



Concept Note

Continental Lusaka Agenda Follow-up Workshop

Co-hosted by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa (WHO AFRO) and the African Constituency Bureau (ACB)

Dates: 2–4 November 2026

Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



1. Introduction

The Lusaka Agenda, endorsed by the African Union (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its 37th Ordinary Session in February 2024 through Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.880(XXXVII), provides a strategic framework for strengthening country ownership, improving the effectiveness of development assistance for health and accelerating progress towards resilient, equitable and sustainably financed primary health care (PHC). Although global in scope, it reflects priorities championed by African countries and endorsed by African leaders. Its five strategic shifts seek to move development assistance for health from fragmented, donor-driven approaches towards nationally led, coordinated and sustainable health systems.

By placing integrated PHC at the centre of health system transformation and promoting the use of national systems for planning, budgeting, implementation and accountability, the Lusaka Agenda supports Africa's Health Security and Sovereignty. It contributes to stronger national systems capable of delivering routine health services and preventing, detecting and responding to public health threats.

In February 2025, AU Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.924(XXXVIII) mandated Africa CDC to serve as the continental Secretariat for the Lusaka Agenda, with responsibility for coordinating, monitoring and reporting on its implementation across Africa. Africa CDC will work jointly with WHO AFRO and in collaboration with ACB and other relevant stakeholders to support Member States in translating the five strategic shifts into national reforms.

2. Rationale for the workshop

Since February 2025, Africa CDC and the African Union Commission (AUC) have led a consultative process with AU Member States, global health initiatives (GHIs), other partners and civil society organisations (CSOs). This process led to the development of the Lusaka Agenda Monitoring and Accountability Framework (LAMAF) and Scorecard for Africa. In December 2025, Africa CDC, in collaboration with AUC, Member States, partners and CSOs, validated LAMAF to guide implementation, coordination, monitoring and accountability at all levels.

The next step is to translate the validated framework into practical country arrangements for implementation and measurement. The workshop will enable Member States to review progress, exchange experience, identify data gaps and develop draft baselines, targets and action plans for subsequent national validation. It will also address partner alignment with country priorities and systems, reporting arrangements and sustained peer learning.



Public financial management (PFM) is an enabling component of Lusaka Agenda implementation. Discussions will address how health sector planning, budget alignment, expenditure tracking and financial accountability can support sustainable health financing. Ministry of Health Directors of Planning or Lusaka Agenda focal points will identify actions within their mandates and matters requiring consultation with finance, planning and other relevant national authorities.

3. Objectives

The overall objective is to provide a continental platform for Member States and stakeholders to review progress, strengthen collaboration and accelerate implementation of the five Lusaka Agenda shifts.

The specific objectives are to:

- Review Member States' progress, achievements and challenges in implementing reforms related to the Lusaka Agenda.
- Facilitate peer learning and exchange of practical experience among Member States.
- Identify bottlenecks and actions to improve the alignment of partner support with country priorities and systems.
- Strengthen country capacity to apply LAMAF, including the preparation of baselines, targets and reporting arrangements.
- Identify priority actions at national, regional and continental levels, including health sector planning and PFM measures that support implementation.
- Agree arrangements for continued coordination, country exchange and follow-up.

4. Expected outcomes

The workshop is expected to produce:

- A synthesis of country-reported progress, achievements, implementation challenges and data gaps across the five Lusaka Agenda shifts.
- Draft country baselines and targets using LAMAF indicators, with identified data sources, gaps and steps for national validation and integration into existing monitoring systems.
- Agreed workshop recommendations on priority implementation actions, partner alignment and health sector planning and PFM measures requiring national follow-up.



- Draft country action plans for the 24 months following the workshop, setting out proposed activities, milestones, responsibilities and timelines, subject to national consultation and validation.
- Agreed arrangements for a Country Exchange Platform, including its purpose, proposed coordination responsibilities, participation, knowledge-sharing activities and next steps for establishment.
- An adopted workshop communiqué recording shared findings, recommendations and follow-up actions, while distinguishing workshop agreements from proposals requiring national approval.

5. Participants

Each of the 55 AU Member States will be invited to nominate one (1) representative from its Ministry of Health: the Director of Planning or, where the Lusaka Agenda focal point is a different person, the Lusaka Agenda focal point. The representative will contribute to implementation discussions and coordinate subsequent national consultation on draft outputs.

Other participants will include representatives of:

- Africa CDC, AUC and the African Union Development Agency–NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD).
- WHO AFRO, including its Lusaka Agenda coordination team, and ACB.
- Friends of the Lusaka Agenda.
- Non-governmental organisations
- CSOs
- Donors, GHIs and multilateral development banks.

6. Methodology and sessions

The three-day workshop will combine plenary sessions, technical presentations, panel discussions, country experience-sharing and facilitated group work. Sessions will cover all five Lusaka Agenda shifts, with PFM addressed as a supporting component of implementation.

6.1. Opening and global and continental updates

Senior representatives of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, AUC, Africa CDC, WHO AFRO, ACB and other key partners will open the workshop and outline its objectives and expected outputs. Updates will review progress in Lusaka Agenda implementation and reaffirm the importance of country ownership, sustainable health financing and accountability.



6.2. Country progress review

Member States will share achievements, challenges and lessons across the five shifts. Discussions will identify common implementation bottlenecks and practical approaches that can inform country action plans.

6.3. Application of LAMAF

Technical sessions will focus on applying the validated framework, reviewing preliminary country baselines, identifying data gaps and developing draft targets. Participants will examine the continental scorecard, reporting responsibilities, data sources and monitoring arrangements, including links to national health plans and existing information systems.

6.4. Partner alignment and health sector planning

Participants will examine alignment of partner support with national priorities, planning and budgeting processes, and accountability arrangements. Discussion will identify measures that Ministry of Health representatives can advance and those requiring engagement with finance, planning or other national authorities.

6.5. Country action planning and regional collaboration

Facilitated group work will support draft country action plans for the next 24 months, linking proposed activities and targets to preliminary LAMAF baselines. Plans will identify responsibilities, milestones, data gaps and national validation steps. Participants will also identify opportunities for regional collaboration and agree a process for consolidating country-validated data and considering regional targets with the relevant institutions.

6.6. Country Exchange Platform

A dedicated discussion will agree the proposed platform's purpose, coordination arrangements, country participation and practical activities for peer learning and evidence sharing. Participants will identify responsibilities and next steps for its establishment, including opportunities to use existing networks.

6.7. Recommendations and follow-up

Participants will review workshop recommendations, adopt the communiqué and agree follow-up actions and timelines. Draft country baselines, targets and action plans will be taken forward for national consultation and validation. The workshop will clarify how validated outputs and progress updates will be shared with the continental Secretariat.



7. Preparation before the workshop

Country representatives will be requested to prepare a brief implementation update and compile available information against LAMAF indicators, including data sources, preliminary baselines and gaps. They should consult relevant Ministry of Health teams and, where needed, finance and planning counterparts and partners. These inputs will support realistic draft targets and action plans; unresolved data and policy questions will be recorded for national follow-up.

8. Conclusion

The Continental Lusaka Agenda Follow-up Workshop will help Member States translate the Lusaka Agenda and LAMAF into practical implementation and monitoring arrangements. Its recommendations, draft country action plans and agreed follow-up mechanisms will support country-led reforms, better alignment of partner support and continued peer learning. Subsequent national validation and implementation will contribute to more resilient, equitable and sustainably financed health systems and advance Africa's Health Security and Sovereignty.