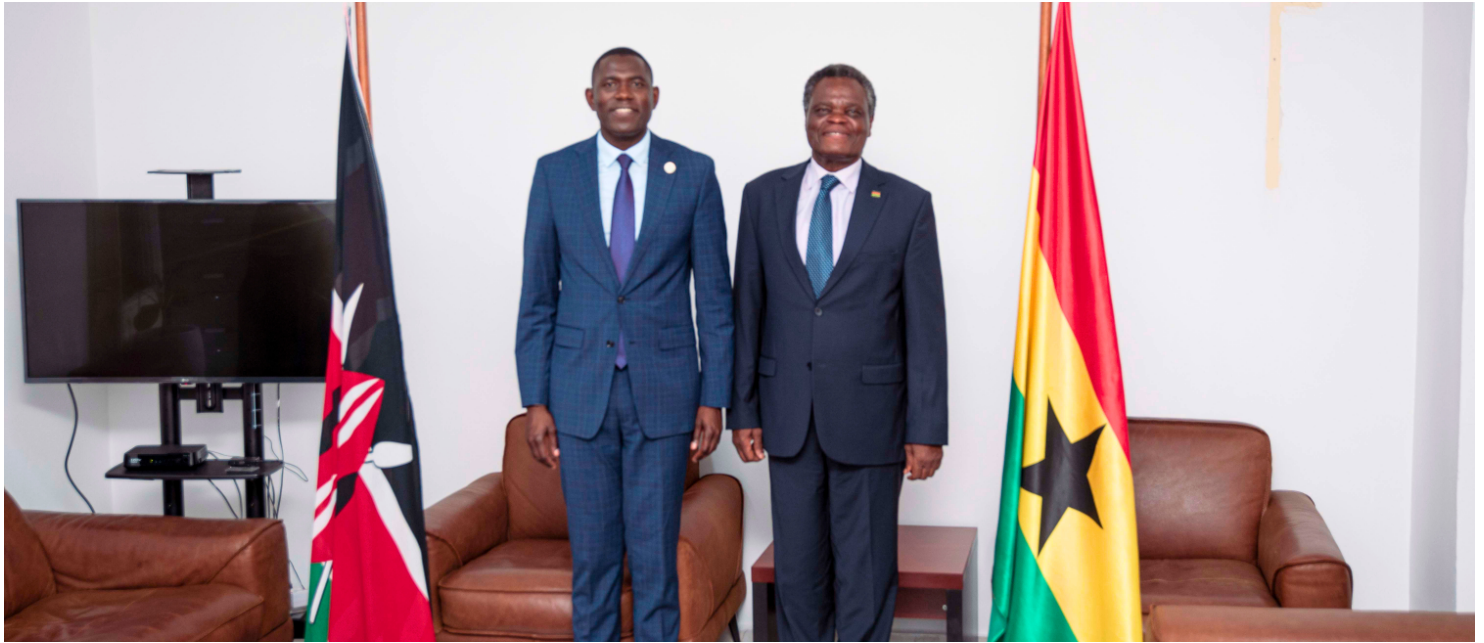
The visit provided an opportunity to explore how simulation-based training and digital technologies are strengthening medical education by enhancing clinical skills, standardising training, improving patient safety and ensuring healthcare professionals demonstrate competence before providing care in real clinical settings.

Dr. Oluga noted that technology-enabled medical education is critical to building a skilled and future-ready health workforce capable of responding to evolving healthcare needs.

The visit builds on the Kenya-Ghana Memorandum of Understanding, which seeks to strengthen collaboration in digitising health workforce regulation, including the use of technology to support competency tracking, professional licensure and continuous professional development.

The engagement reaffirmed the shared commitment of Kenya and Ghana to advancing digital health education, strengthening health workforce capacity and deepening South-South cooperation to build resilient and self-reliant health systems across Africa.





Kenya and Ghana Deepen Bilateral Health Cooperation

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga visited the Kenyan Embassy in Accra, Ghana, where he held discussions with Kenya's Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Col. (Rtd) Shem Ishahilidza Amadi, on strengthening Kenya-Ghana cooperation in the health sector.

The meeting explored opportunities to expand collaboration in Universal Health Coverage, primary healthcare, digital health, health workforce development, pharmaceutical regulation, health technology assessment, health security and the local manufacturing of medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and other health products.



Dr. Oluga highlighted Kenya's ongoing health reforms, including the implementation of the Social Health Authority, and underscored the importance of institutional partnerships, technical exchanges and shared learning to strengthen health systems. He also sought the Embassy's support in facilitating closer collaboration between the health institutions of Kenya and Ghana.

The engagement reaffirmed the shared commitment to deepen South-South cooperation and establish a structured framework to advance joint health priorities, strengthen regional health security and promote resilient health systems across Africa.





Kenya and Ghana Deepen Bilateral Health Cooperation

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga held a bilateral meeting with Ghana's Minister for Special Initiatives, Hon. Emmanuel Kwadwo Agyekum, in Accra to strengthen Kenya-Ghana cooperation in health, digital innovation and economic development.

The discussions focused on advancing digital health transformation through artificial intelligence, telemedicine, interoperable health information systems, digital medical education and simulation-based training to strengthen healthcare delivery and develop a future-ready health workforce. The two leaders also explored opportunities to expand collaboration in the local manufacturing of medicines, vaccines, medical technologies and essential health commodities to strengthen Africa's health security.

The meeting further underscored the importance of strengthening government, institutional and private sector partnerships to accelerate intra-African trade, remove barriers to the movement of goods, services, technology and skilled professionals, and advance a digitally connected, industrially competitive and self-reliant Africa.





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