



Ministry of Health



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**2025**

Safari Park Hotel  
Nairobi, Kenya

## Communique

### **Regional Health Promotion Conference 2025:**

Empowering Communities  
for Inclusive Universal  
Health Coverage through an  
Intersectional Approach



# Theme

## Empowering Communities for Inclusive Universal Health Coverage Through an Intersectional Approach

We, the participants of the **Regional Health Promotion Conference 2025**, representing governments, international organizations, civil society, academia, development partners, and community leaders, reaffirm our commitment to health promotion as a core pillar of **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)**.

**Recognizing** health as a fundamental human right, we acknowledge the urgent need to strengthen health systems, address social determinants of health, and ensure equitable and inclusive healthcare access for all.

## Key Resolutions and Actions

### 1. Strengthening Community Engagement and Social Accountability

- **Governments and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs):** Expand **citizen-led monitoring** of health services, using tools such as the **Intersectional Community Scorecard (ICSC)** to enhance transparency and accountability.
- **Local Health Authorities:** Establish **inclusive dialogue platforms** to bridge communication gaps between communities and decision-makers.
- **Community-Based Organizations:** Promote public awareness of **health rights and grievance redress mechanisms** to empower individuals to demand quality healthcare.
- **All Stakeholders:** Invest financially in **community engagement**, as well-funded strategies are essential for meaningful change.

### 2. Addressing Social Determinants of Health

- **National and Local Governments:** Ensure universal registration in **social health insurance** schemes to expand coverage and accessibility.
- **Youth Organizations & Schools:** Integrate **health promotion education** into school curricula, focusing on nutrition, mental health, and reproductive health.
- **Development Partners:** Invest in **community-led interventions** that address gender-based violence, climate resilience, and economic barriers to healthcare.

### 3. Leveraging Technology for Health Promotion and Equity

- **Ministries of Health:** Enhance the use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** and **digital health platforms** for maternal health, disease prevention, and early diagnosis.
- **Health Service Providers:** Develop **SMS-based health information systems** to reach underserved populations, ensuring accessibility for those without internet access.
- **Private Sector & Innovators:** Expand **partnerships in digital health** to create cost-effective, scalable solutions for UHC implementation.
- **Invest in Telemedicine**

### 4. Strengthening Mental Health and Sexual & Reproductive Health Services

- **Governments & Health Institutions:** Scale up investment in **mental health services**, integrating them at **primary healthcare levels**.
- **CSOs & Youth Networks:** Advocate for **youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services**, ensuring accessibility without discrimination.
- **Regional Bodies:** Harmonize policies on **gender-based violence (GBV)** and **harmful traditional practices** across East Africa.

### 5. Climate-Resilient Health Systems

- **National & County Governments:** Develop **climate-sensitive health policies** to mitigate the impact of climate change on vulnerable populations.
- **Communities & Health Advocates:** Promote **sustainable diets and nutrition programs** in schools and healthcare facilities.
- **Health Researchers:** Conduct research on the **intersections of climate change, health, and nutrition** to inform policy.

### 6. Preventing and Managing Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

- **Governments & Health Institutions:** Invest in **preventive measures and treatment programs** for major NCDs such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases.
- **Local Governments & Urban Planners:** Establish **green spaces and infrastructure** to encourage physical activity and combat sedentary lifestyles.
- **Regulatory Bodies & Media:** Strengthen policies on **food, alcohol, and tobacco advertisement restrictions** to curb risk factors.
- **Schools & Community Centers:** Implement **nutrition education and physical activity policies** to instil lifelong healthy habits.

## 7. Social and Behavioural Change for Effective Health Promotion

- **Health Ministries & Research Institutions:** Conduct **action research** to tailor **Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions** to meet community needs.
- **Community Leaders & Civil Society:** Build **trust** as a foundation for meaningful engagement and sustainable health outcomes.
- **Governments & Private Sector:** Ensure adequate **financial investment** in community-based interventions to drive lasting behaviour change.

## 8. Sustainable and Equitable Financing for UHC

- **Governments & Regional Leaders:** Reform social health insurance systems to ensure equitable financing for the poor and vulnerable.
- **Development Partners:** Support innovative domestic resource mobilization strategies, including philanthropy and cross-sector collaboration.
- **CSOs & Advocacy Groups:** Strengthen social accountability mechanisms to track healthcare financing and prevent inefficiencies.

## 9. Whole-of-Government and Whole-of-Society Approach

- **All Government Sectors:** Ensure **inter-ministerial coordination** to integrate health promotion into policies across education, environment, and finance.
- **Private Sector & Civil Society:** Strengthen **public-private partnerships** to mobilize resources and expertise for UHC.
- **Regional Leaders:** Promote **gender equity and inclusion** as central principles in all health strategies and policies.

## 10. Addressing human resources challenges for health promotion

- **Strengthening** health promotion workforce by recognizing professionals and volunteers at national/county & regional levels.
- **Policy & Advocacy:** Advocate for policies that support funding and workforce development.
- **Workforce Regulations:** Ensure health promotion professionals have defined roles and professional standards.
- **Recruitment:** targeted recruitment, deployment and retention of health promotion personnel.
- **Continuous Professional Development:** Provide ongoing training and certification opportunities for health promotion personnel.
- **Technology Integration:** Train health promotion providers on digital health tools and data-driven decision-making.



## Call to Action

We call upon **governments, international agencies, civil society, and private sector partners** to:

- **Prioritize investment** in health promotion as a key strategy for achieving UHC.
- **Strengthen multi-sectoral collaboration** to address health inequities effectively.
- **Scale up digital innovations** to improve healthcare accessibility and efficiency.
- **Ensure accountability mechanisms** are in place for sustainable health system financing.
- **Empower communities** to take an active role in their own health and well-being.
- **Invest in community engagement and behavioural change strategies** to ensure policies translate into action.

This communique serves as a guiding framework for immediate and mid-term actions that will drive meaningful progress in **health equity, inclusivity, and resilience** across our region. We commit to translating these resolutions into tangible actions that will improve health outcomes for all.

## Adoption and Endorsement

This declaration is endorsed and adopted by the participants of the Regional Health Promotion Conference 2025 and will be a reference for future health promotion initiatives at local and regional levels.

Signed:

[List of Participating Organizations]