



**Society for
AIDS in Africa
(SAA)**

Official Newsletter

Newsletter

February 2019 Edition

Organizer of the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA)

www.saafrica.org



SAA renews its Governing Council

Inside Story:



**Prof. Femi Soyinka,
honoured**



**ICASA 2019 1ST ISC
Meeting**



**World AIDS Day 2018
at SAA' HQs Accra –
Ghana**



**ICASA 2019 Youth
Programme**



**New SAA Headquarters
(Project)**



Save
the
date

2 - 7 Dec. 2019

20TH ICASA CONFERENCE 2019
THE BIGGEST AIDS CONFERENCE IN AFRICA
OVER 10,000 DELEGATES EXPECTED FROM THE GLOBAL VILLAGE

ICASA 2019 EARLY BIRD

REGISTRATION OPENS

1st February - 15th April 2019

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

OPENS

1st February - 30th July 2019

EXHIBITION BOOKING

OPENS

9th March - 31st August, 2019.

SATELLITE BOOKING

OPENS

1st February - 18th August 2019



KIGALI, RWANDA



2 - 7 DEC. 2019



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Kigali Convention Centre

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Speech of New SAA Governing Council



Prof. John Idoko,
SAA/ICASA 2019 President

Dear honorable members, Ms. Angela Trenton-Mbonde (UNAIDS Country Director), Amb. Dr. Mokowa Blay Adu-Gyamfi (Act. Director-General of Ghana AIDS Commission), Hon. Dr. Pagwesese David Parirenyatwa, Minister of Health, Zimbabwe, Prof. Robert Soudre (one of the founding member of SAA), Dr. Ihab Ahmed (past SAA president), colleagues in the old and new council, Mr Luc A. Bodea (Coordinator of SAA), ladies and gentlemen. I will like to thank the Government and the people of Ghana for hosting our secretariat since 2009 and working with us through the Ghana AIDS Commission. I will also like to thank UNAIDS and UNFPA as well as all the UN agencies for the support given to SAA over the years, and I hope and pray you will strengthen us further in the years ahead. It has been four decades since HIV/AIDS came to being and we have all seen the devastation it has caused. In this past 4 decades, we have made a lot of progress in controlling the epidemic.

We have seen our continent's HIV/AIDS prevalence rise but presently there is a decline

in prevalence with more people on drugs.

We have all achieved the 2015 UNAIDS goal of putting 15 million people on treatment. And we are all looking forward to achieving the 90-90-90 goal. We have seen particularly a decline in mother to child transmission which shows we are winning the war. However, in a number of African countries, even though prevalence rates are going down in the general population, there seems to be increasing infections raising particularly among adolescent which is a worry for us all, because most of our population that is 60% - 70% are made up of youth.

Let me now turn to SAA and thank all those who have been in the last board and have given us the opportunity to be in the new board. I think I will touch on a few things SAA needs to do in the coming years. Our main objective is managing HIV, TB and Malaria. In the last decade we have seen the rise of other diseases which may directly or indirectly relate to HIV/AIDS. We have seen Ebola, Lassa Fever and in my country Nigeria, Monkey Pox. These are all new and emerging diseases which has direct or indirect relationship to HIV and are extremely worrying. Evidence shows that HIV population as well as the general population are encountering a lot more of these diseases including cardiovascular diseases leading to mortalities. As members of the new board we need to explore ways we can expand the scope of work we are doing in SAA to be able to give our people better health, which cannot happen if we do not train the next generation and also improve on the care of our population.

That means we have to do a lot more training.

Our focus for the next 4 years will be how to train more scientists, improve the quality of research, training of young people, ensuring that we train them on implementation science. We cannot do this unless we work hand in hand with the various African countries in order to mitigate HIV and all these diseases. One of the goals of our advocacy is to collaborate with countries through their various regional bodies, such as: AU, CEDEAO, ECOWAS, CEMAC, COMESA...

I thank the outgoing team and the chairman on the level they have taken SAA to, this is a challenge to us to take SAA to a higher level. We plan to expand the scope and reach of SAA by bringing innovative ways to expand the membership both individual and corporate and also reaching out to various bodies. Very critical in all this is the Strategic Plan (2017-2021), our expectation is that we will look at that strategic plan and what we can do in the next four years to operate on a yearly basis based on a rolling plan for years to come.

In conclusion, UNAIDS have given us the tool to end AIDS by 2030. HIV/AIDS in the last 4 decades has taught us many lessons that we can utilize. I therefore think that we can all work hard to ensure that agenda 2030 happens in Africa given the opportunities at hand. Thankyou.



From left: Ms. Trenton-Mbonde, Dr. Parirenyatwa, Dr. Ahmed, Prof. Idoko, Mr. Iddrissu, Amb. Dr. Adu-Gyamfi and Mr. Bodea



From left: Dr. Parirenyatwa, Ms. Trenton-Mbonde, Mr. Iddrissu, Prof. Idoko, Amb. Dr. Adu-Gyamfi, Mrs. Gulaid, Prof. Kalluvya, Prof. Dieye & Mr. Ojuolape at SAA board handing over ceremony.



Dr. Ahmed outgoing President and Prof. John Idoko, incoming President



From left: Prof. Idoko, Mr. Iddrissu, Amb. Dr. Adu-Gyamfi and Mr. Bodea



New SAA Governing Council

Mission

An African-led and owned organization that collaborates with other national, sub-regional, regional, continental and international organizations and partners, to promote and institute policies and promote research to support governments' national responses and approaches to fight HIV and HIV co-morbidities as well as emerging viral infections across the continent.

Vision

SAA envisions an African continent free of AIDS, TB, Malaria and emerging infections, where the communities are empowered, with no stigma and discrimination against PLHIV, key populations and their families and where there is social justice, and equity to accessing treatment, care and support.

Goal

To contribute towards the UNAIDS goal and the AU catalytic framework of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030 and achieving the 90-90-90 targets by 2020 in Africa, contribute to the African Union's Agenda 2063 and also serve as the platform to strengthen the Health Systems in Africa towards a Universal Coverage.

Objectives

- i. To contribute to the control and management of HIV infection and AIDS, TB and Malaria throughout Africa and to serve as a forum for the exchange of information on HIV and AIDS, TB and Malaria in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the UNAIDS, International AIDS Society, and other International and national organizations on AIDS.
- ii. To serve as an African focus and coordinator of AIDS activities in Africa.
- iii. To promote research and training on HIV and AIDS prevention and care in Africa.
- iv. To work with African States to mitigate the impact of HIV and AIDS, TB and Malaria on the African Continent.
- v. To organize International Conferences on HIV /AIDS, STIs, TB and Malaria in Africa and collaborate with other organizations in organizing scientific workshops on HIV and emerging infections.
- vi. To solicit, receive, manage and account for funds for supporting SAA activities against HIV and AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa.
- vii. To serve as a central registry of individuals and organizations, professionally involved in

AIDS research and activities to prevent the spread of AIDS and care for people living with HIV, TB and Malaria in Africa.

- viii. To represent the African Scientific community as a voice of reason in AIDS controversies, speak and act against discrimination/stigmatization, and ensure the observance of ethical norms in all aspect of research and trials relating to HIV and AIDS in Africa.
- ix. To promote the total wellbeing of those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS as well as create awareness on other emerging diseases threatening public health in Africa

SAA renews its Governing Council



From left: Prof. Dieye, Prof. Idoko, Mrs. Gulaid, Dr. Parirenyatwa and Mr. Ojulape

SAA has strengthened its governance structure by regularly conducting board elections within the five (5) regions of the African Continent. This led to the renewal of governance in accordance with articles 10.1, 10.2 and 12 of the Constitution. The newly elected administrative council members came to SAA's headquarters in Ghana to democratically elect their new executives for a tenure of 4 years (2018- 2021). The executive council election was held at the SAA Permanent Secretariat, located at Adjiringanor, East Legon. The presiding election officer was Prof. Robert Soudre from Burkina Faso, member of SAA board of Trustees and the 4th President of SAA,

seconded by Dr. Amissa Bongo, immediate past Vice President as electoral commission secretary.

The newly-elected SAA President, Prof John Idoko, in delivering his official address, commended Dr. Ihab Ahmed, the immediate past president and the past board members for their commitment and for a transparent management of SAA and ICASA. He further commended them for a well as a organized democratic board elections. He also emphasized the need to train young researchers and scientists to improve research towards achieving the UNAIDS 90- 90-90 goals. He further stressed that the HIV/AIDS pandemic, for past four decades, has given us experiences to tackle efficiently emerging diseases like Ebola, Zika, Hepatitis, Cancers, Tuberculosis which destabilizes our efforts, adding that these are areas that the organization would have to expand its scope to have better health for all.

New Governing Council



Prof. John Idoko,
President



Hon. Dr. David P. Parienyatwa,
Vice President



Prof. Tandakha N. Dieye,
Secretary General



Mrs. Sahra Gulaid,
Deputy Secretary General



Dr. Namwinga Chintu,
Treasurer



Prof. Samuel E. Kalluvya,
Deputy Treasurer



Prof. James Hakim,
Member



Outgone SAA Governing Council



Dr. Ahmed Ihab,
Past President



Dr. Amissa Briana Bongo,
Vice President



Prof. Seni Kouanda,
Secretary General



Dr. Omenge Enoch,
Deputy Secretary General



Dr. Namwinga Chintu,
Treasurer



Prof. Serge Paul Eholie,
Deputy Treasurer



ICASA 2021 Call for bids

***Reopens 4th February 2019
closes 30th July 2019***

For more information, contact ICASA2021bid@saafrica.org
or visit www.saafrica.org

INVITATIONAL BID TO HOST THE 21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIV/AIDS AND STI's IN AFRICA (ICASA 2021)



FROM THE LEFT, DR. NAMWINGA CHINTU (SAA TREASURER), PROF. JOHN IDOKO (SAA PRESIDENT/ICASA 2019 PRESIDENT) & DR. DIANE GASHUMBA (MINISTER OF HEALTH, RWANDA, HOST COUNTRY OF ICASA 2019/VICE PRESIDENT, ICASA 2019)

The Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) represented by its President; Prof. John Idoko, hereby invites African countries wishing to host the 21st International Conference on HIV/AIDS and STIs in Africa in 2021 (ICASA 2021) to send in their application bid document to the SAA Secretariat in Accra- Ghana. Closing date for submission of Application is 30th July 2019.

ICASA 2021 will be the 21st International Conference on HIV/AIDS and STI's in Africa to be organized by the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA).

Any African country is eligible to be considered to host ICASA. However, certain criteria must be fulfilled to qualify for selection.

The procedure for application is as follows:

STEP 1

Interested country should submit a bid

document of intent to the SAA Secretariat backed up with detailed proof of evidence of the following information:

1. Strong Government support: financial commitment and political will to host the conference.
Provide and financially support the Conference venue: Capacity of Plenary rooms: 5000 seats with at least 7 break way rooms with capacity from 150 to 1500 seats. Provide financial support for the local Secretariat that will be working with the International secretariat.
Provide Scholarship for at least 300 local Participants.
2. Availability of standard hotels to accommodate up to 10,000 participants as well as conference venue(s) with standard conference facilities.
3. Good transportation network within the country.

4. Good telecommunication network within host country with links to other African countries and international communities.

5. Presence of cohorts of scientific, leadership, civil societies, organized groups of PLHIV, private sector, youth organizations oriented towards HIV/AIDS related activities.
6. Easy access by air and by road where needed.
7. Recognizable presence of Government organ/body responsible for HIV/AIDS coordination in the country.
8. Good security network to guarantee participants' safety.
9. Guarantee easy visa facilities and assistance to conference participants and no restriction to entry for PLHIV, MSM and other minorities group.
10. Political stability.
11. No discriminatory government policies based on gender, HIV status and religion.

The detailed bid document of intent backed up with evidence should reach the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) Permanent Secretariat both by email, attachments and by courier services to the SAA President:

Society for AIDS in Africa(SAA)
SAA Permanent Secretariat
P. O. Box AF 2072, Adenta - Accra
Plot Container 58 Otano Estates,
Behind NHTC, Adjiringano, East Legon,
Ghana

Mob: (+ 233) 54 37 48 78 1 or
(+233) 26 89 21 58 2
Office Line: (+ 233) 30 29 13 73 9

icasa2021bid@saafrica.org
www.saafrica.org

STEP 2

(a) Submitted applications will be evaluated by Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) Council members whereby 2 countries will be preselected, based on meeting the criteria as listed in Step 1.

(b) Assessment visit will be conducted by 2 or 3 SAA's Council members to the preselected countries. The preselected countries will invite SAA for the two days assessment visit from 1st September to 15th September 2019

Please note:

- I. The process of preselection will be concluded latest by the 15th September 2019 followed by the notification to the 2 countries.
- II. After SAA Council members' deliberation the host country of ICASA 2021 will be notified on the 30th September, 2019 followed by a press communiqué/release.
- III. Prior to final selection of the host country of ICASA 2021, and before a notification letter will be sent to the host country, an MOU will be signed between the selected country and Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) the organizer of ICASA.
- IV. SAA President is ICASA 2021 Chair; the host country will appoint a Co-chair for ICASA 2021 in consultation with SAA. The Council reserves the right to revoke the hosting rights of a country if there are reasonable doubts of ability to deliver.

SAA's Strategic Plan (2017 - 2021)

Based on results of the SWOT analysis and the validation meetings with stakeholders and in line with SAA's mission and stakeholder expectations, the organisation's strategic focus for the next five years will include:

- Being an organization that facilitates African mobilization against AIDS by organizing conferences in Africa and also engaging with the organization of high level regional meetings across the continent.
- Developing SAA's mandate as a platform to tackle not only issues relating to HIV, Malaria, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis but other emerging infections across the continent.
- Building capacity for health professionals and members of Non-Governmental Institutions (including religious and community based institutions) on the vision of tasks shifting in Africa in collaboration with medical schools or health training institutions.
- Advocating for resource mobilization for the AIDS response in Africa especially with the global decline in funding for AIDS.
- Building strong partnership with all governments and health institutions in Africa towards strengthening

Health Systems.

- Broadening the partnership with research institutions, international bodies, pharmaceutical companies, regional networks and key CSOs including those working on Human Rights and Gender in the five(5) African regions to provide training to young researchers and also partner with religious and media leaders for more advocacy.
- Focusing on youth/adolescent friendly activities that are technologically inclined to the needs of today's youth (e.g. social media activities), and thus actively contributing to materializing the African dividend.

THEMATIC AREAS AND STRATEGIES

SAA will focus its efforts on and resources in areas that will make maximum impact, thus investing for results. Thematic areas have been identified through the support of stakeholders, and interventions prioritized based on the SWOT analysis, capitalizing on our comparative advantage, and undertaking those activities that have potential to result in improvements in SAA's response in an efficient manner. Visit our website http://saafrica.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/SAA_Strategic_Plan.pdf for more information

Society for AIDS in Africa New Headquarters (Project)

In line with efforts in implementing SAA's Strategic plan (2017-2021) , a four (4) storey building project will be constructed as the new SAA headquarters.

First floor:

SAA permanent secretariat offices

Second floor:

Guest house for SAA membership /
Training participants.

Third floor:

Conference / Training center for 500
participants.

Fourth floor: Offices





THE HARARE DECLARATION 2015

- i. We the leaders, decision makers, scientists and activists from across the African continent and beyond have assembled in Harare, Zimbabwe at the 18th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa; antiretroviral therapy and the increased range of biomedical strategies joining with behavioural and structural efforts to prevent new HIV infections;
- ii. We are inspired by the courage of all the peoples of Africa in thirty years of response to the devastating AIDS pandemic and rededicate ourselves to continue this valiant work;
- iii. We embrace with enthusiasm and dedication the vision of the end of AIDS and commit our wholehearted efforts at local, national and regional level to implement the Fast Track to ending AIDS by 2030 and with it help achieve the world's new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- iv. We are determined that African institutions led from the African Union and including regional, sub-regional, national, sub-national and local structures all play their part in achieving the fast track to ending AIDS;
- v. We are dismayed by the persistence of HIV-related stigma and discrimination and in the spirit of “no one left behind” we dedicate ourselves to inclusive AIDS responses, led by people living with HIV, that embrace diversity and actively combat marginalization and victimization of minorities of every type;
- vi. We draw hope from the tremendous advances in HIV science which have made possible a full and normal lifespan for a person living with HIV on fully effective
- vii. We applaud the contribution of African HIV science and scientists of all disciplines in securing these advances and we support the increased networking and visibility of African HIV science;
- viii. We call for the sustained, efficient and effective resourcing of the AIDS response across the continent in the framework of global solidarity and shared responsibility;
- ix. We are concerned with the disproportionate burden of the epidemic falling on Africa's women and accordingly assert that the goal of ending of AIDS is in indivisible unity with the achievement of women's empowerment, gender equality and an end to gender violence;
- x. We commit to actively engage men in participating in the fast track agenda. We undertake to promote male involvement in all initiatives and programmes as appropriate to address HIV and AIDS in our homes, communities, organizations and countries.
- xi. We dedicate our efforts to the current and coming generation of young people across Africa who will emerge into adulthood by 2030 and whose birthright is to live in freedom and pursue their aspirations for themselves and their families released from the burden of AIDS.



20TH ICASA CONFERENCE 2019 THE BIGGEST AIDS CONFERENCE IN AFRICA OVER 10,000 DELEGATES EXPECTED FROM THE GLOBAL VILLAGE

KEY DATE

Call for Logo / Thematic
ICASA 2019 1st ISC Meeting
ICASA 2019 Website
Call for Abstract
Early Registration
2nd ISC Meeting
Regular Registration
Late Registration
Scholarship Application
Reviewing of Abstracts
Letter to speakers
Feedback from speakers
Marathon Meeting
Notice of Acceptance Abstract
Announcement of Scholarship Recipient
ICASA 2019 Online Program
ICASA 2019 Conference

OPEN

1st March
7th June
1st June
1st February 2019
1st February 2019
28th March 2019
16th April 2019
1st August 2019
3rd July 2019
30th July 2019
30th July 2019
30th July 2019
21st August 2019
28th August 2019
2nd September 2019
16th September 2019
2nd December 2019

CLOSE

31st May
8th June
10th June
30th July 2019
15th April 2019, 24.00 GMT
29th March, 2019
31st July 2019, 24.00 GMT
30th October 2019, 24.00 GMT
30th July 2019
15th August 2019
15th August 2019
15th August 2019
23rd August 2019
5th September 2019
7th December 2019



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Kigali Convention Centre

SAA Staff Retreat



From left: Mr. Frimpong Bonsu, Mr. Bodea, Dr. Parirenyatwa and Mr. Coleman with SAA team during staff retreat.

The Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) organized a staff retreat from the 13th – 16th December 2018 at Villa Cisneros, Sogakope, Ghana. The opening remarks for the retreat was addressed by the Hon. Dr. David P. Parirenyatwa, immediate past Minister of Health, Zimbabwe and current Vice President of SAA.

The three (3) day retreat gave both the management and staff time to reflect on milestones reached and explore ways to improve individual and overall team output.

Mr. William Frimpong Bonsu and Casely Ato Coleman served as facilitators for the retreat. *see figure 1 on page 22 for details on staff retreat.*

World AIDS Day 2018 at SAA' HQs, Accra - Ghana



SAA Team and the Community members during World AIDS Day float

Adjiringanor as a way of giving back to our community.

A float was organized on 1st December 2018, where SAA permanent secretariat team together with community members embarked on a walk on the principal streets of the community to create awareness and invite community members to SAA's permanent secretariat, Adjiringanor, Accra- Ghana for World AIDS Day celebration.

There are 36.9 million people living with HIV worldwide (UNAIDS 2017). The vast majority of people living with HIV are located in low- and middle- income countries, with an estimated 66% living in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2016, 2.1 million people aged between 10 and 19 years were living with HIV and 260,000 became newly infected with the virus. The number of adolescents living with HIV has risen by 30% between 2005 and 2016 (UNAIDS 2017). Thus, the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) in commemoration of World AIDS Day on 1st December 2018 organized activities to create awareness within our immediate vicinity at



World AIDS Day screening exercise

SAA in partnership with Ghana HIV and AIDS Network (GHANET) organized free HIV/AIDS screening

and counselling as well as education on HIV/AIDS preventive methods. A film titled 'Nothing without Us' by Positive Action for Treatment Access (PATA) was shown to educate the community on the damage stigmatization and marginalization has caused in the AIDS response.

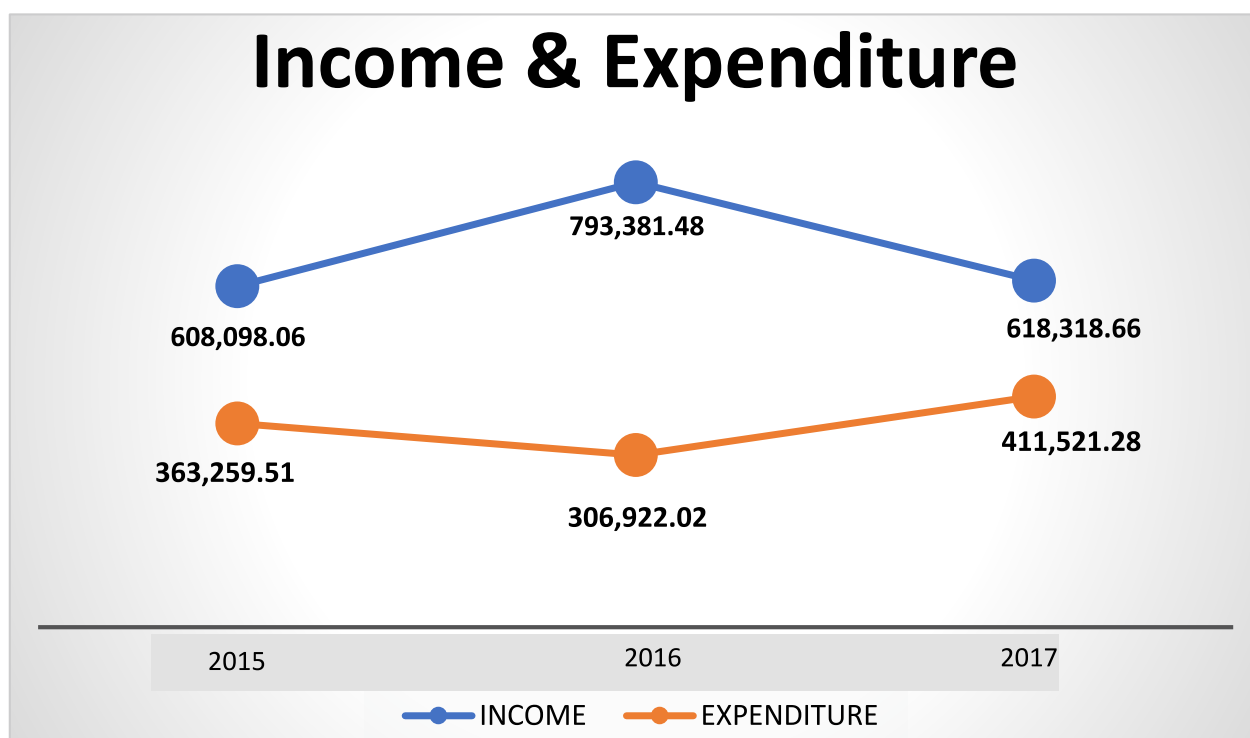
Female and male condoms were distributed with tutorials on how to avoid being infected with HIV/AIDS and STIs were also discussed. Furthermore, the benefit of knowing one's HIV status were highlighted in such

discussions.

The event was attended by more than 150 people in the community. The Adentan Municipal Social Welfare Director and the Assembly man of the area graced the occasion. The opening speech was delivered by the director of Social Welfare. Out of 89 people tested one was reactive. SAA was very pleased with the support from the community and looks forward to more community engagements on HIV/AIDS prevention and testing.

SAA Audit Report for 2015, 2016, 2017

One of our guiding principles at SAA ensures we are accountable to our donors and partners. As such the graph below explains our income from our donors, partners and members income generated as well as expenditure from our overall income.



Colour Code

- a. Blue - total income yearly.
- b. Orange - expenditure from total income.

CSO Accountability Forum 2018



A cross section of speakers at CSO Accountability Forum 2018, Abuja

Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) in partnership with Peer Review Forum Nigeria (PRFN), organized the Annual Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and Treatment Optimization Workshop 2018. CSO Accountability Forum 2018 took place at NAF Conference Centre and Suite, Abuja from the 13th – 15th of November 2018 with over 1000 delegates present.

The themes of the CSO Accountability Forum were:

Domestic Resource Mobilization: Increasing Public and Private Sector Investment.

Scientific Symposium: Task shifting and Viral Load Testing – The role of Community actors as partners.

This forum helped CSOs in Nigeria to talk about issues relating to domestic funding and access to facility health care of people living with HIV/AIDS and key population. The meeting was attended by more than 200 delegates coming from 36 states in Nigeria. SAA is eager based on this experience to help facilitate the organization of such a meeting to strengthen the CSOs in the development and monitoring of their national programs.

Prof. Femi Soyinka, 3rd President of the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) honoured at the 2018 CSO Accountability Forum in Abuja, Nigeria

During the opening ceremony of the just ended 2018 edition of the Civil Society Organization Accountability Forum, held in NAF conference Centre from 13th – 15th November, 2018 in Abuja, Nigeria, Prof. Femi Soyinka, in the company of his wife Dr. Kofo Soyinka was honored with the Prestigious ICON award. In attendance was the current President the Society for AIDS in Africa, Prof. John Idoko, Madam Ize Adava, Co-Chair of the Conference, Her Excellency Dame Pauline Tallen, Board Chairperson of the National Agency for Control of AIDS (NACA), Dr. Sani Aliyu, the Director General of the National Agency for Control of AIDS (NACA) and Dr. Sunday Aboje representative of the Minister of Health.

He was presented with the ICON Award in recognition of the significant role he has played in empowering Civil Society Organisations to actively engage with the national HIV response. His role in getting the country to institute the first free HIV treatment program in Nigeria was also acknowledged. The award was presented by Her Excellency, Dame Pauline.

Prof. Femi Soyinka expressed his profound appreciation of the honor bestowed on him. He said he was encouraged by the fact that civil society organizations could come together to improve upon efforts to collectively address the national response to HIV in Nigeria. He wished all present successful deliberations.



From left: Dr. Walter, Mr. Bodea, Her. Ex. P. Tallen, Prof. Soyinka, Dr. Kofo Soyinka, Dr. Aliyu and Prof. Idoko at CSO Accountability Forum 2018

National HIV and AIDS Research Conference (NHARCON) 2018

NHARCON 2018 was organized on 8th - 11th May 2018 by the Ghana AIDS Commission with support from Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA). It served as a platform to share best practices in support of the implementation of the current National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan (NSP) 2016 - 2020. The theme for the conference was: ENDING AIDS – Rethinking Practices for Maximum Impact. SAA assisted in the areas of technical and logistics support in terms of registration and programme management to make NHARCON 2018 a success and to meet the goals and target of the conference.

NHARCON Photo Winner



Mr. Bodea (SAA Coordinator / ICASA Director) presenting an award to Miss. Wekem during World AIDS Day programme at SAA Hq's, Accra

A photo contest on HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness was organized by SAA during National HIV & AIDS Research Conference (NHARCON) 2018. This was part of SAA's activities to empower, promote and encourage youth to engage in safe sex practices. A total of 30 entries were received. After the short-listing process, 12 submitted pictures were selected to progress to the final stage. The criteria for selecting the final winner was made up of three components. The criteria included: the photo should have more than one tool for protection against HIV/AIDS and STIs, positive body language and overall decent appearance. After a rigorous selection process, Miss Micheala Wekem emerged the winner. Her prize is a full scholarship to attend ICASA 2019 in Rwanda.

3rd SAA Symposium

SAA hosted the scientific gathering in Accra (Ghana) from 4th - 5th August 2016 at La Palm Beach Hotel, to discuss measures to pre-empt the spread of emerging viral infections in Africa following the recent devastating outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in West Africa. Such fora was in line with the need for constant vigilance as the African continent is quite vulnerable to viral epidemics with its weak health systems and socioeconomic challenges.

The theme of the symposium was AFRICA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR EMERGING VIRAL INFECTIONS: LESSONS FROM HIV/EBOLA AND THE OUTLOOK FOR ZIKA & LASSA.

The goal was to help position Africa for effective preparedness and response to emerging viral diseases such as Lassa Fever, Yellow Fever and Zika.

This symposium was an intensive opportunity to share experiences, best practices, and challenges in addressing Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) as well as identification of regional and international opportunities for collaboration towards the management and prevention of Emerging Infectious Diseases. Ethical questions in research on animals remain a challenge that requires our joint efforts.

In order to achieve the continent's goals, communities should be fully engaged and involved to secure their commitment for better prevention and management of Emerging Infectious Diseases.



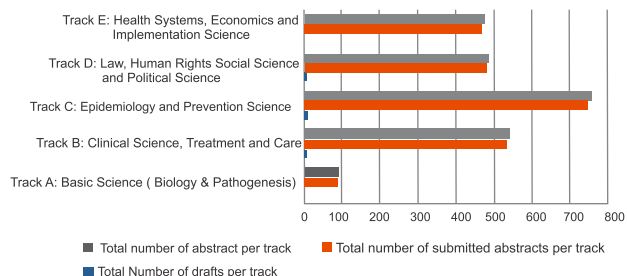
SAA Governing Council at SAA 3rd Symposium

ICASA STATISTICS

2017 ABSTRACTS

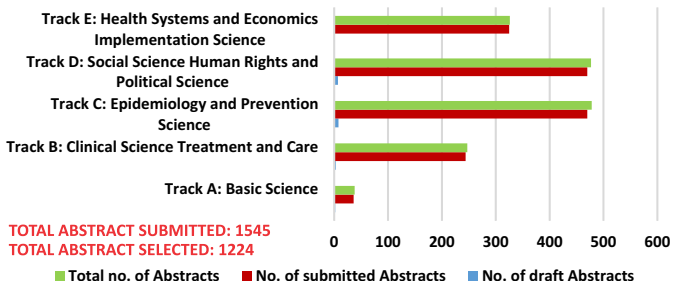
STATISTICS FOR ABSTRACT

Total number of Abstract Received : 2327



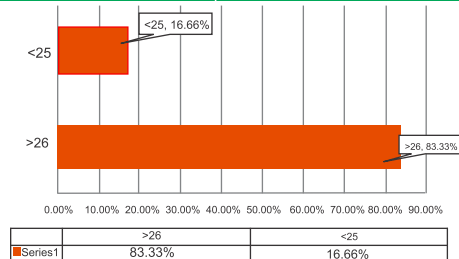
2015 ABSTRACTS

STATISTICS FOR ABSTRACT

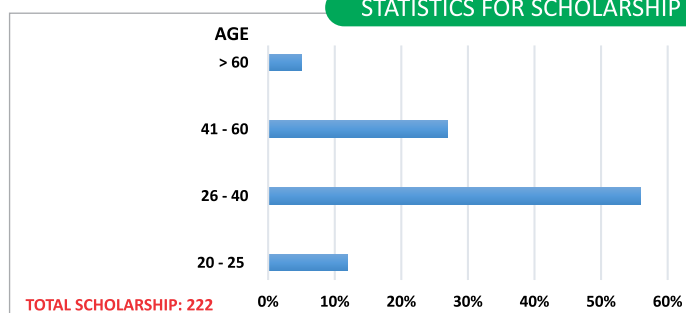


STATISTICS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

Total number of Scholarships awarded : 1588

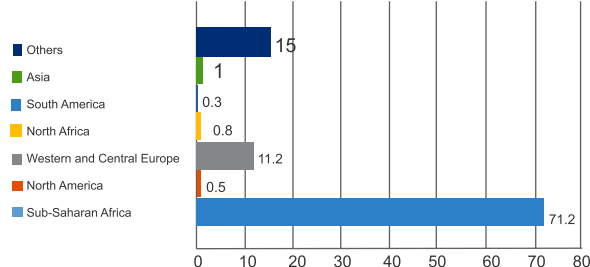


STATISTICS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

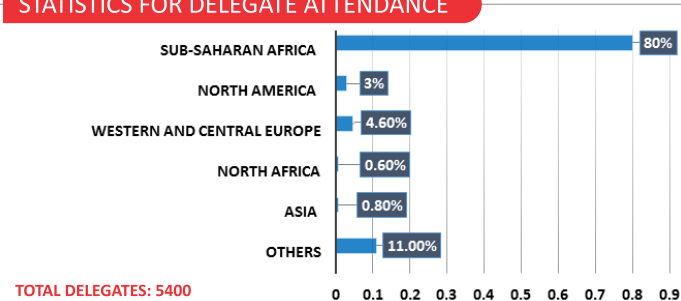


STATISTICS FOR DELEGATE ATTENDANCE

Total number of Delegates : 6030



STATISTICS FOR DELEGATE ATTENDANCE



ICASA 2017 ABSTRACT WINNERS



Track A: Basic Science
Dr. Abdou Padane,
Senegal



Track B: Clinical Science,
Treatment and Care
Nodjikuambaye Zita Aleyo
Chad



Track C: Epidemiology and
Prevention Science
Ms. Idah Mokhele,
South Africa



Track D: Social Science,
Human Rights and Political
Science
Acaipo S. A. Carmélita,
Benin



Track E: Health Systems,
Economics and
Implementation Science
Mr. Kennedy Gathu,
Kenya

ICASA 2019

1st International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting



Group photograph at 1st International Steering Committee (ISC) meeting in Kigali, Rwanda

The 20th edition of the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA) is scheduled to be hosted in Kigali, Rwanda from 2nd–7th December 2019 at the Kigali Convention Center. According to preparations towards ICASA 2019, the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) and the host country, the Government of Rwanda, organized the 1st International Steering Committee meeting from 7th–8th June, 2018. The 1st International Steering Committee meeting which took place at Serena Hotel, Kigali and was attended by 57 members coming from 16 countries to deliberate and plan the ICASA 2019 programme. The 20th ICASA programme is expected to address the current trends in HIV and AIDS focusing on the global push towards a generation free of the pandemic as well as strengthen health system on our continent capable of handling Africa's current health challenges. The ICASA 2019 Steering Committee is composed of representatives from SAA, the host country, the UN System, National AIDS Councils, communities, international, regional and national scientific institutions and representatives of other relevant international organizations.

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of handling Africa's current health challenges. The ICASA 2019 Steering Committee is composed of representatives from SAA, the host country, the UN System, National AIDS Councils, communities, international, regional and national scientific institutions and representatives of other relevant international organizations.

After rigorous deliberations the theme selected out of 12 submissions received was:

Theme: **AIDS FREE AFRICA**

Innovation, Community and Political Leadership

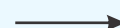
Objectives:

- Promote community, scientific and technological innovations for ending AIDS Advocate for financing sustainable national health responses, political leadership and accountability.
- Advocate for strengthened health systems and multi-sectoral collaboration to integrate co-morbidities, emerging infections and NCDs.
- Re-think gender norms, human rights-based approaches and inclusion towards equitable and accessible HIV and AIDS services including those targeting key populations.



- Promote youth-driven and youth-friendly approaches for an AIDS-free generation

Out of 46 logos received by the ICASA International Secretariat, the 1st ISC meeting was faced with a huge challenge in selecting the best as all the shortlisted logo were deemed to be good and were in line with the concept note. After intense deliberations, the winner of



ICASA 2019

1st International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting

the ICASA 2019 logo design competition was Mr.

Komlanvi APEVINYEKOU from Togo who will receive an award of US\$1000 at ICASA 2019. It is important to note that ICASA Conference remains dear to the African continent and its people as the winner of the 19th ICASA logo was Miss Lilian Kuusima from Uganda.

Plenary topics, key dates and road map, abstract titles and sub-titles were validated during the meeting under the leadership of ICASA 2019 President, Prof. John Idoko and Hon. Dr. Diane Gashumba, Minister of Health of Rwanda, the ICASA 2019 Vice President.

Scientific Committee Plenary Topics:

- Towards a Cure: Vaccines and Reservoir research.
- Operationalizing the implementation of innovative biomedical prevention (PrEP, microbicides, and long-acting ARVs).
- How to optimize second and third line ARV regimens and prevent HIV drug resistance through differentiated care in Africa.
- Integrating HIV care with emerging infections, comorbidities and NCDs.
- What will it take to achieve eMTCT and the 90-90-90 goals for children in Africa?

Leadership Committee Plenary Topics:

- African Heads of State towards an AIDS Free Africa: What does it take!
- Political Leadership to advance SDG 3 and promote inclusivity of vulnerable populations.
- Promoting stronger community-led leadership for ending AIDS in Africa.
- Stronger positioning of women leadership in Africa in the HIV response.
- Youth leadership at the centre of the HIV response.

Community Committee Plenary Topics:

- Community Innovation and Technology to ending AIDS.
- Health Financing; Community and Private sector engagement for Increased domestic funding.
- Community based monitoring for quality service delivery.
- Accessing services for People living with Disabilities.
- Addressing social structures to increase access to services and agency for Adolescent Girls and young women.

The 2nd ISC meeting is scheduled for 28th – 29th March

ICASA Youth Programme Meeting



Mr. Luc A. Bodea with ICASA Youth delegates at SAA Hq's, Accra - Ghana

The Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA) on the November, 2018 received youth delegation from Ghana, Togo, Cote D'Ivoire, and Mali at its permanent secretariat located in

Accra-Ghana. The youth delegation came for a meeting with ICASA International Secretariat to discuss strategies for the upcoming ICASA 2019 youth programme, so it reflects the UNAIDS global 90-90-90 targets.

The SAA Coordinator/ ICASA Director, Mr. Luc Armand Bodea drew the attention of the youth to the current rate of the HIV/AIDS pandemic: The majority of young people living with HIV are in

low- and middle-income countries, with 84% in sub-Saharan Africa (UNAIDS 2017).

In 2016, 73% of new HIV infections among adolescents occurred in Africa. The number of adolescents dying due to AIDS-related illnesses tripled between 2000 and 2015. At such an alarming rate, SAA together with youth delegation as well as others from Rwanda, Zimbabwe and France and proposed ways for better visibility and ownership of youth programme at ICASA 2019 Rwanda.

Appendix 1.0

SAA RETREAT PROGRAMME FOR STAFF-13TH - 16TH DECEMBER 2018

| Day 1: 13 th Dec. | Day 2: 14 th December | Day 3: 15 th December | Day 4: 16 th December |
|---|---|---|--|
| 5:00pm- Participants arrival and check-in | 7:00am - 8:00am: Volleyball | 7:00am - 8:00am - Basketball | 7:00am - 8:00am - Breakfast |
| 6:00pm-7:00pm - Dinner | 8:00am - 8:45am Breakfast | 8:00am - 8:30am- Breakfast | 8:00am - 8:30 am - Participants Report |
| | | 8:30am - 9:00am - Participant report / Reflections and Recap- <i>William Frimpong-Bonsu</i> | 8:30am - 9:00am - Reflections and Recap |
| | 8:45am - 9:00am - Opening remarks by <i>Hon. Dr. David P. Parirenyatwa</i> | 9:00am - 10:30am - Presentation: Effective Report Writing - <i>William Frimpong-Bonsu</i> | 9:00am - 10:30am- Presentation- Managing human and Organisational behaviour- <i>Casely</i> |
| | 9:00am - 9:15am Introductions, Expectations and Ground Rules - <i>William Frimpong - Bonsu/ SAA</i> | 10:30am - 10:45am - Break | 10:30am - 10:45am - Break |
| | 9:15am - 10:15am - Presentation- Organizational design for enhanced learning and development for impact - <i>Casely Ato Coleman</i> | 10:45am - 11:15am - Presentation continues - <i>William Frimpong-Bonsu</i> | 10:30am - 11:30am - Presentation - Managing human and Organisational behaviour - <i>Casely Ato Coleman</i> |
| | 10:15am - 10:30am - Break | 11:15am - 12:30pm - Practical Exercises | 11:30am - 12:00pm - Evaluation |
| | 10:30am - 12:30pm - Presentation - Organizational design for enhanced learning and development for for impact - <i>Casely Ato Coleman</i> | | 12:15pm - Closing Remarks- <i>Coordinator, SAA</i> |
| | 12:30pm - 2:00pm - Lunch and Rest | 12:30pm - 2:00pm - Lunch and Rest | 12:30pm - Lunch and Departure |
| | 2:00pm - 3:30pm - Presentation- Working in Teams (Functions and dysfunction of teams) - <i>Casely Ato</i> | 2:00pm - 3:00pm - Presentation- Time Management - <i>William Frimpong-Bonsu</i> | |
| | 3:30pm - 4:30pm - Group Work | 3:00pm - 4:00pm - Work Ethics and Management of Confidentiality- | |
| | 4:30pm - 5:00pm - Group Presentation | 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Group Simulation | |
| | 5:00pm - Close for the day | 5:00pm - Close for the day | |
| | 6:00 Aerobic | 6:00 Aerobic | |
| | 7: 00 Dinner | 7: 00 Dinner | |





ICASA 2019 RWANDA REGISTRATION FEES

REGULAR REGISTRATION

Low/middle income
countries: **\$500.00**

High Income
countries: **\$850.00**

DISCOUNTED

Take advantage of the
regular registration to
save **\$100.00** on the
registration fees.

16TH APRIL – 31TH JULY

RECOMMENDED

EARLY REGISTRATION

Low/middle income
countries: **\$450.00**

High Income countries:
\$700.00

QUICK & AFFORDABLE

Take advantage of the
early registration to
save **\$150.00** for
Low/middle income
countries or **\$250.00** for
High Income countries.

1ST FEBRUARY – 15TH APRIL

LATE REGISTRATION

Low/middle income
countries: **\$600.00**

High Income
countries: **\$950.00**

ON-SITE

1ST AUGUST – 30TH OCT

visit www.icasa2019rwanda.com to register



SOCIETY FOR AIDS IN AFRICA MEMBERSHIP

BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER



Access to SAA Database



Access to personal page in the member s area where other members can be contacted



Frequent electronic Membership update with the latest news



Eligibility to be part of various ICASA Committee



Opportunity to decide the membership of the SAA Governing Council Election



Access to latest information on upcoming SAA



5% discount on forthcoming ICASA for SAA paid registered / paid members



Participate in the preselection of ICASA host



Access to past ICASA Abstracts

SAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Personal Information and Contact Details

Title..... Address/Postal Address.....

Name

Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐ other ☐ Email.....

Nationality.....Telephone.....

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit

membership.saafrica.org

Membership page for online registration and payment

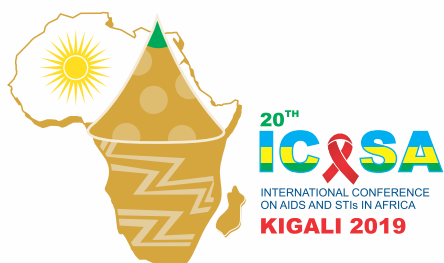


ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

| Membership Category* | Annual Subscription | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Full Membership | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Organization / Corporate | \$150 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student | \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

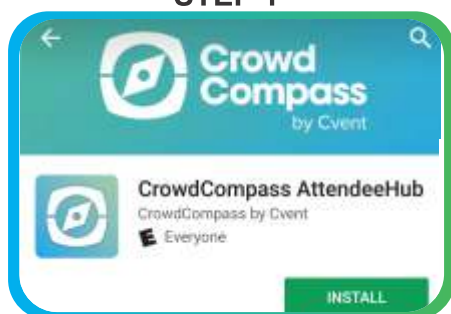
Email: info@saafrica.org

Website: www.saafrica.org



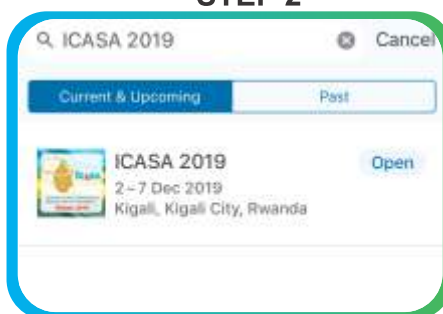
DOWNLOAD ICASA 2019 MOBILE APP

STEP 1



Download the **AttendeeHub** App from **Google Play Store** or **Apple App Store**

STEP 2



Search for "**ICASA 2019**" in **current & upcoming** events and download to your mobile device

STEP 3



Tap to open

2-7 DEC 2019



SOCIETY FOR AIDS IN AFRICA
ORGANIZER OF THE ICASA



✉ info@icasa2019rwanda.org

🌐 www.icasa2019rwanda.org
www.saafrica.org

📍 Kigali Convention Centre