



Ministry of Health

COMMUNIQUÉ AND CALL TO ACTION



Kenya Tissue And
Transplant Authority



The Kenya Blood Banking Management System

Communiqué of the 1st Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Conference (hybrid) held at the Windsor Golf Hotel and Country Club, Nairobi Kenya on 30th June 2021

The Ministry of Health through the Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service, organized the first conference in Africa that focusses of blood, tissues and organs; dubbed Damu-KE: the Future of Blood Transfusion and Transplant themed: ***Transforming Blood Transfusion and Transplant Services for Improved Health Outcomes in Kenya.***

Following the presentations, discussions and recommendations at the Conference attended by over 800 participants drawn from Kenya (County and National Government), Tanzania, Nigeria, United Kingdom and Switzerland, Rwanda, Israel and Dubai a Call to Action was made as presented below:

The Conference participants acknowledge the presence of Ministry of Health leadership including the Cabinet Secretary, the Principal Secretary, the Chief Administrative Secretaries, the Director General. The Conference participants further acknowledge the presence of County leaderships including County Executive Committees of Health and their leadership, County Directors of Health and Chief Officers. The Conference participants acknowledge the participation of the Private Sector, Kenyans from all walks of life, industry and communities of persons who are recipients of blood and organs.

In this first conference, awards were given for blood donation ambassadors/champions, rebranding of the Service to become the Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service (KBTTS) and celebrated launch of the: *1. The Kenya Policy on Donation, Transfusion, and Transplant of Human Derived Medical Products, 2. The National Standards and Guidelines for Blood Transfusion Services in Kenya 3. The Intergovernmental Frameworks on Coordination of Blood Services in Kenya and 4. Damu-Ke: Kenya Blood Banking Information System*

1. The conference **APPLAUDS** efforts being undertaken by individuals, communities, organizations, companies and government towards transforming blood transfusion and organ transplant services in Kenya. This is clearly evidenced in the milestone made in: blood collections in the proceeding one year; investments towards renovating all blood satellites and testing centres and ensuring that they are functioning; providing for commodity security to safeguard availability of necessary commodities in order for blood tested to be safe for all Kenyans and strengthening blood management systems in Kenya for both the public and private hospitals.
2. The Conference **RECOGNIZES** the investments made by the Government to revive the blood establishments, promote commodity security, provide equipment for processing of blood by products
3. The **Conference APPLAUDS** the development of the Kenya Blood Banking Management System -DAMU-KE that will ensure accountability for all blood donated, noting that it will be expanded to provide track and trace for organs. It is recognized that the system is inter-operable and that it shall be deployed for use in all blood transfusing hospitals and centres in the public and private sector.
4. The **Conference APPLAUDS** the Government's direction in integrating blood, tissue and organs to promote efficiencies and in line with Global standards the on-going development of a framework for transplant services.
5. The Conference **NOTES** the commitment of the Ministry of Health, as articulated by the Cabinet Secretary to establishment of a Blood and Organ centre to provide a backbone for banking services, reference and quality assurance, data security, specialized training for transfusion and transplant medicine and local manufacturing of plasma derivatives.
6. The Conference **RECOGNIZES** the role of County Governments, and **APPLAUDS** the investments they are making in ensuring functioning blood satellites and continuing cooperation with the National Government.

While appreciating the milestones made:

1. The conference **ADVANCES** the request for consideration, the importance of making the Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service semi-autonomous in line with global practice and the World Health Organization standards in order to effectively deliver on the Presidential UHC agenda and ensure Kenyans get services where and when they need them.
2. The Conference **CALLS UPON** the Kenya Government to implement sustainable financing for transfusion and transplant services, including care for donors and long-term treatments for recipients.

3. The Conference **CALLS UPON** the Government to make necessary investments in promoting efficient systems for last mile delivery to ensure access to services in line with the Constitution for every Kenyan.
4. The Conference **CALLS FOR** innovation and partnerships across stakeholders including ambassadors for awareness creation and education of the community and public on regular and repeat blood and organ donation.
5. The Conference **CALLS FOR** resources towards strengthening capacities and numbers for human resources.
6. The Conference **CALLS FOR** enhanced private sector investments through the value chain of blood, tissues and organs within a framework that promotes compliance with national standards for safety of patients and quality of care. The Conference **CALLS FOR** strengthened public-private partnerships.
7. The Conference **CALLS UPON** the Government for added resources in finances and dedicated efforts towards research and development.
8. The Conference **REINFORCES** the importance of application of DAMU-KE across the country in private and public facilities and its options of inter-operability and linkage with the Digital Health Platform to enhance better management.
9. The Conference **RECOGNIZES** the importance of building and strengthening of strategic partnerships and collaborations between all stakeholders (governments and their relevant institutions both at County and National level, medical practitioners, development partners, academia, medical research institutions, faith-based organizations, discipline forces, organised groups, media and the private sector), as central to attaining blood and organ sufficiency, building the science and expanding service delivery.
10. The conference **REAFFIRMS** the importance of personal commitment by all participants to contribute towards building of the country's blood, tissue and organ services, starting with voluntary donations as individuals and as ambassadors, in addition to the professional and social contributions made by each participant.
11. The conference participants look forward to the next conference to review progress and further shape the future of transfusion and transplant services in Kenya.

