

NEWSLETTER MAY 2014



MACIS members elect a new Board of Directors for the Network



At the MACIS Annual General Meeting held at Grand Imperial Hotel on 29th January 2014, a new Board of Directors to steer the MACIS agenda over the next three years. The Board of Directors consists of 11 members coming from PACE, Dignity Africa, World Vision, AMREF, Uganda Red Cross Society, LIPRO Uganda (South-West), Women and Children Protection Initiative, WACPI (North), Namutumba NGO Forum (Mid-East), Mbale Coalition Against Poverty (East), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment, RICE-WN (West Nile) and Kagadi Kibaale Community Based Organization, KKCBO (Mid-West). The Annual General Meeting also reviewed the program and financial performance of the Secretariat for the year 2013.

The new MACIS Board of Directors held their first meeting on 3rd April 2014 where the National Coordinator reported on all network activities accomplished. The annual work plan 2014 and the MACIS fundraising strategy were also discussed. Finally Board committees were formed.

Communication from the National Coordinator



I am excited to communicate to you through the Newsletter once again; it has been a busy three months since January! The Uganda GAVI Civil Society Platform continues to grow and the MACIS team has increasingly dedicated more time to ensure success of the Platform. We conducted an Annual General Meeting where a new MACIS Board of Directors was elected into power. We were part of the GAVI CSO Project Launch for phase 3 countries, and we hosted the GAVI CSO Consultative National meeting, as well as being part of the Uganda team for the GAVI Mission during the Africa Vaccination Week. I welcome all of you to our May newsletter edition and wish you all success in everything you do!

God bless!

Dr Patrobas Mufubenga

National Coordinator

[MACIS](#), Together For a Healthy Tomorrow!

Finance and Administration office handed over to a new leader



The MACIS Secretariat bid farewell to Mr. Kaahwa Victor who has been in service since March 2013, administering the Civil Society Strengthening Project. We appreciate his services and wish him well in all future endeavors. He handed over to Mrs. Tryphosa Sekate who has over 8 years of experience in Accounting, Auditing and Administration. She will ensure that MACIS develops and maintains sustainable operational processes and systems. She previously worked with Seijaaka, Kaawaase & Company Certified Public Accountants.



GAVI consults the Uganda Civil Society on strategic direction for 2016-2020



On 4th March 2014, all shades of civil society in Uganda came together to contribute to the Uganda civil society consultation by the GAVI Alliance to shape the Global strategic direction of the Alliance.

The consultation meeting was also attended by the Program manager of UNEPI and representatives from GAVI country focal office and the SABIN Vaccine Institute.

The meeting involved brief presentations, which reviewed the current Uganda EPI strategic plan and the challenges faced during its implementation. Members were also brought to speed on the design, structure and functionality of the current GAVI initiative, identifying its strengths and weaknesses.

These presentations were later followed by focus group discussions, identifying advocacy areas to be considered in the GAVI's next strategic plan 2016-2020; as well as a plenary session that summarized the outcomes of those discussions. The consultation was flanked by an online survey and a regional webinar.



General Assembly of the Uganda Civil Society Immunization Platform



The MACIS Secretariat convened the General Assembly for the Uganda Civil Society Immunization Platform on 22 May 2014 at Hotel Africana whose report is available [here](#). A [Call for Nominations to the Technical Advisory Group](#) which steers the agenda of the Platform has been placed and will run until 13th June 2013

GAVI launches the CSO Constituency project in more countries



The GAVI Civil Society Strengthening Project was launched for phase 3 countries in Speke Resort hotel, Munyonyo. The launch was attended by a total of 54 participants from 23 countries. The function was graced by the Honorable Minister of Health, Uganda who made the opening remarks. Phase 1 and Phase 2 countries got an opportunity to promote their platforms and showcase their achievements to date.

The participants were enlightened about GAVI structure, mission and

accomplishments to date as well as notable achievements of the CSOs according to GAVI and areas that CSOs could give more emphasis. World Health Organization country offices and CSO Platforms can work together for health system strengthening. Participants also shared information and experiences and received training in monitoring and evaluation, advocacy, finance, management and reporting.



Ministry of Health and other health stakeholders embrace civil society

The Ministry of Health of Uganda has made concerted efforts to welcome civil society as a key stakeholder in the Immunization and Health Strengthening Systems agenda. MACIS represented the civil society fraternity during the preparation of the proposal for introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine in Uganda. Civil society was also at the forefront to make input on the Annual Progress Report and Joint Reporting Form. MACIS was also majorly involved in the GAVI Mission during the Africa Vaccination Week, as well being on the revision team of the UNEPI curriculum, which has been a major activity over the last quarter.

The Uganda Civil Society Immunization Platform makes headlines

On 29th April 2014, the Uganda Civil Society Immunization Platform ran an advert in the leading newspaper, the [New Vision](#). The advert called upon more members to join and support the Platform. It simultaneously implored all civil society members to be an active part of activities in their districts during the Africa Vaccination Week. The advert may be accessed [here](#).

MACIS raises a harmonized voice for civil society at strategic fora



During the last quarter, the MACIS Secretariat team has continued to represent civil society at various forums including the East Africa Health Platform; the Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund; the Health Policy Advisory Committee, the GAVI CSO Constituency Project Launch; the EPI curriculum revision, the National Immunization Coordination Committee, the Uganda Health Federation, the UZIMA

Malaria Awareness Concert and the GAVI CSO National Consultation.

We want to hear from you! The members' corner is now active on the website! Email us! ☺



Together for a Healthy Tomorrow!

GAVI CSO Survey

Take some time to fill out the [GAVI CSO survey](#) to promote advocacy for increased resources for civil society with evidence of our contribution to Immunization and Health Strengthening Systems. Results of the survey may lead to an increased role of civil society in immunization policy in Uganda and globally.

Membership Fee Reminder

Sincere appreciation goes out to members who have already paid, and members who have not yet paid up their annual membership fees for 2014 are encouraged to do so. [All members are encouraged to recruit new members to the Network](#). Your membership contribution assists MACIS in providing essential network services such as regular newsletters, representing network members at senior policy forums and maintaining the interactive website.

Membership fees can be paid in **cash** to the Secretariat, by MTN **Mobile Money** to 0787-425-824 or by **bank** deposit at any Stanbic Bank Uganda Ltd. Account Name: MACIS

Account Number: 9030005716860

Please make any payment in the name of your organization (not of an individual) Thank you!

GAVI/CRS EARO Monitoring visit

The GAVI/CRS EARO Team will conduct a monitoring visit for the progress of the Uganda Civil Society Immunization Platform. All members are welcome to meet with the Team on Wednesday 11th June 2014, 8-11am at [MACIS offices](#).