

Keynote Speech

One Health: the Perspectives of WMA

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Dr Osahon Enabulele is a Chief Consultant Family Physician, President-elect of the World Medical Association, President of the Commonwealth Medical Association, Past President of the Nigerian Medical Association, and the Co-ordinator of the Coalition of African National Medical Associations.

He is a strategic thinker, health activist, policy analyst, scholar, undergraduate and postgraduate teacher/lecturer, and a renowned leader.

Dr Enabulele is a strong advocate of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and initiated a Free Medical Mission in Nigeria that has so far offered free health care to over 100,000 indigent Nigerians. He has chaired many high-level sessions on UHC and health system strengthening, and championed a robust campaign that led to enactment of Nigeria's first National Health Act in 2014.

He has delivered over 60 public lectures and keynote addresses on health system strengthening, Human Resource for Health, UHC, etc., and has several published papers to his credit, including (1) Enabulele, O. Achieving UHC in Nigeria: Moving Beyond Annual Celebrations to Concrete Address of The Challenges. *World Medical & Health Policy*. March 2020; 12(1):47-59. (2) Enabulele, O. Covid-19 Pandemic: A Possible Reversal Mechanism for Outward Medical Tourism by African Political Leaders. *World Medical Journal*. 2020; 66(3):15-22.

Dr.Enabulele has received over 70 public awards and recognitions, including: (1) Award of Title of "Peace Ambassador" conferred by African First Ladies Peace Mission; (2) "Outstanding Achievement Award" conferred by the Speaker of Nigeria's Federal House of Representatives; (3) "African Personality Award," conferred in the Netherlands (2018); and (4) Distinguished Service Award conferred by the Nigerian Medical Association.

He is happily married to his lovely wife, Associate Professor Dr. (Mrs) Joan Enabulele and blessed with three lovely children.

Introduction : One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. -----OHHLEP

The World Medical Association has been strongly advocating its deployment in health system strengthening, the reduction of the risks of infectious diseases, as well as the global fight against Anti-Microbial Resistance.

Benefits of One Health : These include efficient use of resources, development of more comprehensive surveillance mechanisms for early detection and management of infections.

Challenges : Poor political commitment, poor uptake of the concept, weak multi-disciplinary collaboration, etc.

WMA Perspectives :

- (1) Improved political commitment with greater investment in health system strengthening.
- (2) Improved multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral collaboration.
- (3) Comprehensive surveillance mechanism, Research, data and information sharing.
- (4) Integration in undergraduate and postgraduate training curricula.
- (5) Fight against anti-microbial resistance.

Conclusion : Deployment of One Health approach will help secure human and animal health, our environment and ecosystems.