Message from the National Coordinator

Dear MACIS Members,

Greetings from the Secretariat!

I hope you have been finding our recent updates useful and informative. We would like to thank all of those who have been in touch with us by email or dropped by our new office with questions and suggestions. We are always happy to hear from our members and assist where we can. 2013 will be a busy year for MACIS as we will make some changes that will deliver many new and improved benefits to our members. Stay tuned for more details.

MACIS wins GAVI Civil Society Strengthening Project

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), on behalf of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), has selected MACIS as their partner in the Civil Society Strengthening Project 2013 in Uganda. The project aims at building a sustainable network platform for civil society to engage in immunization and health system strengthening processes. MACIS will broaden its existing network and membership on a number of strategic policy making forums to support the GAVI immunization program in Uganda.

The project will benefit all MACIS CSO members as we update our systems and are able to deliver better services, more information and new materials to our network. In the coming weeks we will engage with our regional and district nodes to identify and recruit immunization focused CSOs to the network. The secretariat is excited to partner with CRS and GAVI to deliver this important project and make life-saving vaccines available to more Ugandans.

Member survey

How would you like us to contact you in the future? And what would you like to hear from us? What is your capacity to access information, materials and training online? To be able to target our services at what our members want, we would like you to fill out a short survey and send it back to us by 12 April 2013. The outcomes of this survey will help us determine how we can best interact with our members, what services you would like to receive from us and how we can improve our network. You can fill out the attached questionnaire or access the survey online. [Click here to access the survey online.]

Mosquito Net Mega Campaign

Uganda is about to launch the distribution of 21 million mosquito nets to achieve universal coverage to protect all Ugandans from malaria transmitting mosquitoes. CSOs interested in and with the capacity to coordinate mosquito net distribution in their district should engage with their local District Task Force for this project to express their interest and keep an eye out for procurement notices. The purchase of the nets is supported by Global Fund, World Vision and DIFD (UK Department for International Development). MACIS will join the National Coordination Committee for this campaign and will keep members abreast of this exciting project.
New MACIS Office
MACIS is now located on Nsambya Road, co-located with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) right behind the US Embassy. Our new address is included in the header above. As MACIS members you are always welcome to visit your network office in Nsambya and take advantage of the resources available. We would like to thank the Italian Cooperation for hosting us in their premises over the past year.

Positive Action for Children – Call for Proposals
There are still a couple of days left to submit your concept note for the ViiV Healthcare’s Positive Action for Children Fund call for proposals. Positive Action is calling for proposals from non-government and community-based organizations involved in prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT). Proposals are due on 12 March 2013. Please read the attached information and visit the ViiV Healthcare website for details: http://www.viivhealthcare.com/community/positive-action-for-children-fund/grant-criteria-and-application.aspx?sc_lang=en

EAHF in Kigali
The 4th Annual East African Health & Scientific Conference and International Health Exhibition and Trade Fair will be held on 27-29 March 2013 in Kigali. The main theme of the conference is ‘Regional Health Priorities and Opportunities – Evidence for Action in the Changing Global Financial Situation’. Interested participants should visit www.eahsc.eac.int for further details and registration.

God Bless You!

Dr Patrobas Mufubenga
National Coordinator, MACIS