

ASHGOVNet Discussion Forum:

ASHGOVNet launched a discussion forum through an e-mail group, ashgovnet@achest.org and the ACHEST website www.achest.org some six months ago. Each of the discussion topics have also been published in the [Africa Health Journal](#). Topics posted and discussed are: *Closing the Implementation Gap, Education and Training, Growing a New Generation of Accountable African Techno-professionals in health, and Africa in the Global Health Arena.*

The goal and theme of all these topics is to stimulate individual and collective reflection of our situation and to debate on how we can grow stronger commitment in leadership, play the role of change agents in our communities and institutions and pursue excellence in whatever that we do. Some topics have been debated more vigorously while others have attracted deafening silence. Some comments have been sent to the whole group while many were sent only to ACHEST. Other publications and media houses have also picked these topics from the Africa Health Journal and the ACHEST website. Whatever the case, the hope is that the discussion forum has triggered some thinking and reflection inside each of us.

The mailing list has been growing in number and whenever it is introduced at meetings, there is an enthusiastic response and a surge of requests to join the mailing list. We will continue to welcome new recruits to the mailing list and to our collective mission to transform African health. Those who receive this Newsletter are encouraged to circulate it to colleagues.

Secretariat News:

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Peter Eriki as the Director for Health Systems at ACHEST and he will be directly responsible for ASHGOVNet affairs. He replaces Dr Sam Okuonzi who has been elected to the Parliament of Uganda taking into politics vast experience in health policy formulation and analysis. We wish to Okuonzi the very best in politics. Health has one more credible, dependable and knowledgeable ally in the Parliament of Uganda.



Dr. Peter Eriki



Dr. Sam Okuonzi

ACHEST has commenced playing the role of the African Coordinating Centre for the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) in partnership with the George Washington University. Dr Elsie Kiguli Malwadde has joined ACHEST as the Director for MEPI from Makerere University where she has been Head of Radiology. Elsie has special interest in Health Professionals Education.



Dr. Elsie Kiguli

The ACHEST secretariat has participated in several high level international meetings including The WHO Non Communicable Diseases Forum in Moscow, The World Health Assembly in Geneva, The Global Health Council in Washington, The Health Diplomacy Training by ECSA in Nairobi among others.

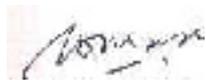
Members News:

African Health Economics Association held a major conference in Senegal in the week of 15th – 17th March 2011 on the theme: *Toward Universal Health Coverage in Africa*[Read more](#)

Ministerial Leadership Initiative for Global Health launched a *Country-Led Development in Health: Practical Steps Forward* call to action at the recently concluded Global Health Council meeting[Read more](#)

SADC on the 1st to 3rd June 2011 held a meeting of SADC Ministers responsible for Youth and Vulnerable Children in Namibia[Read more](#)

Equinet in a bid to strengthen Health Worker-Community Interactions through Health Literacy and Participatory approaches conducted training workshops in Zambia and Uganda held in March and April 2011[Read more](#)



Prof. Francis Omaswa,
Executive Director - ACHEST.



Dr. Peter Eriki,
Director Health Systems - ACHEST