



## THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON IMMUNIZATION IN AFRICA

24-25 FEBRUARY 2016 | ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

### ABOUT MCIA

The Ministerial Conference on Immunization in Africa (MCIA) brings together African leaders — including health and other line ministers — alongside advocates, technical experts, policymakers, donors and journalists to advance a dialogue about how best to drive forward and achieve universal access to immunization. This will be the first-ever ministerial-level convening with a singular focus on ensuring that people across the continent can get access to life-saving vaccines.

### THE VALUE OF VACCINES

- Vaccines are a major reason child deaths in Africa **decreased by 55%** from 1990 to 2012.
- Because of efforts to reach more children with polio vaccines, Africa has **surpassed one year without a single case of wild poliovirus**.
- Every **\$1 invested in vaccines leads to more than \$16 in economic benefits**; vaccines make children and economies healthy.

### CHALLENGES IN AFRICA

- **One in five children** in Africa does not receive basic life-saving vaccines.
- Only **nine countries** in Africa reported immunization coverage greater than 80% in all districts in 2014.
- Only **15 African countries** fund more than 50% of their national immunization expenditure.

### THE WAY FORWARD

The conference serves as a powerful platform for governments to demonstrate their commitments to expanding access to vaccines across Africa.

#### Discussions will focus on:

- Building political will
- Securing sustainable financing
- Empowering local communities
- Collecting better data
- Strengthening supply chains

## MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

On Thursday, 25 February ministers will sign a declaration committing to keep immunization at the forefront of efforts to reduce child mortality, morbidity and disability, and in doing so help countries achieve their long-term health, economic and development goals. In June 2016, the declaration will be presented to the African Heads of States at the 26th Summit of the African Union. Support from heads of state will further empower countries to increase efforts to mobilize resources for national immunization programs.

### FULFILLING A PROMISE: ENSURING IMMUNIZATION FOR ALL IN AFRICA

To coincide with MCIA, the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean are jointly releasing a report on the state of immunization on the continent.

The report highlights the achievements made in expanding access to immunization and discusses some of the remaining challenges to achieving universal access. Key topics include new vaccine introduction, the role of health systems and approaches to financing immunization on the continent.

### CONFERENCE DETAILS & RESOURCES

**Hosts:** The conference is hosted by the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa, the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, the African Union and the Government of Ethiopia.

**Attendees:** Over 500 people will attend the conference, including heads of state from across the continent.

**Website:** [www.immunizationin africa2016.org](http://www.immunizationin africa2016.org)

**Twitter:** @AfricaVaxConf

**Hashtag:** #MCIA16

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