

Access Today

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Meeting
NCD Care
Forward



8 April 2019

Access Accelerated returned to Kenya on 28 February and 1 March for the non-communicable diseases (NCD) stakeholder meeting, “Redefining UHC – the Opportunity for NCDs,” cohosted with the Ministry of Health and NCD Alliance Kenya in Naivasha, Kenya.

With representation from the Kenyan government across ministries and attendees that spanned civil society, representatives from 12 Access Accelerated member companies, people living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) and government officials from six African nations, the meeting provided a forum to reflect on progress made and recommit to increasing access to NCD treatment and care in the context of the country’s push toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Milestones in Kenya

There continues to be strong political will to advance the NCD agenda in Kenya. In December 2018, President Uhuru Kenyatta [launched Kenya’s UHC commitment and pilot programme](#) and in the lead-up to the 2018 UN High Level Meeting on NCDs, the government created the NCD Intersectoral Coordinating Committee (NCD-ICC) to bring together relevant technical expertise across sectors.



Attendees at “Redefining UHC – the Opportunity for NCDs” in Naivasha, Kenya. The event was held 28 February - 1 March at the Panorama Park Hotel.

Discussions at “Redefining UHC – the Opportunity for NCDs”

Conversations at the third annual stakeholder meeting on NCDs (also referred to as Naivasha III), continued discussions on NCD integration in the UHC rollout, took stock of strategic partnerships and advanced engagement of PLWNCDs in NCD programming and policymaking.

Among the challenges discussed, the most pressing was the need to secure sustainable financing and effectively prioritise the use of limited resources. Further, the lack of ongoing data collection on NCDs was identified as a critical gap. Real-time information on NCDs would enable national and county-level decision makers to understand the burden on the ground, prioritise resources and analyse the results of the UHC pilots more effectively.

The Ministry of Health will be releasing an official communique with conclusions from the meeting in the coming weeks.

Access Accelerated at Naivasha III

In addition to participating in the Naivasha III dialogues, Access Accelerated contributed a full update on the initiative’s contributions to strategic partnerships and reaffirmed its commitment to sustained engagement in Kenya. Over the last year, Access Accelerated has launched a number of key partnership activities in the country, [building on the more than 25 ongoing NCD programs](#) led by member companies.



Sharing Insights Across Africa and Globally

Representatives from the Ministries of Health and NCD Alliances of South Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda, Ghana, Burundi and Zanzibar attended the Naivasha III meeting to learn how to implement the Kenyan model in other contexts. Following the meeting, Access Accelerated continued these discussions in Kigali, Rwanda by sponsoring and participating in the Amref [Africa Health 2019](#) conference. Moving forward, Access Accelerated is committed to sharing lessons learned and scaling successes to Ghana and Vietnam.

For more information on the Naivasha III meeting and the work Access Accelerated and partners are doing in Kenya, [click here](#).

Notable Media Coverage

The meeting in Naivasha was widely covered in Kenyan media. View all [media coverage here](#).



A press conference was held on the first day of the Naivasha III meeting with representatives from Access Accelerated, the Kenya Ministry of Health and NCD Alliance Kenya.

SERVIER & IPSEN JOIN ACCESS ACCELERATED

This month, Ipsen and Servier, two global biopharmaceutical companies, joined Access Accelerated. Now consisting of more than 25 biopharmaceutical companies, Access Accelerated unites industry action and applies member companies’ global reach and local expertise to address the NCD burden. Both Servier and Ipsen have embraced the Access Accelerated commitment to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly, target 3.4 to reduce premature deaths from NCDs by one-third by 2030.

Read the full [announcement here](#).

REMEMBERING DR. GRACE KARIUKI

Dr. Grace Kariuki, the Lead Rapporteur for the Naivasha III meeting, was one of the victims of Ethiopian Airlines flight 302. A brilliant young doctor working with the Ministry of Health to expand access to cancer services, please remember Dr. Kariuki’s contributions to cancer care and her tireless passion for improving the lives of people in Kenya. Read more about her legacy [here](#).



CONTACT US

Please contact us at AccessAccelerated@webershandwick.com with any questions and follow the conversation around industry actions to tackle NCDs on Twitter at [@NCDAccess](#) and on our website www.accessaccelerated.org.