

**WEEKLY BULLETIN | 20-26 April 2026**



**Spotlight**

**Africa CDC–European Union Partnership Deepens with Landmark Health Security Agreement**

The Africa CDC–European Union partnership reached a new milestone, with the signing of a landmark Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen health security for both regions.

The agreement was concluded during a visit by H.E. Jozef Sikela, the EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, and hosted by Dr Jean Kaseya, reflecting a shared recognition that health threats transcend borders and require coordinated, cross-continental action.

The partnership is expected to deepen collaboration across preparedness and response, health systems strengthening and efforts to address emerging and ongoing public health challenges.

The engagement brought together Ethiopia's Health Minister, Dr Mekdes Daba Feyssa, along with representatives from the European Commission and ambassadors accredited to Addis Ababa, signalling strong political support and alignment.

Africa CDC underscored that the partnership is anchored in trust, shared priorities and a commitment to deliver tangible impact, advancing resilience and collective preparedness for both African and European populations.

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**Ending Malaria Becomes a Defining Test of Africa's Health Sovereignty**

Malaria has taken enough from Africa, and the moment has come for the continent to end it, Dr Kaseya argues.

In his reflection for World Malaria Day 2026, Dr Kaseya positions the fight against malaria as a defining test of Africa's health security and sovereignty - arguing that ending the disease is no longer only a public health ambition, but a measure of the continent's ability to lead, finance and sustain its own health priorities.

He outlines five priority actions Africa CDC is advancing to reach 2030: strengthening

surveillance and rapid response systems; scaling local manufacturing of essential commodities; closing financing gaps through domestic and innovative funding; accelerating the deployment of new tools, including vaccines; and reinforcing primary health care systems to ensure last-mile delivery.

For Dr Kaseya, the message is direct: ending malaria will depend on African-led solutions, backed by political will, sustained investment and coordinated action across the continent.

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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 homegrown solutions.

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

[Listen in...](#)

**Financing Africa's Health Security and Sovereignty**

Africa's health-financing landscape has entered a decisive transition. After two decades of progress supported by expanding development assistance for health (DAH) and disease-specific programmes, the continent now faces a convergence of fiscal pressures that threaten the sustainability of health systems and recent gains in coverage and outcomes.



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**5 Pillars**



**AFRICA'S HEALTH SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY AGENDA**

**Africa's Health Security and Sovereignty (AHSS)** agenda builds on the New Public Health Order adopted in 2022 after COVID-19. It addresses reduced aid, recurring outbreaks and fragile supply chains. Centred on five pillars - governance, preparedness, financing, digital innovation and local manufacturing - AHSS seeks to strengthen resilience and cut external dependence. By 2040, Africa aims to produce 60% of essential health products, secure its data and lead in global health.

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**DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ENGAGEMENTS**



**Africa CDC at #WHS2026**  
27 - 29 April 2026 | Nairobi, Kenya

- 27 April**  
▶ 14:00 - 15:30 (EAT / GMT+3)  
Room CR2  
**African High-Level Ministerial Committee (AHLMC) on Global Health Architecture Reform**
- 27 April**  
▶ 17:00 - 18:30 (EAT / GMT+3)  
Room CR1  
**Accelerating Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through Multisectoral Action on NCDs**
- 28 April**  
▶ 08:00 - 09:30 (EAT / GMT+3)  
Room CR2  
**Operationalising Africa's Health Financing Reform**
- 28 April**  
▶ 15:30 - 17:00 (EAT / GMT+3)  
Room CR2  
**Launch of the Continental Immunisation Strategy (CIS)**

**On the margins of the WHS**

Africa CDC & Government of Kenya MoU Signing Event to operationalise the Eastern Africa RCC during the AHLMC event

- 27 April**  
▶ 17:00 - 18:30 (EAT / GMT+3)  
**Africa CDC & Africa Frontline First MoU Signing Event**

**Convening Partners**



**Lagos Talks Spotlight Private Sector Investment and Local Manufacturing**



Arriving in Lagos on 24 April, Dr Kaseya met with Aliko Dangote, alongside his Senior Advisor, Benedict Oramah. The discussions focused on advancing Africa's health security and sovereignty, including

strengthening local manufacturing, catalysing private sector investment and building more resilient health systems across the continent.

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**Africa Looks to AI and Digital Innovation to Strengthen Health Systems**

A meeting between Dr Kaseya and H.E. Dr Abiy Ahmed focused on advancing key priorities, including the Prime Minister's new role as the African Union Champion for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Health.

highlighting the potential for practical, inclusive and equitable impact. Dr Kaseya expressed his intention to deepen collaboration in support of a healthier and more resilient Africa.



The discussions underscored the importance of innovation in shaping Africa's health future, with emphasis on harnessing AI and digital technologies to strengthen health systems, expand access and improve outcomes across the continent. Africa CDC welcomed Ethiopia's leadership and its commitment to sharing experience in advancing digital health,

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**Financing Reform and Immunisation Drive Nairobi Agenda**

At the World Health Summit Regional Meeting taking place in Nairobi (27-29 April 2026), Africa CDC will drive key conversations shaping Africa's health future, with a focus on health financing reform, system strengthening and Africa-led solutions, explained Dr Kaseya. He noted that Africa CDC will lead the launch of the Continental Immunisation Strategy, a key step in strengthening resilient and

self sustaining health systems across the continent.

Dr Kaseya added that the agency will engage partners and stakeholders in Nairobi around the priorities shaping the continent's health agenda.

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**Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report: 8 April 2026**

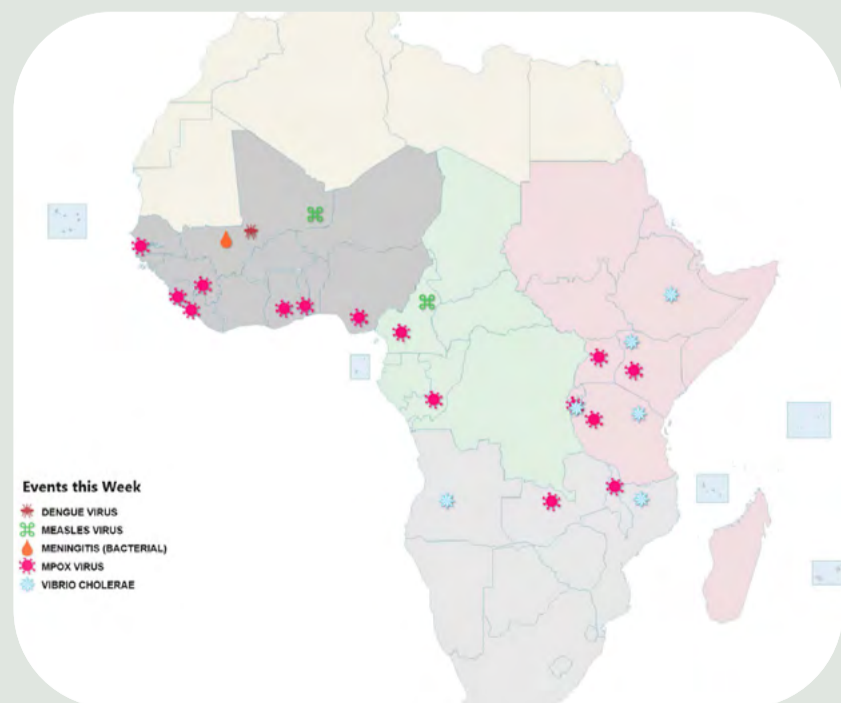
**Weekly real-time insights on public health threats across the continent**

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.

From moderate to very high-risk events, the report tracks a range of threats-from emerging infectious diseases 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.

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

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**Immunisation as Africa's Economic Shield**

Every US\$1 invested in immunisation returns up to US\$40, highlighting the strong economic case for sustained investment, Dr Kaseya said. He noted that under-immunisation costs Africa an estimated US\$20-30 billion each year, placing a significant burden on health systems and economies.

Marking African Vaccination Week, Dr Kaseya underscored a clear message: immunisation is not an expenditure, but an investment in stability, growth and Africa's long-term resilience. Vaccines, he added, protect families, safeguard economies and secure Africa's future.

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**Algeria Eliminates Trachoma, Bringing Continental Goal within Reach**

Algeria has become the 29th country globally and the 10th in the WHO African Region to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem - a milestone welcomed by Africa CDC.

integrated, data-driven and community-owned approaches - anchored in primary health care, WASH, strengthened surveillance, and broader continental health priorities.

As of 24 April 2026, at least 13 African Union Member States have been WHO-validated as having eliminated trachoma as a public health problem.

Africa CDC notes that elimination across all 55 AU Member States is within reach, stressing that the next phase must shift from fragmented disease control to



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