



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

150TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

National Statement on Agenda ItemS 11: Immunization Agenda 2030; 12: Infection prevention and control and 13: Global Road map on defeating meningitis by 2030

Thank you Chair

1. Kenya aligns her statement to that made by Guinea Bissau on behalf of the 47 Member States of the Africa Region.
2. Immunization is listed as a priority service in the Kenya Essential Package for Health within the context of Universal Health Coverage. Kenya provides immunization services at 9,000 health facilities, with a target to immunize 1.5 million children annually. In 2020, the coverage of the 3rd dose of DTP-containing vaccine improved from 83% in 2019 to 85%.
3. Recognizing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the healthcare system, and immunization in particular, Kenya has issued policy guidance to ALL service providers to maintain Routine immunization sessions as long as National COVID-19 response measures allow.
4. We have also identified cohorts of children who may have missed their vaccine doses and we are in the process of implementing a National Accelerated Immunization drive to reach the missed children and respond to heightened risk of vaccine preventable diseases.

5. Working with UNICEF, GAVI and other partners, Kenya is committed to the timely procurement and distribution of all vaccines to service delivery points to ensure un-interrupted availability of immunization commodities.
6. On IPC, Coordination and implementation is guided by the Kenya National IPC policy and Strategic Plan 2021 that is managed by the National IPC Advisory Committee (NIPCAC). We are in the process of establishing IPC advisory Committees at the sub-national level with 10 having ben already established out of the targeted 47.
7. On COVID-19 response, Kenya has developed and reviewed key guidelines and guidance such as COVID-19 IPC guidelines and rational use of PPE and provides regular feedback to the National COVID-19 taskforce on the status of COVID-19 IPC. Capacity building has also been provided to both healthcare workers and non-health care workers on COVID-IPC.
8. Finally Chair, turning to the global road map on defeating meningitis by 2030, Over 1.2 million cases of bacterial meningitis are estimated to occur worldwide each year. Many cases and deaths from meningitis are vaccine preventable, but progress in defeating meningitis lags behind that for other vaccine-preventable diseases.
9. Kenya mounted a mass vaccination campaign in the five sub-national regions that fall within the meningitis belt in June 2019 with a coverage of 66% being achieved.
10. As a follow up to this, Kenya is in the progress of strengthening surveillance for meningitis by conducting a round of countrywide sensitization and initiating case-based surveillance for meningitis in the 5 regions.
11. I thank you.