



## CONCEPT NOTE FOR MAISHA CONFERENCE 2019

*Theme: Leveraging the HIV Response to Accelerate Impact for UHC*

### Background

The biennial Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference has been held over the last decade and continues to provide a platform that brings together key stakeholders locally, regionally and internationally ranging from policymakers, researchers, programmers, implementing partners and communities from all levels to share emerging evidence and lessons learnt for the HIV response.

### Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019

**Rationale:** The Kenya HIV response has made significant progress in the 4 key objectives: reducing new annual HIV infections by almost 50% in the life of the AIDS Strategic Framework; reduced AIDS-related mortality by 52%; and increased resources in health and HIV. However, there remains paucity of data on HIV stigma reduction. Despite the progress made, Kenya will not reach her Prevention 2020 targets and her 90-90-90 goals unless there are adjustments to programming at the service delivery level. Such adjustments must be accompanied by joint stocktaking exercises by Government (National and County), development and implementing partners and key constituencies such as the faith sector, women opinion leaders, persons living with HIV and the private sector, that address the challenges related to policy, technical and operational programming, as well as those related to accountability, governance and sustainability of the HIV response. Critical issues of consideration for the HIV response are the implications of the scale-up of Universal Health Coverage, a key priority of the Kenyan Government and the African region. This means there are lessons to learn from other Countries in the region through a South to South collaboration on the lessons that they have for the HIV response that can be leveraged on to promote the impact of UHC, but also, very importantly, accelerate HIV incidence reduction, which remains the most sustainable cost-containment strategy for the HIV response. Thus, as the Kenya AIDS Strategic Framework 2014/15 – 2018/19 comes to its end and a new national strategy initiated in the coming financial year, it must be articulated within the context of UHC.

**The Conference:** The Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019 will be held from May 9-10, 2019 at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies in Nairobi, Kenya.

*The primary purpose of the Conference will, therefore, be to explore the key lessons learnt and opportunities within the HIV response that can be leveraged on for accelerated impact for UHC, while accelerating progress for HIV prevention.*

## Key Questions

- i. What are the key lessons from the HIV response (in programming, governance, coordination, implementation, stakeholder engagement, community ownership and sustainability) that can be applied to the UHC agenda to accelerate its impact?
- ii. What specific opportunities are existing in the HIV response that can be harnessed for the UHC agenda and what needs to be done?
- iii. What adjustments are required on our HIV programmes at National and County levels to accelerate progress towards HIV prevention 2020 targets and 90-90-90 targets?
- iv. What commitments can key HIV constituencies make towards accelerating progress towards HIV prevention and treatment targets and towards UHC?
- v. What are the potential pitfalls in the implementation of UHC for the HIV response, and what are the specific mitigation actions for enhanced program and service delivery?

It is clear that it may not be possible to address these questions during the two-day Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference. A series of targeted **Pre-conference Meetings**<sup>1</sup> have been organized, whose agenda will be responding to the issues and questions raised in this concept. These meetings include:

### Technical Meetings

- i. Joint AIDS End Term Review Meeting (JAETR): focusing on HIV programming, leadership & sustainability, these will be meetings of 4 clusters of the 47 counties that will aim to bring together County leaders including the County Executive Committee (CEC) Members for Health, and Chairs of County Health committees.
- ii. A follow-up meeting of all County CEC members will be held on May 8, 2019, to consolidate County experiences and decisions of CECs in preparation for the Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference panel session.

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<sup>1</sup> Each Pre-conference Meeting has a fully developed Concept Note

## **Constituency Meetings**

- i. Adolescents and Young People (AYP) Advocacy Forum: aiming to provide adequate focus on the provision of comprehensive Adolescent and Youth services to enhance the health and wellbeing of young people by providing them with a platform to advocate for their health needs while building their capacity.
- ii. Women Opinion Leaders Forum: to provide an opportunity to assess the efforts and contributions made by women opinion leaders in the HIV response and champion for women's engagement in recognition and uptake of UHC.
- iii. National MIPA Forum: to deliberate on how to ensure the active and meaningful engagement of the people living with, at risk of and affected with HIV, while also serving as a National PLHIV leadership forum.
- iv. County Inter-Faith Chairs Meeting: which will provide a platform to effectively reach religious leaders and ensure that their continual participation, contribution, and perspectives inform the national HIV response, while identifying lessons learned and what the sector can do better for effective implementation of the Faith sector Action Plan in accelerating impact for UHC.

Further, a meeting of the Directors of National AIDS Commissions of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition member states will be held prior to the Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019 on May 7-8, 2019.

## **Conference Objectives**

In view of the stated rationale, the objectives of Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019 include:

- i. To review progress and identify next steps for accelerating HIV prevention and treatment target attainment
- ii. To identify lessons, opportunities and critical drivers for the HIV response that can be used to accelerate UHC targets
- iii. To identify specific actions by different constituencies in the HIV response that can be leveraged to accelerate UHC
- iv. To identify potential challenges for HIV programming in the scale-up of UHC and propose mitigation measures for achievement of UHC in Kenya

## **Conference Focal Areas**

In order to achieve the goals of this Conference and also respond to the questions raised, the following will be part of the focus of the Pre-conference Meetings and the main Conference:

- i. Leadership, Accountability and Sustainability of the HIV response
- ii. HIV prevention and treatment
- iii. HIV in the context of UHC: Programming, Advocacy and Sustainability
- iv. HIV and emerging co-morbidities

- v. Human Rights and Gender issues

## Conference Structure

The Conference is proposed to be held for two (2) days with various thematic meetings being held prior in the run-up to the Conference. These meetings are intended to provide key inputs for the Conference.

**Pre-conference Meetings:** These will be held prior to the Conference and will be organized in alignment with key constituencies of the HIV response. A total of six (6) meetings are proposed including:

- i. Adolescents and Young People (AYP) Advocacy Forum
- ii. Women Opinion Leaders Forum
- iii. National MIPA Forum
- iv. County Inter-Faith Chairs Meeting
- v. Joint AIDS End Term Review Meeting Focusing on Leadership & Sustainability
- vi. Strengthening PPP for Enhanced Private Sector Service Delivery Within the UHC Agenda

The key outcomes from these meetings will contribute towards the key recommendations of the Conference. These key outcomes will be guided by a standardized format.

**A meeting of the Regional National AIDS Council (NAC) Directors of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition:** is scheduled for May 7-8, 2019. During the Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019, the regional NAC Directors will be incorporated into panel sessions to share their Country experiences and best practices. There will also be organized field visits to Adolescents and Young People programmes, a session with a NACC team to discuss the application of a multi-sector programme, data systems and tracking of HIV prevention interventions for mobilization and accountability in Kenya, and key population service programmes (in the context of a country where KP are criminalized).

**Opening Ceremony:** This is scheduled to take place on May 9, 2019. One plenary presentation will be made, followed by a keynote address to set the tone for the Conference. The Chief Guest to officially open the Conference will be identified.

**Plenary Sessions:** These are sessions that will bring together all conference participants at the beginning of each day. Key outputs from the six (6) pre-conference meetings will be presented during these sessions in addition to predetermined topical areas aligned to the Conference objectives.

**Panel Session Discussions:** These are sessions specifically selected to inform the Conference programme and its expected outcomes. The different technical and constituency Pre-conference Meetings will also contribute directly in content, output and outcomes to the programme.

Partner-supported sessions are also scheduled to be organized by different partners along topical areas of their choice aligned to the Conference theme. A call will be sent out for interested partners to make their submissions. Successful applicants will organize for a panel session in a prescribed format that will be provided.

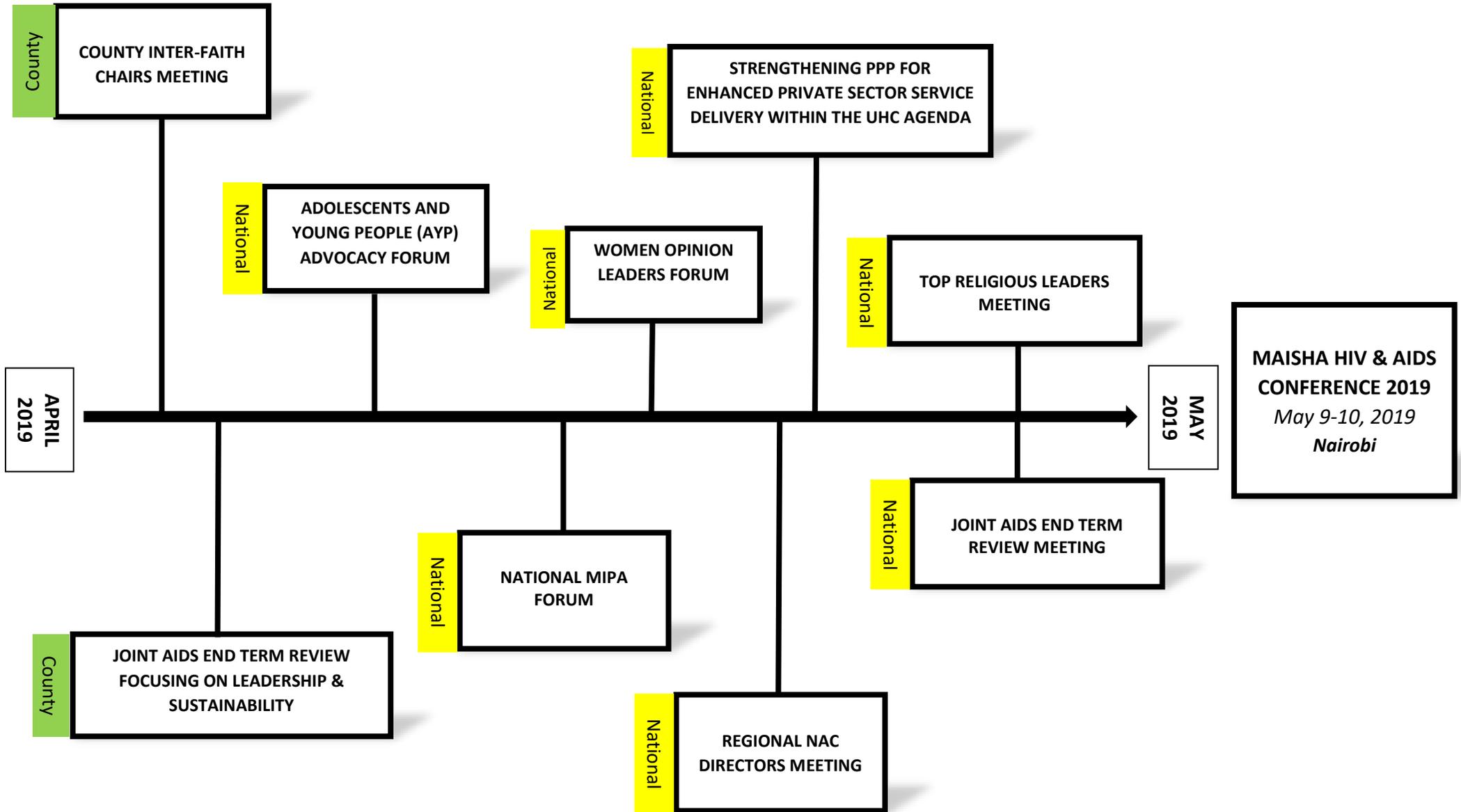
**Exhibitions:** Partners will also have an opportunity to exhibit materials in the exhibition area covering their key activities as well as achievements. They will be expected to make reservations in advance.

**Closing Ceremony:** This will be held on May 10, 2019. The Closing Ceremony will be preceded by a presentation by the Chief Rapporteur of the Conference on key highlights and a summary. A Chief Guest will be identified to preside over the closing ceremony. The Conference Structure and Schedule of Meetings are presented in tabular form in Table 1 and 2 respectively below.

**TABLE 1: CONFERENCE STRUCTURE**

	Day 1				Day 2			
<b>8.30-10.30am</b>	Plenary session by Guest speaker <b>Opening ceremony</b>				Panel session 9: HIV and the new Co-morbidities (NCDs) in the context of UHC	Panel session 10: Making the first 90 work	Panel session 11: Human Rights, HIV and UHC	Panel session 12: Emerging prevention and Treatment Technologies: What is the future?
					<b>Directors of National AIDS Commissions of the Global Prevention Coalition Field Visits</b>			
<b>10.30-11.00am</b>	<b>TEA BREAK</b>							
<b>11.00-1.00pm</b>	Panel session 1: Reaching HIV Prevention 2020: what is needed?	Panel session 2: Role of communities of PLHIV in driving HIV within UHC	Panel session 3: Status of HIV Research: Vaccines and Cure	Panel session 4: Partner- supported session	Panel session 13: AYP: delivering HIV results and driving UHC for and by young people	Panel session 14: EMTCT: what is needed for Kenya to achieve pre- validation	Panel session 15: Condom Revolution: Pathway to Change	Panel session 16: Partner- supported session
<b>1.00-2.00pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>							
<b>2.00-4.00pm</b>	Panel session 5: County HIV performance: Reflections and opportunities from County leadership and JAR meetings	Panel session 6: Sustainable financing for HIV in the context of UHC	Panel session 7: Strengthening PPP for Enhanced Private Sector Service Delivery Within the UHC Agenda	Panel session 8: The emergence of STIs and Hepatitis B	Presentation of Pre-Conference Meeting deliberations  Key Conference Recommendations  <b>Closing Ceremony</b>			

TABLE 2: SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS



## Coordination Structure of the Conference

- i. **Technical Team:** A team comprising of both NACC staff and stakeholders will be constituted to organize the different Pre-conference meetings and panel sessions. Small think tank teams will be established to organize each Pre-conference and panel session under the leadership of a Coordinator. NACC Deputy Directors will be assigned to the teams to provide an oversight role as described in their Terms of Reference. The technical team will be responsible for the delivery of the Conference programme.
  
- ii. **Administrative Team:** This team will constitute of NACC staff and will be responsible for the day to day planning and execution of the Maisha HIV and AIDS Conference 2019. The team will handle all logistics related to the Conference and Pre-conference meetings. Membership will be drawn from the focal persons of the different Pre-conference meetings, main Conference and key support divisions.