

## **Program for AHETI Convening**

**Theme:** Uniting Faith and Science to Eliminate Cervical Cancer in Africa

**Dates:** June 11th - 13th, 2024

**Location:** Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi

### **Day 1: See - Understanding Issues**

#### **Morning Session:**

##### **Opening Session (8:30 AM - 9:10 AM)**

- Welcome Remarks and Introduction to Convening
  - AHETI Chair – Fr Charlie Chilufya &
  - Kilele/ACHA Director – Ms Benda Kithaka
  
- Messages of goodwill from partners and key stakeholders
  - The Faith Community
    - Fr Germain Rajoelison – SECAM
    - Imam Alidou Ilboudo - Moslem
    - African Religions – P
  - The Community and Survivors
    - Karen Nakawala (Survivors)
    - Pamela Savai
  - Government

Keynote Address: A Call to Action: Uniting Faith and Science for a Cervical Cancer-Free Future in Africa" – Bishop Cleophas Oseso Tuka, **KCCB Health and Integral Human Developmentn (tbc)**

##### **Panel Discussion: Overview of Cervical Cancer and HPV Vaccination and WHO 90-70-90 Strategy in Africa (9:10AM – 10:00 AM)**

- Dr Paul Bloem – WHO HQ Geneva (Virtual)
- Prof Mugo – KEMRI
- Dr Sharon Kapambwe WHO Afro
- Prof Mulindi Mwanahamuntu – University of Zambia

This segment is one of the cornerstones of our program, designed to deepen participants' understanding of the pervasive challenge of cervical cancer across the continent and to explore the ambitious WHO 90-70-90 elimination strategy. The strategy's targets—90% of girls vaccinated by age 15, 70% of women screened by ages 35 and 45, and 90% of women with cervical disease receiving treatment—outline a comprehensive approach to combating this disease. This panel discussion will bring together leading experts to share insights, progress, and challenges specific to various African contexts. By examining both successes and obstacles, this session aims to equip participants with the knowledge and strategies needed to advocate for and implement effective cervical cancer control programs in their respective regions. The discussion is intended to foster an informed dialogue that will propel action and collaboration towards meeting these critical health targets.

##### **Coffee Break (10:00 AM - 10:30 AM)**

## **Panel 2: Cervical Cancer in Africa: Current Landscape, HPV Vaccination, and Barriers to Uptake – Insights from the Field (10:30. – 11:30)**

- Dr Rob Symes – Foretell. AI
- Theo Sowa - Chief Executive Officer of the African Women’s Development Fund.
- Prof Themba Gininza – University of Kwazulu Natal, South Africa
- Dr Rose E. Jalang'o – MoH Kenya

This essential panel of the convening’s program is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of cervical cancer in Africa, delving into the specifics of HPV vaccination rates and the obstacles that hinder effective vaccine uptake. The session aims to furnish attendees with a detailed understanding of both the epidemiological landscape and the practical challenges faced in expanding vaccine coverage.

- **Educational Foundation:** This segment sets the educational groundwork for the convening by presenting up-to-date data and research findings. Understanding the current landscape of cervical cancer and the status of HPV vaccination efforts across different African regions is crucial for all subsequent discussions and strategy formations.
- **Contextual Relevance:** By highlighting specific barriers to HPV vaccine uptake, the session provides contextual relevance that helps tailor the discussions towards realistic and effective solutions. It emphasises the need for region-specific strategies that consider local cultural, economic, and systemic challenges.
- **Evidence-Based Insights:** Featuring evidence from recent studies and field reports, this segment ensures that all discussions and decisions during the conference are grounded in the latest scientific research and real-world experiences. This approach fosters informed dialogue and decision-making.
- **Catalyst for Collaboration:** Understanding shared challenges can serve as a catalyst for fostering collaboration among stakeholders, including faith leaders policymakers, healthcare providers, community leaders, and international health organizations. The segment encourages a collective examination of problems and joint strategising for overcoming barriers.
- **Strategic Planning:** Insights from this session are intended to directly feed into the strategic planning discussions that follow in the program. By clearly delineating the challenges and the current state of affairs, the session equips participants with the necessary information to devise effective, actionable strategies during subsequent workshops and discussions.

## **Panel Presentation and Discussion: Addressing Religious and Cultural Concerns in Vaccine Acceptance (11:30 – 12:30).**

- Rev Dr. Sr Teresa Kiragu – Bio Ethicist and Theologian
- Rev Dr Pascal Mwakio - Bio Ethicist and Theologian
- [Imam Alidou Ilboudo – Religious Leader](#)
- Rev Dr Sr Mary Nzilani, – Pastoral Theologian

### **Panel Description**

This panel presentation is a pivotal part of the program, designed to delve into the complex interplay between cultural and religious beliefs and the acceptance of vaccines. By bringing together religious leaders, cultural scholars, and public health experts, this session aims to foster a nuanced dialogue about the concerns and hesitations that different communities may have regarding vaccination.

**Role in the Program:**

- **Facilitating Understanding:** This segment is instrumental in helping participants understand the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds that influence perceptions and attitudes toward vaccination. It emphasises the importance of empathy and cultural competence in public health initiatives.
- **Bridging Gaps:** The session serves as a bridge between medical science and cultural/religious practices, exploring how public health professionals can respectfully and effectively engage with communities holding various beliefs.
- **Strategy Development:** Insights gained from this discussion will be critical for developing more effective communication strategies that resonate with target populations, helping to increase vaccine uptake through culturally sensitive approaches.
- **Enhancing Outreach:** By addressing these concerns openly, the panel aims to equip health professionals and policymakers with the tools and knowledge necessary to enhance their outreach efforts, ensuring that vaccine campaigns are inclusive and considerate of the diverse societal fabric.
- **Community Engagement:** The insights from this panel are expected to foster stronger community engagement by building trust and understanding, crucial elements for successful public health campaigns.

This session is designed not only to address and discuss cultural and religious concerns but also to translate these discussions into actionable insights that can lead to improved health outcomes. By understanding and integrating the perspectives shared during this panel, health initiatives can be more effectively tailored to meet the needs and expectations of diverse communities.

**Interactive Plenary: Guided Reflection and Examen on the Morning Sessions (12:30 AM - 1:00 PM)**

Fr Charlie Chilufya, S.J.

**Session Description:**

This interactive plenary session is designed to provide participants with a structured opportunity to reflect on and digest the key discussions and insights from the morning's activities. Utilising a guided dialogue format, this session encourages a deeper engagement with the topics covered, fostering an environment where participants can share their thoughts and refine their understanding of the issues discussed.

**Role in the Program:**

- **Consolidation of Learning:** This session acts as a crucial juncture to consolidate and reinforce the knowledge gained during the morning sessions. It allows participants to pause and reflect, ensuring that they fully grasp and appreciate the complexities of the topics addressed.
- **Enhanced Participant Interaction:** By encouraging participants to share their reflections and insights, the session enhances interaction among attendees, building a stronger sense of community and collaborative learning.
- **Facilitation of Deeper Understanding:** The guided discussion helps clarify any uncertainties and explore the implications of the morning's content more deeply. This is crucial for ensuring that participants can effectively apply what they have learned in their own contexts.

- **Preparation for Subsequent Sessions:** This reflective process not only solidifies the morning's learning but also prepares participants for the afternoon sessions by setting a thoughtful, engaged tone. It ensures that they are mentally and intellectually ready to tackle the next set of challenges and discussions.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** The interactive nature of this plenary provides the conference organisers with immediate feedback on the morning's sessions, which can be used to adjust the pace or focus of the conference in real-time if necessary.

The session aims to maximise the educational impact of the event and enhance the overall participant experience. It provides a valuable space for intellectual engagement, personal growth, and communal learning, ensuring that the conference's goals are met with thoughtful consideration and active participation.

**Lunch Break** (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

**Breakout Sessions: Thematic Problem Definition and Analysis (2:30 PM - 4:00 PM)**

### **Segment Description**

This session is a key component of the convening, designed to delve deeply into specific thematic areas that are critical to the overall goals of the event. Participants will split into smaller, focus-driven groups, each dedicated to a particular theme relevant to the broader topic of the conference. The primary aim is to foster a collaborative environment where diverse perspectives can converge to identify and analyze key challenges.

### **Role in the Program:**

- **Focused Discussion:** Each breakout group focuses on a specific theme, allowing for a more concentrated and detailed exploration of issues than would be possible in larger plenary sessions. This setting encourages more direct interaction and active participation from all attendees.
- **Problem Identification:** Groups are tasked with clearly defining the problems within their assigned theme. This involves discussing and detailing the nature of these issues, their origins, and the impacts they have on broader goals.
- **Analytical Approach:** Following problem identification, participants engage in critical analysis to understand the underlying factors and potential barriers that contribute to these issues. This step is crucial for developing effective solutions.
- **Collaborative Environment:** The breakout format is designed to leverage the collective expertise of participants, promoting a synergistic approach to problem-solving. This environment fosters networking and the formation of potential partnerships for future collaboration.
- **Outcome Orientation:** Each group is expected to produce a concise summary of their discussions, including the identified problems and the insights gained from their analysis. These summaries will be shared in a subsequent plenary session to ensure that insights are exchanged across the entire assembly of participants.

This segment is instrumental in shaping the convening's outcomes by ensuring that all discussions are grounded in a thorough understanding of the specific challenges being addressed. It sets the stage for the next phase of the conference, where strategies and solutions will be developed based on the problems and analyses articulated during these sessions.

## 1. Knowledge Collaboration: Bridging Science and Faith in HPV Vaccination

### Lead Presentations by Prof Dorcas Obiri-Yeboha and Dr Armel Setubi – Oncologist

**Description:** This session aims to foster a deep and productive dialogue between cultural, religious communities, and the scientific community regarding the HPV vaccination. The primary focus is on identifying and understanding the specific cultural and religious challenges to HPV vaccination and cervical cancer prevention across Africa. Additionally, this session will feature presentations from medical and scientific experts who will share the latest research and scientific advancements related to HPV, its vaccine, and the strategies for effective cervical cancer prevention.

#### Participants will explore:

- **Latest HPV Science:** Experts will present current scientific knowledge on HPV, discussing vaccine safety, efficacy, and the public health implications of widespread vaccination.
- **Cultural Beliefs and Practices:** Examination of how existing cultural norms influence perceptions and acceptance of HPV vaccination, identifying both supportive and hindering factors.
- **Religious Influences:** Discussion on the impact of religious beliefs on health behaviours, and strategies for engaging faith leaders as advocates for health education and vaccination.

The session will also highlight case studies and models from different African regions where integration of scientific understanding with cultural and religious considerations has led to successful health outcomes. By combining the latest scientific insights with a sensitive approach to cultural and religious contexts, the session aims to equip participants with the knowledge and tools to advocate for and implement HPV vaccination programs more effectively in their communities.

## 2. Community-Centric Advocacy for HPV Vaccination: Identifying Challenges in Africa

### Lead Presentations by:

- **Benda Kithaka – Kilele Health/ACHA**
- **Dr Viviane Oke – Youth for Youth**

**Description:** This session delves into the multifaceted landscape of HPV communication and advocacy across Africa, with a focus on uncovering the predominant challenges that impede effective vaccination efforts and cervical cancer prevention. Participants will critically assess how various cultural, ethical, and spiritual perspectives within African communities influence public health messaging and advocacy initiatives. The goal is to identify specific barriers that obstruct informed decision-making and hinder public health advancements concerning HPV vaccination.

The discussion will:

- **Highlight Regional Variations:** Explore how different African regions face unique challenges and how local customs and beliefs impact HPV vaccine acceptance.
- **Engage with Diverse Perspectives:** Include insights from cultural leaders, healthcare professionals, and community advocates to provide a well-rounded view of the obstacles encountered in different communities.
- **Interactive Problem-Solving:** Facilitate interactive problem-solving sessions where participants can propose and critique potential solutions, fostering a collaborative approach to advocacy.
- **Actionable Outcomes:** Conclude with actionable recommendations for community-specific strategies that can be implemented to improve HPV vaccination rates and drive progress in cervical cancer prevention.

By thoroughly understanding these challenges and crafting advocacy approaches that resonate with community values, the session aims to empower participants to advocate more effectively for HPV vaccination, ultimately contributing to significant public health improvements across Africa.

### 3. **Vaccine Integrity in Africa: Addressing Quality Assurance Challenges for HPV Vaccination Uptake**

Description: This session delves into the multifaceted quality assurance issues impacting HPV vaccination programs across Africa, scrutinizing how regulatory frameworks, supply chain management, counterfeit vaccines, surveillance, and monitoring, as well as technical capacities, influence vaccine efficacy, safety, and public trust. The discussion will provide a critical assessment of government actions and their role in bolstering vaccine quality assurance, exploring a variety of measures and initiatives that have been put in place to address these challenges.

Participants will:

- **Examine Regulatory and Compliance Frameworks:** Analyse how robust or lacking regulatory frameworks impact the quality and distribution of HPV vaccines.
- **Explore Supply Chain Vulnerabilities:** Discuss the complexities of vaccine supply chain management in Africa, identifying key points where vulnerabilities may compromise vaccine integrity.
- **Counteract Counterfeit Vaccines:** Consider strategies to combat the prevalence of counterfeit vaccines, which pose significant risks to public health and trust.
- **Enhance Surveillance and Monitoring Systems:** Evaluate the effectiveness of current surveillance and monitoring systems, and discuss how these can be improved to ensure vaccine safety and efficacy.
- **Address Technical and Resource Limitations:** Discuss the technical challenges and resource limitations faced by various countries, impacting their ability to maintain vaccine quality.
- **Impact of International Dependence and Funding:** Delve into how dependence on international vaccines and funding constraints affect local capacities to manage quality assurance.
- **Interactive Discussions and Strategy Development:** Engage in interactive discussions to develop actionable strategies that can be adopted to strengthen the vaccine quality assurance systems.

The session will help to build a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and will have practical steps and innovative strategies aimed at overcoming these barriers. The ultimate goal is to enhance the vaccination framework across Africa, establish widespread public trust, and significantly increase HPV vaccine uptake by ensuring that all vaccine options meet the highest international standards of safety and efficacy.

**Coffee Break (4:00 PM - 4:30 PM)**

**Plenary: Integrative Reporting and Collaborative Discussion (4:30 PM - 6:00 PM) (4:30 PM - 6:00 PM)**

#### **Session Description:**

This crucial plenary session serves as a culmination of the day's discussions and workshops, providing a platform for representatives from various breakout sessions to report back to the entire assembly. The session is designed to foster a comprehensive exchange of insights and

strategies that have emerged throughout the day, promoting a unified understanding and collaborative approach to tackling the challenges discussed.

### **Structure and Objectives:**

- **Reporting Back:** Designated speakers from each breakout session will present summaries of their group's discussions, highlighting key challenges identified and any new insights on the issues discussed. This ensures that all participants, regardless of their individual session participations, are informed about the breadth of discussions that took place.
- **Facilitated Discussion:** Following the presentations, a facilitated discussion will allow participants to delve deeper into the issues raised, ask questions, and offer feedback. This interactive segment is crucial for refining ideas and integrating diverse perspectives.
- **Synthesis of Ideas:** The facilitator will help synthesize the information shared, identifying common themes and divergent views, and discussing how these can be harmonised into cohesive strategies moving forward.
- **Action Steps:** The session will conclude with a discussion on potential action steps and commitments that can be taken collectively or by individual entities to advance the goals discussed during the conference.

### **Role in the Program:**

This Plenary is pivotal as it not only ensures that insights from parallel sessions are shared broadly but also facilitates collective reflection and consensus-building. By the end of this session, participants will have a clearer understanding of the conference's comprehensive insights and understanding of issues, enabling them to consider practical applications and collaborations post-conference. This session is integral in ensuring that the momentum generated throughout the day is captured, actionable outcomes are defined, and participants leave with a sense of accomplishment and direction.

**Downtime (6:00PM – 7:00PM)**

### **Evening:**

- **Networking Dinner (7:00 to 8:30 PM)**

## **Day 2: Problem Analysis and Solving**

### **Morning Session:**

Recap on Day 1 and introduction to the Day 2 Dynamic (08:30 – 09:00)

**Group Work: Thematic Problem-Solving and Strategy Development Workshops 1: (9:00 AM - 10:30 AM)**

These workshops serve as a continuation of Day 1 activities, progressing from problematisation to analysis, solution development, and ultimately, strategy formulation. Designed as collaborative sessions, they engage participants in a hands-on approach to craft strategies specifically tailored to address the challenges outlined on the previous day. Stakeholders from various sectors including healthcare professionals, community leaders, policymakers, and affected populations come together to deepen their analysis of the issues at hand, such as disease prevention, vaccine uptake, or health promotion.

The aim is to harness the collective expertise and perspectives present in the room, fostering a dynamic environment where innovative solutions can be birthed. Participants are encouraged

to actively engage in brainstorming, discussion, and strategic planning, utilising structured activities, group dialogues, and targeted problem-solving exercises. These efforts culminate in the development of strategic plans that are not only innovative but also practical, ensuring that the solutions devised are actionable and sustainable with the potential to significantly improve health outcomes in the communities concerned.

**Coffee Break (10:30 AM - 11:00 AM)**

**Group Work: Strategy Development Workshops 2 (11:00 AM - 12:30 PM)**

**Examen and Review (11:00 AM - 12:30 PM)** – Fr Pierre Luhata, S.J.

**Lunch Break (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)**

**Plenary: Reports and Discussion: (2:30 PM - 4:30 PM)**

The Plenary: Reports and Discussion session serves as a critical component of the convening, where participants reconvene to share insights and outcomes from the various workshops and group activities conducted. This session is designed to facilitate a comprehensive synthesis of information, allowing for the dissemination of knowledge and strategies developed in smaller groups to the larger assembly.

During this plenary session, designated representatives from each workshop group present detailed reports on their findings, the strategies they have developed, and the potential solutions they propose to address the specific public health issues discussed. These presentations are followed by an open forum discussion, where all participants are encouraged to provide feedback, pose questions, and offer additional insights. This interactive dialogue is essential for refining the strategies and ensuring they are robust, inclusive, and adaptable to different contexts.

The session aims to foster a sense of collective understanding and commitment among all attendees. It ensures that the knowledge generated in specialized groups is shared widely, promoting a unified approach to tackling the health challenges identified. Additionally, this plenary provides an opportunity for networking and strengthening collaborations, as stakeholders can identify areas of common interest and potential partnerships for future initiatives.

Ultimately, the Plenary: Reports and Discussion not only consolidates the work done during the convening but also sets the stage for actionable steps forward, ensuring that the momentum gained during the event is carried into the implementation phase of the strategies developed.

**Coffee Break (4:30 PM - 5:00PM)**

**Roundtable: Follow-up and Reinforcement of Strategies (5:00 PM - 6:00 PM)**

This Roundtable session is strategically scheduled towards the end of the second day (day 2) of the convening to focus on the crucial aspects of follow-up and reinforcement of the strategies discussed and developed during the earlier sessions. The primary objective of this roundtable is to establish a concrete plan for the continued application and evaluation of the strategies that participants have agreed upon.

During this session, participants gather in a semi-formal setting, conducive to open discussions and in-depth dialogue. Key stakeholders, including leaders from various sectors such as health, community, and policy, are brought together to ensure a holistic approach to the strategies'



implementation. The discussion will revolve around setting realistic timelines, assigning responsibilities, and determining the resources needed to effectively carry out the strategies in their respective contexts.

An essential part of the roundtable is the discussion of mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. This includes setting benchmarks for success and establishing regular review points to assess the progress of the strategies implemented. Participants will also discuss potential challenges and barriers to successful implementation, brainstorming possible solutions and adaptations to ensure the strategies remain effective and responsive to changing conditions. The roundtable serves not only as a planning session but also as the beginning of a commitment ceremony as we prepare for the final day, where stakeholders re-affirm their dedication to the collaborative effort needed to see the strategies through. This session is vital for maintaining the momentum and ensuring that the ideas and plans formulated during the conference translate into tangible, lasting impacts in public health.

Downtime 06:00PM – 7:00PM

07:00 – 08:30 PM Dinner

### **Day 3: Action Planning and Way Forward**

#### **Morning Session:**

#### **Recap on day 2 and plan for day 3 (08:30 – 09:00)**

This session is a concise and structured review that marks the transition between the second and final day of the conference. It serves as an essential bridge, summarising the previous day's achievements and setting the agenda for the day ahead.

During this brief but crucial period, the facilitator or designated speaker will provide a comprehensive recap of Day 2's key discussions, insights, and outcomes. This recap ensures that all participants are aligned and have a shared understanding of the progress made, highlighting any significant developments or resolutions that emerged from the day's sessions. It also provides an opportunity to revisit any critical points or themes that may require further exploration or finalisation on Day 3.

Following the recap, the facilitator will outline the schedule for Day 3, emphasising any changes or special instructions. The agenda will detail the sessions planned, including any keynote speeches, panel discussions, or workshop activities. Special attention will be given to outlining the objectives for the day, particularly focusing on how these activities aim to consolidate the conference's overall goals.

This session not only ensures continuity and coherence across the conference days but also energises participants for the concluding sessions. By clearly setting out the expectations and activities for Day 3, it helps participants prepare mentally and logistically for the day ahead, ensuring they can contribute effectively and gain the maximum benefit from the final day of the conference.

#### **Group Work: Action Plan and Message Development (9:00 AM - 10:30 AM)**

This session, situated at the start of Day 3, is pivotal in transitioning from strategic discussions to concrete operational steps. It is designed to harness the collective insights and strategies discussed in the preceding days and channel them into actionable plans and effective communication strategies.

**Objective:**

The primary goal of this session is to ensure that the strategies developed during the conference are translated into specific, implementable actions. It also focuses on crafting compelling messages that can be used to communicate these actions to a broader audience, including stakeholders, the public, and potential partners.

**Structure:**

Participants divided into earlier developed smaller groups, focus-driven groups. Each group is tasked with:

- **Developing a Detailed Action Document:** Groups will outline step-by-step actions needed to implement the strategies they've developed. This includes setting timelines, identifying necessary resources, assigning responsibilities, and determining key performance indicators for monitoring progress.
- **Crafting Key Messages:** Alongside action plans, groups will develop key messages intended to communicate the importance and impact of their plans effectively. These messages should be tailored to various audiences to ensure they resonate well and drive engagement.

**Activities:**

- **Brainstorming:** Groups brainstorm to refine their strategies into specific actions and develop persuasive messages that align with their goals.
- **Collaboration:** Encourages collaboration both within and across groups to ensure coherence and to leverage diverse expertise.
- **Feedback Loops:** Groups present their draft action plans and messages to the plenary, receiving feedback that can be used to refine their outputs.

**Output:**

By the end of the session, each group should have a clear, detailed action plan ready for implementation and a set of key messages that can be used in communications campaigns. These outputs are crucial for the post-conference phase, where actual implementation and advocacy begin.

This session is critical as it ensures that the momentum gained during the conference is captured in tangible plans and compelling narratives that can be immediately activated and disseminated. It sets the stage for a strong finish to the conference and a robust start to the post-conference activities.

**Coffee Break (10:30 AM - 11:00 AM)****Plenary Report Back and Discussion (11:00 AM - 12:30 PM)**

This session functions as a critical integrative platform within the conference, where participants regroup in a plenary setting to share the outcomes from the earlier group work sessions. The primary goal of this session is to ensure that all conference attendees are informed about the diverse action plans and messaging strategies developed across different focus groups, and to facilitate a comprehensive discussion that may lead to further refinement and consensus.

**Structure:**

- **Presentation of Group Outcomes:** Each group, having developed their specific action plans and key messages during the previous session, presents their results to the full

assembly. This is structured to allow each group an equal opportunity to outline their strategies, proposed actions, and communication plans in detail.

- **Open Discussion and Feedback:** Following each presentation, there is an open floor for discussion. This allows participants from other groups and delegates who observed the group sessions to ask questions, suggest modifications, or provide additional insights that might strengthen the proposed plans or messages.
- **Integration of Ideas:** This phase aims to integrate suggestions and feedback from the broader participant base, ensuring that the action plans and messages are robust, inclusive, and have the collective endorsement of the conference attendees.

### **Objectives:**

- **Transparency and Inclusivity:** To maintain transparency about the work done in smaller groups and ensure that all participants feel included in the decision-making process, fostering a sense of collective ownership and responsibility for the outcomes of the conference.
- **Enhancing Plans Through Collective Wisdom:** To leverage the collective expertise and perspectives of all attendees to enhance the action plans and messages, ensuring they are comprehensive and effectively address the identified challenges.
- **Finalising Outputs:** To finalise the conference outputs in a way that they are ready for dissemination and implementation, ensuring that the momentum generated during the conference is not lost.

### **Output:**

By the end of this session, there should be a set of refined and agreed-upon action plans and communication strategies ready for distribution and execution. This collective approval not only enhances the legitimacy of the plans but also ensures broader support and commitment from all stakeholders involved.

This Plenary Report Back and Discussion session is pivotal in harnessing the collective intelligence of the convening, ensuring that the final outcomes are not only a product of collaborative effort but are also enriched by the diverse viewpoints and expertise of all participants. It sets the stage for the effective implementation of strategies post-convening, aimed at combating cervical cancer and enhancing HPV vaccine uptake across communities.

### **Examen (12:30 – 1:00PM) – Fr Charlie Chilufya, S.J**

The Examen session, scheduled for the final day of the conference, is a reflective practice adapted from Ignatian spirituality, designed to encourage participants to introspect on the experiences and learnings of the conference. This session offers a moment for contemplation, helping attendees to internally review the discussions, decisions, and personal contributions made throughout the event.

### **Structure:**

- **Guided Reflection:** The session is led by a facilitator who guides participants through a structured reflection process. This typically involves prompting attendees to think about moments that stood out for them, insights they gained, and how these can be integrated into their personal and professional lives.
- **Silent Contemplation:** Participants are given a few minutes of silence to personally contemplate their experiences during the conference. This quiet time allows individuals to process the information and emotions stirred up by the intensive discussions and interactions of the past days.

- **Sharing Insights:** Optionally, after the silent contemplation, participants might be invited to share their reflections with the group. This sharing can enhance the collective understanding and appreciation of diverse perspectives and takeaways.
- **Closing Thoughts:** The facilitator offers closing thoughts to wrap up the session, often highlighting the spiritual dimensions of the work done and underscoring the communal commitment to the goals set during the conference.

### **Objectives:**

- **Personal Integration:** To provide a space for participants to personally integrate the knowledge and experiences they have gained, aligning them with their own values and missions.
- **Emotional Processing:** To allow space for processing the emotional content of the conference, which might include feelings of hope, urgency, or commitment stirred by the discussions on public health and community welfare.
- **Reaffirming Commitment:** To reinforce participants' commitment to the action plans and strategies developed during the conference, ensuring these are carried forward with a sense of personal and collective purpose.

### **Output:**

The Examen is intended to produce an internalised understanding and commitment among participants. It helps ensure that the ideas and strategies endorsed during the conference resonate on a deeper level, promoting sustained motivation and engagement in the follow-up actions.

By concluding the conference with an Examen, the organisers foster a reflective close to the intensive activities, helping solidify and deepen the impact of the conference on its attendees, which in turn, enhances the likelihood of successful implementation of the discussed strategies.

### **Lunch Break (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)**

### **Afternoon Session**

#### **Media Engagement Cocktail and Closing (2:30 – 4:00PM)**

- Presentation of the Convening Message
- Presentation of the Action Document
- Commitment to Action
- Signing of a collective action framework by all participants

The final session of the convening, **Media Engagement and Closing**, is designed to encapsulate and communicate the achievements of the convening to the wider public while reinforcing the commitments made by participants. This session serves as a formal closure and a platform to publicly declare the collective intentions and strategies that emerged during the convening.

**The media engagement** component of the conference is designed to amplify the impact and reach of the discussions and outcomes from our gathering. By engaging with various media outlets, we aim to raise public awareness about the importance of cervical cancer prevention and HPV vaccination, particularly within African communities. This session will involve presentations of the convening press statement, key messages and action plans developed during the conference, followed by interactions with the press to ensure that these critical health messages are communicated effectively to a broader audience. The involvement of the media

is crucial in creating a ripple effect that extends beyond the confines of the conference, influencing public opinion and policy, and motivating community-level changes. This strategic dissemination of information through trusted media partners is intended to foster a more informed public, drive community engagement, and ultimately support the overarching goal of reducing the burden of cervical cancer across the continent.

**Structure:**

- **Presentation of the Convening Message:** This segment involves a succinct presentation of the core messages and themes that have been emphasized throughout the conference. It is aimed at summarizing the central narrative that the convening sought to communicate, highlighting the urgency of action and the collaborative spirit that defined the discussions.
- **Presentation of the Action Document:** A detailed presentation of the Action Document, which outlines the specific strategies and commitments agreed upon during the conference. This document is critical as it encapsulates the practical steps that will be taken moving forward, including timelines, responsible parties, and expected outcomes.
- **Commitment to Action:** This part of the session involves a formal declaration or commitment from all participants to undertake the actions specified in the Action Document. It serves to solidify the intentions of the participants and ensure a shared understanding and agreement on the next steps.
- **Signing of a Collective Action Framework:** In a ceremonial culmination to the convening, all participants are invited to sign a collective action framework. This symbolic act serves as a testament to the unity and shared commitment among all stakeholders. It not only reinforces the collaborative ethos of the conference but also holds participants accountable to the commitments made.

**Objectives:**

- **Public Communication:** To effectively communicate the outcomes of the conference to the broader public and stakeholders who were not present, leveraging media presence to amplify the message.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** To engage and commit stakeholders at all levels by having them publicly endorse the agreed-upon actions, thereby enhancing the legitimacy and impact of the conference outcomes.
- **Accountability and Transparency:** To establish a clear and transparent framework that outlines the responsibilities and expectations from each participant or entity, ensuring that the commitments are traceable and measurable.

**Output:**

The output of this session includes a Convening Press Statement and a comprehensive Action Document that is publicly endorsed by all participants and a collective action framework that is formally signed. This not only serves as a reference for post-convening follow-ups but also as a public document that can be referred to by external bodies, partners, and communities to hold the participants accountable. Additionally, the media engagement ensures that the

conference's messages and outcomes reach a wider audience, promoting public awareness and support for the initiatives discussed.

By ending the conference with this structured media engagement and formal closing, the organizers ensure that the momentum built during the event is captured and channeled into effective public actions and sustained collaborative efforts.

**Closing:**

- Concluding Remarks and Farewell

**Coffee Break**

**Special Convening Dinner and Cultural Event (07:00 – 08:30PM)**

- Cultural Event Showcasing local arts and discussions on cultural and music integration in health advocacy

**I came that they may have life and have it to the full  
Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!**