

The MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin summarizes key activities, including meetings of the preceding week, carried out by the Offices of the Minister and Chief Medical Officer, Directorates, Programmers, and Agencies of the Ministry.

Top stories



Minister of Health & Sanitation attends CyLab-Africa Summit in Rwanda



Africa CDC Hosts Emergency Ministerial Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response



Food and Nutrition Directorate Intensifies Breastfeeding Campaign

Minister of Health & Sanitation attends CyLab-Africa Summit in Rwanda



Health Minister, Dr. Austin Demby has on Tuesday, 11th October 2022, participated in the CyLab-Africa Summit on Digital Public Goods in Kigali, Rwanda.

The Summit brought together government and private sector stakeholders from across Africa and beyond to navigate around how Digital Public Goods (DPG) can be used to accelerate the digital transformation of Africa securely, privately and equitably.

In the Minister's presentation, he made connection between digital transformation across Africa and its crucial duty and obligation to guarantee and promote health security across all life stages in the attainment of Universal Health Coverage. He went further to explain how Sierra Leone's health sector is employing innovative approaches that focus on the needs of the patient.

Minister Demby and other Health Ministers across Sub-Saharan Africa have signed a communique on Cross Border Collaboration for Preparedness and Response to Ebola Virus Disease in Uganda.

The document is predicated on the seemingly endemic nature of Ebola disease in the region and the increasing potential for transmission into neighbouring countries and beyond. Hence, the need for robust joint monitoring of cross-border actions by member states.

Dr. Austin Demby shared Sierra Leone's experience with managing the Ebola Virus and relayed the Ministry's active health security structure in planning for and responding to disease outbreaks. He said "it is better to overreact than to underreact".

Africa CDC Hosts Emergency Ministerial Meeting on Ebola Preparedness and Response



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Food and Nutrition Directorate Intensifies Breastfeeding Campaign



The Directorate of Food and Nutrition continues its nationwide Implementation of the 'Stronger with Breastmilk Only for the First Six Months for Healthier Babies' initiative.

The 'Stronger with Breastmilk Only' initiative targets policymakers, health professionals, the media, and community structures on Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC). It aims to discourage caregivers from giving infants water (the most given pre-lacteal feeds) during the first six months of life and improve the exclusive breastfeeding rate, which is low at 54% and reach our target of 75% by 2030.

With support from UNICEF, a nationwide orientation has been conducted for all district nutritionists, social mobilization officers, and district radio representatives. This was to support engagement at the district level for traditional leaders, community stakeholders, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and other caregivers.

The National Eye Care Programme within the Ministry of Health and Sanitation has, on Thursday, 13th October 2022, celebrated World Sight Day and introduced the first-ever National Eye Care Policy.

MoHS Launches National Eye Care Policy

This year's theme 'Love Your Eyes' advocates for personal attention to and intensive advocacy for eye health. It also recognizes the invaluable work of ophthalmologists across the world. According to Sightsavers, 2.2 billion people – a quarter of the world's population – have a visual impairment. And nearly half of this visual impairment could have been prevented, or could still be avoided.



National Eye Care Programme Manager, Dr. Jalikatu Mustapha explained the Eye Health Policy will ensure fair access to standard eye care services across the country and drew attention to a range of issues surrounding blindness and visual impairment.

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Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Clinical Services) Creates Partnership in Kenya



Deputy Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Services, Dr. Mustapha Kabba, has visited Mediheal Group of Hospitals in Kenya.

The visit was to carefully study their scope of work and identify possibly areas of collaboration in enhancing clinical care in Sierra Leone.

Mediheal Group of Hospitals is the leading and largest healthcare service provider in East Africa with rapid expansion plans across the continent

offering the full spectrum of integrated healthcare services from clinics to hospitals to tertiary care and a wide range of ancillary services.