

# KMWA e-Newsletter



Kenya Medical Women's Association Bi-Monthly e-Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 1 | May 2016

*Champion for the improved health and dignity of society, particularly vulnerable groups.*

Welcome to the **first edition** of the **bi-monthly KMWA e-Newsletter**. We are excited about this opportunity to interact with you and inform you of the ongoing and upcoming activities in KMWA. We encourage you to send in any updates you would like to share with the KMWA fraternity. This includes topics of interest, presentations made in local or regional fora, awards received and any others issue you would like to share.



## 6th KMWA Annual Scientific Symposium

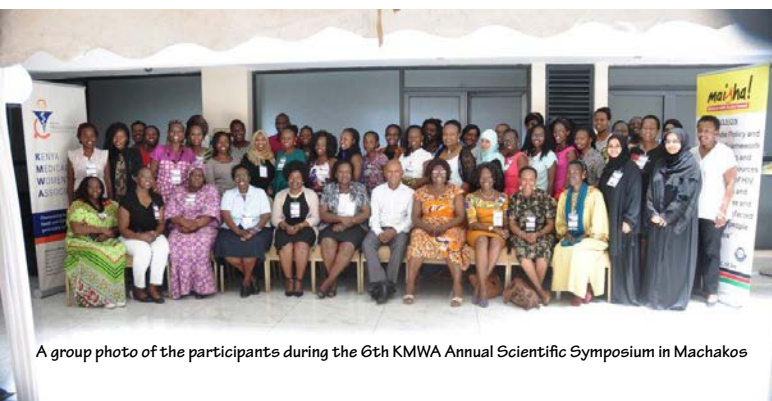
The 6th KMWA Annual Scientific Symposium was held at Gelian Hotel, Machakos on 19th March, 2016. KMWA was privileged to have Sen. Judith Sijeny as the Guest of Honour. The Symposium had several important themes to women's health.



Dr. Praxy Okutoyi giving out a Unilever Water Purifier as a gift to the Chief Guest, Sen. Judith Sijeny during the symposium.

Dr. Nduku, the Director of National AIDS Control Council attended in person and expressed her willingness to continue collaborating with KMWA. In

this regard, KMWA was lauded for its Advocacy on Microbicides through its partnership with IPM. The highlight was the evidence emerging from HIV Prevention update on dapivirine vaginal ring showing promising evidence that can help prevent HIV in women.



A group photo of the participants during the 6th KMWA Annual Scientific Symposium in Machakos

## KMWA Elections

The KMWA elections were recently concluded and the following members were elected as board members to serve for the next three years.

### KMWA Board Members

#### Dr. Christine Sadia – Chairperson



She is a Founder member of KMWA and a Public Health Specialist with vast experience in Health Policy and Development. She has worked with the Ministry of Health, UN and International NGOs. She has a track record in Strategic and Transformative Leadership and is astute in Capacity and Technical Support as well as Institutional Development. She is privileged to have a team of experienced professional doctors in the Board as listed below.



**Dr. Daisy Odundo**  
Vice Chairperson



**Dr. Elizabeth Onyango**  
Ag. National Secretary



**Dr. Njambi Njuguna**  
National Treasurer



**Dr. Diana Ondieki**  
Asst. Treasurer



**Dr. Brigid Monda**  
Member



**Dr. Grace Miheso**  
Member



**Dr. Teresah Alwar**  
Member



**Dr. Koki Kinagwi**  
Member

**Dr. Adeline Vilembwa**  
Member

## First meeting of the Board

The meeting took place on the 28th April, 2016. The Board appreciates the outgoing Council for facilitating a handover process which is now near completion. The Board has noted the need to quickly strengthen the KMWA Secretariat in order to serve you efficiently. The Board has therefore prioritized the fast-tracking of the CEO recruitment which we do hope will be completed before the end of May 2016.

The Board notes that KMWA has many opportunities and events that members need to sign up for in order to actively get involved in the affairs of our Association. The Board therefore requests that members sign up for Committees and indicate other areas of expertise that they would be willing to offer and support. This database will assist in the management of your expectations, requests and representation by all members based

on their interests, passion, niche and talents. The Committees are listed below. Your suggestions for a more inclusive committee that takes into account your area of interest are welcome for consideration.

- **Health Education and Research** – Some members already signed up and will soon be invited to meet and draw up a calendar of events
- **Finance and Administration** – Several members have already signed up and will be convened soon
- **Endowment Fund** – Members needed
- **Strategic Planning** – Four members have signed up. Our Strategic Plan is an urgent matter and this work need to start immediately
- **Standards and Ethics** – Two members have signed up
- **Gender** – Some have signed up – more to come on board
- **Projects** – Indicate interest in any thematic area and sign up

**Branches are urged to have functional technical committees. Health is devolved and therefore the Board would like to support the strengthening of branches for service delivery.**

## Events

There are many invitations of diverse nature coming through the Secretariat for members to attend various events. We will be regularly circulating to you for your consideration and participation. This month members attended various functions and we would like to sincerely thank you for ably representing KMWA. These include;

- **Gender Equality informal discussion that \_event took place on the 28th April, 2016** and organized by Harmony Institute which highlighted some of the progress and challenges addressing this issue in this region and beyond.
- The International Narcotic Control Board (INCB) – Learning Project on **national awareness raising event on availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes at the**

**UN Gigiri Complex on 29th April, 2016.** Our member Dr. Zipporah Ali was a key presenter on the Kenyan situation. We are proud that we are at the global map on this issue with the UN and the African Union Commission.

- The Ministry of Health held a meeting on **Measles-Rubella and Tetanus Intergovernmental consultative forum, 3rd May, 2016** and KMWA was ably represented.

*We thank all our doctors for giving KMWA your valuable time and bringing value to our noble Association.*

## Conferences & Seminars

- KMWA will be hosting **MWIA Regional Conference in 2018**. We are in the process of establishing a secretariat to manage the conference
- IPM hosted a **panel discussion and breakfast on 17th May, 2016** at **Women Deliver 2016 in Copenhagen** on critical role partnerships play in driving innovation in women's sexual and reproductive health. The highlight were the lessons learnt on how dapivirine vaginal ring can help prevent HIV in women. KMWA is a partner of IPM and the Secretariat will circulate the conference link when it becomes available.
- **MWIA Conference 2016** is taking place in **July** and KMWA's presentation has been accepted and hopefully our members can participate.
- The **launch of 2nd Edition Healthscape Summit – Africa** in association with **East Africa Healthcare Federation and Kenya Healthcare Federation, 19th - 20th May, 2016** at the Villa Rosa Kempinski Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
- You have been invited to attend **Sickle Cell International Conference in Uganda 25th - 27th May, 2016**

## Welfare

We would like to thank the North Rift Branch for the support to their Chairperson Dr. Faith Oguk during the demise of her father. The team braved the bad weather and represented KMWA at the burial in Bondo on the 30th April, 2016. On behalf of all KMWA members we thank you for your team spirit and being available to support. From all of us we continue to uphold Dr. Oguk in our thoughts and prayers.



## Announcements

- ✓ We want a vibrant and responsive organization. What can you do?
- ✓ Check if your contact at the Secretariat is updated.
- ✓ Do sign up more members from the colleagues you interact with.
- ✓ The e-newsletter will become the primary mode of communication so current email contacts are needed.
- ✓ The website will soon be updated and made more interactive
- ✓ We welcome your suggestions to improve this newsletter.
- ✓ Do look out for the calendar of events