

WEEKLY BULLETIN | 4 -10 August 2025



Spotlight

Africa CDC Drives Continental Strategy for Pandemic Readiness

Africa CDC convened top negotiators from across the continent in Addis Ababa to review the continental position on Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS). This follows the adoption of the Pandemic Accord by WHO Member States at the 78th World Health Assembly in May.

Last week's meeting resulted in bold priorities and a unified strategy that puts Africa in a leading role - ensuring fair access to health tools, in addition to promoting technology transfer as well as strengthening emergency preparedness for all.

The Pandemic Accord came in the wake of COVID-19, which exposed major gaps and inequalities in how countries responded to the crisis. In response, WHO's 194 Member States agreed to develop a global agreement to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. The aim is to ensure that all communities and sectors - both nationally and globally - are better equipped and treated more fairly when facing future pandemics.

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Africa Public Health Podcast: Season One Recap



Public health in Africa is evolving-and so is the conversation. Season one of the Africa Public Health Podcast, powered by Africa CDC, brought together expert voices from across the continent to unpack Africa's most pressing health challenges and home-grown solutions.

Over six compelling episodes, the series explored emergency preparedness, digital innovation, health workforce development, ethical research, and the power of genomics-highlighting African-led strategies that shaped the public health response across the continent.

All episodes are available now on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and the Africa CDC website

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Africa CDC's call on Health Financing

Africa CDC is advancing its strategic agenda on sustainable health financing. Read the latest concept note, "Rethinking Africa's Health Financing in a New Era: Toward Sustainable, Resilient, and Self-Reliant Health Systems", outlining the core pillars for transforming Africa's health financing architecture.



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Forging Africa's Path to Health Independence



Achieving health sovereignty is essential to building a safer, stronger Africa, said Dr Jean Kaseya. In an interview with Executive Forecast, he emphasised the continent's urgent need to secure equitable access to vaccines, medicines and diagnostics.

He called for greater investment in systems that are locally led and owned — including expanding manufacturing capacity, strengthening primary health care, developing digital public health infrastructure and ensuring rapid response to

outbreaks. Dr Kaseya also outlined how Africa CDC is actively translating this vision into action.

He suggested that recent cuts in global health funding could serve as a turning point. Africa CDC is using this moment to promote sustainable health financing — driving domestic investment, tapping into innovative funding sources, and building resilient systems for the continent's future.

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DIRECTOR GENERAL'S

ENGAGEMENTS



WHO Regional Head Visits Africa CDC

Dr Jean Kaseya, Director General of Africa CDC, hosted the newly-appointed Regional Director of the World Health Organization African Region (WHO-AFRO), Prof Mohamed Yakub Janabi.

Their meeting at the Africa CDC headquarters centred on strengthening collaboration to advance a shared goal: protecting and promoting the health of all Africans. They agreed that the

future of health across Africa hinges on strong, coordinated partnerships.

Prof Janai is a prominent cardiologist, health strategist and global health diplomat. His first five-year term began on 30 June 2025. He succeeds Dr Matshidiso Moeti, who led WHO in the African Region since 2015.

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Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report: 3 August 2025

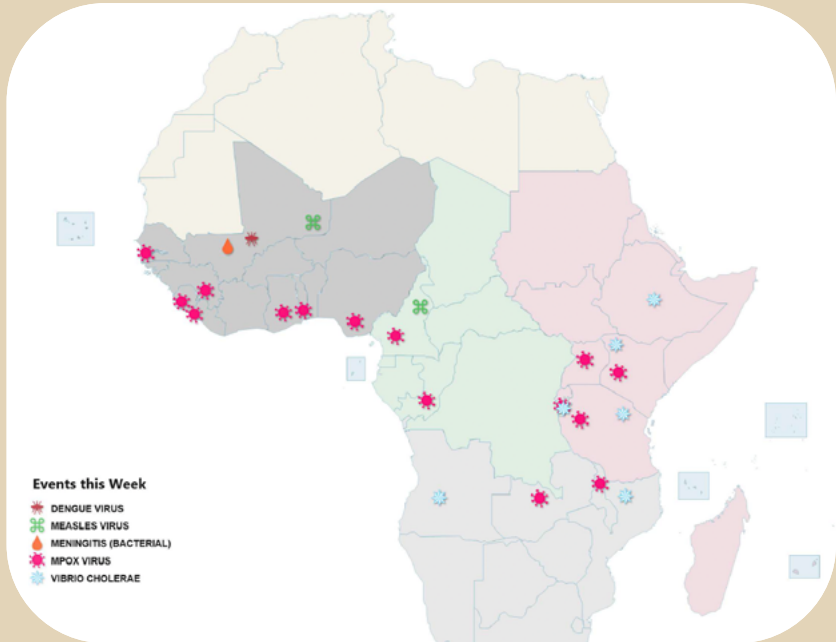
Weekly real-time insights on public health threats across the continent

The Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report highlights the epidemiological situation, risk assessments, and public health interventions by affected Member States, partners, and Africa CDC.

Focusing on moderate to very high-risk events, the report tracks a range of threats from emerging infectious dis-

eases to natural disasters through a One Health, multisectoral lens. Events affecting both single and multiple countries are covered, empowering Member States and partners with the latest intelligence for timely, effective response.

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Preparing for the Next Pandemic Starts Now



The next pandemic is not a matter of if, but when, according to Dr Jean Kaseya. In an interview during Abu Dhabi Global Health Week, he called for urgent investment in resilient health systems, regional manufacturing and sustainable financing to protect lives and economies.

Dr Kaseya emphasised that Africa must be a full and equal partner in shaping the global health response. "Global health cannot wait," he noted - a message that remains just as relevant today.

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Africa CDC Congratulates UKHSA's New CEO



Following the appointment of Professor Susan Hopkins as Chief Executive Officer of the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Africa CDC has extended its warm congratulations, wishing her success. Dr Jean Kaseya commended Professor Hopkins for her unwavering dedication to public health and disease

prevention - a commitment that he said continues to inspire the global health community. He reaffirmed the importance of the strong collaboration between Africa CDC and UKHSA, grounded in a shared mission to advance global health security.

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Guiding Action with Insight: Africa CDC's Latest Report



Africa CDC is developing a new report to serve as a strategic guide for tackling the continent's most pressing health challenges. The Africa Public Health Intelligence Report will provide timely insights into emerging and ongoing health emergencies, trends in antimicrobial resistance, and priority areas

for medical countermeasures and research. By anticipating risks and informing targeted action, Africa CDC is advancing health security and strengthening resilience across Africa.

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