Africa Health Agenda International Conference (AHAIC) Commission on the State of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Africa

AFRICA HEALTH AGENDA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2021

CALL FOR COMMISSIONERS



Amref Health Africa has established the AHAIC Commission on the State of UHC in Africa. The Commission's mandate is from October 2020 through March 2021 with a specific focus on impacting health policies as African countries progress toward achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The Commission will be convened and chaired in the interim by Amref Health Africa until a governance structure is established. The Secretariat of the Commission will be housed by Amref Health Africa.

To this end, Amref Health Africa invites Expressions of Interest from individuals across Africa to serve on the newly established Commission. Thought leaders in public health, public policy, health financing and accountability, leadership, research and innovation. Policy-makers are encouraged to apply.

Member Composition: The Commission will include nine (9) global health experts from a range of disciplines and sectors across Africa. These experts will review and assess outputs based on policy relevance, and technical sophistication of analysis. Membership will:

- Represent the geographic diversity of Africa, ensuring youth representation and ensuring gender balance;
- Create links and build on the work of other Commissions, High-Level panels and intergovernmental processes;
- Be informed by guidance from institutions such as Africa CDC, APHRC, African Academy of Sciences, African Development Bank, etc.; as well as academic institutions.

The initial meeting will be held in **October 2020**. The frequency of subsequent meetings will be determined by the formed Commission.

Eligibility: To be eligible, applicants must possess a track record of rigorous health research and policy analysis to shape and impact policy as well as gravitas. Individuals must have a strong portfolio of literature on the subject matter(s). A commitment to the Commission is expected and individuals should be comfortable with declaring no conflict of interest.

Application Process: The following documents should be submitted to **AHAIC.Commission@Amref.org** :

- **Expression of Interest** (*no more than 2 pages*): State reason for interest to serve on the Commission. Summarise strengths, skills and experience in generating evidence to inform and influence health policy in Africa;
- Top policy publications (*no more than 5 publications*) that the individual has contributed to or led;
- CV;
- List of Professional and Board memberships. Highlight role where applicable.

Screening of applicants will be based the following **eligibility criteria:**

- Subject matter expert in public health, health leadership and governance, accountability, technology/innovation and health security in Africa;
- Track record of thought leadership on health policy issues related to building resilient health systems and informing public debate on the African continent;
- Demonstrated capacity to synthesise policy issues;
- Affiliation with entities considered credible by policy makers. Individuals with affiliations to public health and policy institutions will be given high consideration;
- Willingness to lend contacts with government officials, other policy actors and thought leaders to identify key issues, share outcomes and stimulate policy debates;
- Significant achievements including examples of "policy event(s)/policy changes" in which the individual was instrumental in achieving.

Key Dates:

» Call Launched: **Friday, 18 September 2020**
» Submission Deadline: **Monday, 5 October 2020**
» Commissioners Announced: **Friday, 9 October 2020**

Questions can be submitted via email to **AHAIC.Commission@Amref.org**. We look forward to receiving in your submissions.

Overview of the AHAIC Commission on the State of UHC in Africa



AHAIC 2019 ended with a resolve to achieve UHC in Africa by 2030 through increasing ACCESS to health services; improving the effective delivery of QUALITY health services; establishing mechanisms to guarantee adequate and sustainable publicly-led FINANCING; and lastly, strengthening ACCOUNTABILITY to safeguard transparency and efficiency at all levels and specifically people-led accountability. Underlying this is the requirement to improve health systems performance, leadership, governance and return on investment. The complete communiqué can be found **here**.

AHAIC will be hosted virtually in March 2021. The theme is *Decade for Action: Driving Momentum to Achieve UHC in Africa*. **The AHAIC Commission on the State of UHC in Africa will serve as an independent body responsible for reviewing Africa's progress toward UHC targets by 2030 and providing recommendations, specifically in leadership, accountability, technology/innovation and health security**. At the close of AHAIC, the Commission is expected to launch the Africa Health Commission Report for achieving UHC and building resilient health systems.

Why an AHAIC Commission on the state of UHC in Africa? The 2017 Lancet Commission on the future of health in sub-Saharan Africa was the last Commission of African physicians, health scientists and policy-makers tasked with analysing the challenges and opportunities for health in sub-Saharan Africa. The Commission's messages underscored continued innovation in health, people-centered health systems and commitment towards good governance.

The AHAIC Commission on the state of UHC in Africa will be tasked with building on these key messaging and advising on evidence-based policies necessary to shape resilient health systems across Africa as we aim to achieve UHC in 2030. In addition to launching the Africa Health Commission Report for achieving UHC, the Commission will develop think pieces contributing to the discussions during AHAIC. These pieces will inform the Report to be launched at the close of AHAIC 2021. This Report will inform subsequent discussions on UHC in Africa and more importantly contribute to the mid-term review of UHC.