



The Sixth East Africa Healthcare Federation Conference and PHARMEX 2017 Exhibition, Dar es Salaam, July 24th – 25th 2017

Background

Since its inception on May 3rd, 2012 in Kampala, Uganda, the East Africa Healthcare Federation (EAHF) has held annual conferences in members' states, bringing together health care stakeholders from all over the region and beyond. Initially with only three founding member states, the federation has now membership of all the six East African countries. EAHF is now formed by APHFTA- The Tanzania Private Health Sector, Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF), Uganda Healthcare Federation (UHF), Rwanda Healthcare Federation (RHF), Burundi Healthcare Federation (In Formation), and the South Sudan Private Healthcare Practitioners Association. EAHF unifies East Africa private healthcare players at the East African Community level. Healthcare stakeholders from all the East African States meet at the EAHF Conference to discuss the health business agenda, and big business transactions take place at the event.

Why East Africa Healthcare Federation was formed

Since the re-formation of the East African Community, the six member states have pushed the agenda on integration. The way forward is to form an East African Federation with greater coordination of the various sectors, notably in education, custom unions, and trade through the East African Community (EAC), as well as established regional bodies. The East African Business Council (EABC) is one such body that has played a significant role in providing one voice for the business community in the region.

Within the EABC, other players have also established platforms, e.g. the healthcare related Federations namely the East African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Federation and the East Africa Healthcare Federation. These platforms represent industries within the EAC that have the same values and push for the same agenda. They provide a platform for sharing experiences and dialogue with the regional governments at the EAC level. Such federations are the media for stimulating positive change through a coordinated effort of all the member states at the same pace, without leaving any member state at a disadvantaged position. One of the federation's mandate it to open regional and international healthcare markets for the EAC member states.

The private healthcare sector in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda have well established associations/federations that represent the sector at all relevant policy and administrative levels of healthcare infrastructure in their respective states. On the other hand, the Private Health Sector in Burundi and South Sudan are still putting some effort to firmly establish themselves as a recognized and an important player in the health care platform in their respective states. The potential of the private health sector in propelling these countries towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as in meeting their respective national health agenda is being explored and developed at various platforms with government partners. Such fora are propelling the development of the health sector in their respective countries and in the whole of the Eastern African Region.

The formation of a regional umbrella organization, East Africa Healthcare Federation, is supporting the growth of the health sector in all the six EAC member states; no country is left behind. The stakeholders of the sector now have a platform to share ideas and advocate for the private health sector. This is in line with the spirit of the East African states integration, and with the East African policies. Public Private Partnerships in health have been adopted by the partner states as an important ingredient in the development of a sustainable health sector in the East African Region.

The 2017 EAHF Conference

It is in this spirit that APHFTA is hosting the **6th East African Healthcare Federation Conference and PHARMEX 2017 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 24th to 25th July 2017**. Renowned professionals from East Africa and abroad will participate. Scientific papers on health care policies and regulations will be presented and discussed. Regional healthcare experiences will be shared at the Conference. Representatives from all the East African Healthcare Federations/organizations and a broad spectrum of other healthcare related institutions from the Region will also actively participate. The conference will provide an opportunity for networking and strengthening partnerships in health. And for the first time, business-to-business meetings with investors in healthcare will feature at the EAHF Conference.

The Conference's Theme is: Health Care Financing: for Sustainable Quality Health Care

Sub Theme:

- **Access to Quality Health Care**
- **Advance in Healthcare Technology**
- **Equitable Healthcare Financing**

OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE is to promote the business of health in East African by bringing together the Healthcare stakeholders from the East African region and beyond to actively participate in knowledge sharing, propagate new advances in the healthcare industry and enhance partnerships.

THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE is a strengthened Health Agenda towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa, through a flourishing private health sector.