

**WEEKLY BULLETIN | 23-29 March 2026**



**Spotlight**

**Addis Ababa Named Host of CPHIA 2026, Strengthening Africa's Public Health Leadership**

Addis Ababa has been selected to host the 5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA). Dr Jean Kaseya made the announcement following discussions with H.E. Ambassador Berhanu Tsegaye and the Government of Ethiopia.

Africa CDC is working closely with national authorities to prepare for what is expected to be a landmark public health convening on the continent.

As the diplomatic capital of Africa, Addis Ababa provides a fitting platform to bring together

governments, partners, researchers and practitioners to advance Africa's public health agenda. More than 30,000 participants are anticipated to gather for this significant moment of collaboration, innovation and collective action.

Dr Kaseya extended his appreciation to the Government of Ethiopia for its strong commitment and partnership in hosting this major continental gathering.

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**Africa Urged to Accelerate Action for Mothers and Newborns**

Nearly 178,000 mothers and 1 million newborns die every year in Africa, most from preventable causes.

At the International Maternal Newborn Health Conference 2026, Dr Kaseya delivered a keynote address underscoring the urgent need to accelerate progress in maternal, newborn and child health across the continent.

He emphasised that the solutions are well-known. In his view, what is needed is delivery

at scale, stronger health systems, sustainable financing, innovation and country led action. This, he noted, is not only a health imperative but also an issue of justice, development and sovereignty.

Dr Kaseya stressed that no woman should die while giving life, and no child should die from preventable causes. Africa must lead this effort and deliver, he said.

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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

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**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**



**Nairobi Discussions Focus on Advancing Health Security and System Resilience**

During a visit to Kenya, Dr Kaseya met with H.E. Hon. Aden Duale, the Cabinet Secretary for Health, for a wide-ranging discussion.

Their engagement centred on deepening strategic cooperation between Africa CDC and the Government of Kenya to advance continental health security, strengthen resilient health systems and accelerate progress toward universal health coverage.

Dr Kaseya acknowledged Kenya's leadership and its sustained commitment to improving the health and well being of its people. He also reaffirmed Africa CDC's dedication to this partnership, underscoring its importance in driving collective progress and reinforcing regional health priorities.

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**AU Names H.E. Jakaya Kikwete to Key Regional Leadership Role**

Dr Kaseya extended warm congratulations to former Tanzanian president H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete on his appointment as the African Union High Representative for the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea.

He underscores that peace, stability and strong regional cooperation are critical foundations for health security and sustainable development, noting that H.E. Kikwete's leadership comes at a pivotal moment for both the region and the continent.



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**Radio France Internationale Highlights Africa's Health Priorities**

In a discussion with Radio France Internationale (RFI), Dr Kaseya addressed the broader dynamics of US-Africa health financing and their implications for the future of health systems across the continent.

He emphasised that Africa's progress will depend on remaining aligned with core strategic priorities: strengthening health sovereignty, upholding responsible and secure data governance, along with advancing equitable partnerships that put people first.



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**Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report: 25 February 2026**

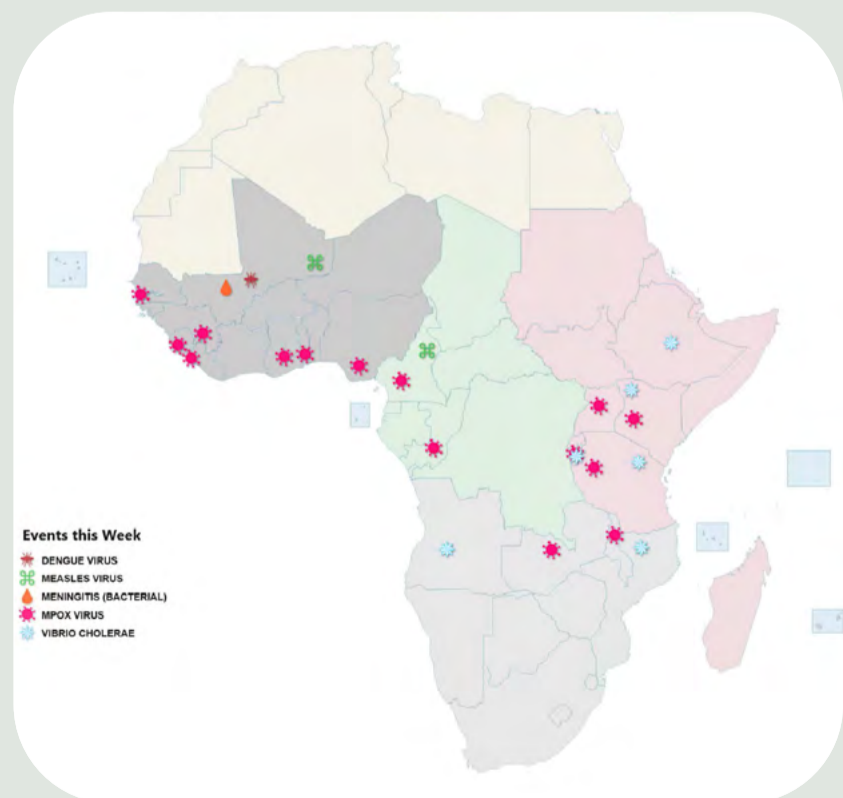
**Weekly real-time insights on public health threats across the continent**

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.

Events 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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**Ending TB: A Critical Priority for Africa's Health Security**

As he joined World TB Day commemorations, Dr Kaseya called for increased domestic investment, stronger primary health care, enhanced surveillance systems and sustained political commitment to close the tuberculosis detection gap across the continent.

He noted that TB continues to impose a significant economic and social burden on Africa, costing the continent billions each year through reduced productivity, heightened pressure on health systems, and growing hardship for families.



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**Africa CDC Expands Training Pipeline to Accelerate Vaccine Manufacturing Capacity**

Africa aims to manufacture the vaccines it needs by 2040, but achieving this goal will require growing the continent's biomanufacturing workforce from fewer than 3,000 to a projected 12,500 experts.

To help close this gap, Africa CDC and the African Vaccine Manufacturing Initiative (AVMI) have launched Cohort 2 of the Industrial Fellowship Programme in Vaccine Manufacturing - a fully funded, one year programme designed to develop Africa's next generation of biomanufacturing leaders.

Fellows will gain hands on experience in vaccine manufacturing and current Good

Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) at leading facilities in Egypt, Senegal and South Africa, helping to build the skills and capacity essential to Africa's vaccine manufacturing agenda.



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