



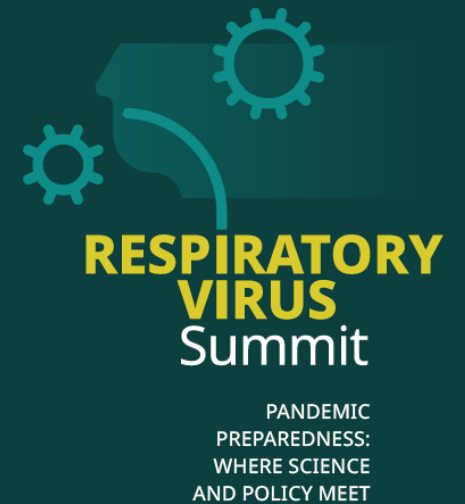
RESPIRATORY VIRUS Summit

organised by **ESWI**

PANDEMIC
PREPAREDNESS:
WHERE SCIENCE
AND POLICY MEET

Expert panel views on preparedness

Dr. Lwazi Manzi, *AU Commission on Africa's COVID-19 Response, South Africa*



Working towards a **New Public Health Order**

The four pillars of a New Public Health Order



STRENGTHENED PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTIONS



LOCAL MANUFACTURING OF VACCINES, THERAPEUTICS, AND DIAGNOSTICS



A STRENGTHENED PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE



RESPECTFUL LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

New public health order necessities

This new order will necessitate:



A strengthened Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and national public health institutions (NPHIs)
 >>> The Africa CDC must play a central role in the new public health order.



Local production of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics
 >>> Local production of vaccines, medicines, and diagnostics is critical to safeguard Africa's health security.



Investment in public health workforce and leadership programs
 >>> Adequate investment to develop and maintain a prepared cadre of public health experts and leaders will be fundamental.



Respectful partnerships
 >>> A new public order will require that Africa develop effective and trusting partnerships with the private sector.

DRAFT
**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFRICAN UNION RESPONSE
ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN AFRICA, BY H.E. CYRIL MATAMELA RAMAPHOSA,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



30 January 2022

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE AU HEALTH COMMISSION ON COVID-19
FOLLOWING THE PROGRESS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER
SUBMITTED 20 DECEMBER 2021

The Assembly,

1. **WELCOMES** the report of the AU Health Commission on COVID19, led by the AU COVID19 Champion, H.E. Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa, on the progress made in the response to the COVID19 pandemic.
2. **COMMENDS** H.E. President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa for his leadership in Africa's response to the COVID19 pandemic; and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the critical role of the AU Commission and the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in their effective response to the pandemic.
3. **RECOGNIZES** that disease threats require a multi-agency response through strong continental institutions including the Africa CDC and the Africa Medicines Agency (AMA).

health workforce; initiating and expanding local manufacturing enterprises for all commodities required in pandemic response and particularly vaccines; and mobilizing appropriate technical and financial resources for preparedness and response.

5. **ENDORSES** the Progress Report of the AU Health Commission on COVID19 including all its recommendations.
6. **DECIDES** to extend the role of H.E. President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa as the AU COVID19 Champion.

Recommendations Endorsed at 35th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly

1. Heads of State and Government to provide increased support and leadership for COVID vaccination in 2022 to ensure that the Continent reaches the 70% target set by WHO
2. **The process to develop the African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority**
3. **Establishment of the *African Epidemic Fund***
4. Support the operationalization of Africa CDC including
 - a. Endorsing the Commission's proposal to make Africa CDC a specialized autonomous health body of the Union and recommends it to the A.U. Assembly for consideration
 - b. endorses the Commissions' proposed governing structure allowing for strategic leadership and ownership by the Member States at the highest level of Heads of State and Government
 - c. endorsing the proposal to upgrade the position of the head of Africa CDC.

What is AU Mandate for the Establishment of APPRA

- The 35th Ordinary Session of African Union Heads of States Summit endorsed the recommendations contained in the AU Commission on COVID 19 Response Strategy through Assembly/AU/Dec. 816(XXXV).

What is African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority (APPRA)

- APPRA derives its mandate from the AU Heads of State and Government
- AU COMMISSION ON COVID-19 chaired by AU COVID-19 Champion H.E President Cyril Ramaphosa recommended the need

*“to develop a **continental** pandemic preparedness and response mechanism that can address critical issues related **to coordination, financing, and equitable access to medical countermeasures**”*

- **African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority (APPRA) will operate under the framework of AU/Africa CDC**

Why African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority (APPRA)

- Over the past decades, the African continent has experienced significant number of public health emergencies
- The 2014 West Africa Ebola outbreak weakened the continent justifying the need to strengthen its continental mechanisms on public health emergency preparedness and response
- As a result, in January 2017 Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was launched by the AU Heads of State and Government
- On a similar pattern in 2020 the wake of COVID-19 in Africa, posed substantial threat to the achievement of AU Agenda 2063, the Africa Health Strategy 2016-2030 and other continental flagship programs.

Why African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority (APPRA continued)

- The continent was better organized to respond to COVID-19: Africa Joint Continental Strategy underpinned by the 4 Cs (Coordination, Collaboration, Cooperation and Communication)
- More than 12 continental initiatives that will shape the future of Pandemic preparedness and response in Africa were designed initiated and implemented
- Remarkable political commitment, solidarity and collaboration were observed during the Pandemic response
- The global mechanisms have failed the continent once again. Specifically on access to essential countermeasures (vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics).
- This situation justified the need for further strengthening the continental mechanisms on pandemic preparedness and response.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE INITIATIVES



1 Africa Task Force for Novel Coronavirus (AFTCOR)



3 African Union COVID 19 Response Fund



5 Africa Medical Supplies Platform (AMSP)



2 Africa Joint Continental Strategy for Covid-19



4 Partnership to Accelerate COVID19 Testing (PACT)



6 Consortium for COVID-19 Clinical Vaccine Trials (CONCVACT)

COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE INITIATIVES



7 Saving Lives, Economies and Livelihoods



9 Partnership African Vaccine Manufacturing



11 African Union Trusted Travel Portal



8 African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team (AVATT)



10 African Pathogen Genomic Initiative



12 Saving Lives and Livelihoods

How will African Pandemic Preparedness and Response Authority (APPRA) Operate?

- The APPRA will not contradict with the existing structure and mandate of Africa CDC, however
 - Will strengthen the work of Africa CDC by providing further legal mandates, such as operations and declaring Public health Emergency of Regional Concern
 - Create the legal and institutional basis to host and administer ***African Pandemic Response Fund***
 - Provides the legal and institutional mechanism towards a strong pandemic intelligence gathering through strengthening Africa CDC's mandate on surveillance including widening it towards collaborating with zoonotic and food sectors
 - Will augment ***Coordination with whole of society and whole of government approach***
 - It will enhance the continents capability ***Development and acquisition of medical countermeasures***
 - Facilitates ***Cross Border and Regional Collaborations***
 - Provide statutory basis, to collaborate with important continental peace and security bodies on biosafety and prevention of biohazards.

What is the global experience similar to APPRA

European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA): Getting ready for future health emergencies

*...a **budget of €6 billion** from the current Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2022-2027....*

PANDEMIC PREPARDNESS | NATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Press release

**UK Health Security Agency launches
with a relentless focus on keeping the
nation safe**

THE STRAITSTIMES

Malaysia committed to reforming
healthcare system post-pandemic

What is our ask as the AU COVID-19 Commission?

- Familiarize with the recent AU Summit Decision
- Advocate for the international community to rally behind the recommendations of the Covid-19 champion
- Rally behind APPRA



THANK YOU



LEARN MORE AT

africacdc.org/covid-19

Safeguarding Africa's Health