MBALA DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICE

COMMITTEE MEETING SUBMISSION

March 21, 2025

Item # 1: USAID Partial Lifting of Funding Suspension

Following the suspension of USAID funding world-wide in January, 2025, there has been a partial lifting of the suspension on some aspects of funding in the Ministry of health. Mbala district initially hosted 4 USAID supported organisations; Right to Care, TB-Lon, MOMENTUM and ECAP 1, with some of the health services being delivered under programme areas such as VMMC, TB and HIV sample courier, as well as HIV counselling in the district. The lifting of the suspension has seen the return of 2 of the 4 organisations; Right to Care and TB-Lon. This is a welcome development as it will improve the aforementioned services which had been affected.

For the information of the committee.

Item # 2: EPI and Microplanning Provincial Training/ Big Catch Up

The district participated in an Expanded Programme for Immunisation (EPI) Microplanning aimed at deepening participants' understanding of the Big Catch UP and Strategies to reach Zero Dose Children. The Big Catch Up is a programme to immunise children who have been missed since the beginning of Covid-19 in 2019. It also aims to provide health care workers with a comprehensive understanding of immunisation encompassing training on correct procedures for administering vaccines, storage, and handling to ensure vaccine potency and safety, reporting and vaccine adverse effects surveillance. Six (6) officers were trained are Trainer of Trainers (ToT) to go and train health facility staff.

For the information of the committee

Item # 3: EPI and Microplanning District Training

As a follow up to the ToT, the district called for training of health facility staff in the Big Catch Up (BCU) EPI Microplanning aimed at deepening participants' understanding of the Big Catch UP and Strategies to reach Zero Dose Children. Two staff were trained from each health facility over a 5-day period and they were in turn instructed to go and train their colleagues. Implementation of the Big Catch Up was to follow the training. They are right now in the implementation period. Monitoring of the activity will start in March, 2025.

For the information of the committee

Item # 4: Medicines and Therapeutic Committee Meeting

The district held a medicines and therapeutics committee (MTC) meeting for the months of January and February, 2025 at which health facilities presented their stock status for medicines and medical supplies. The meeting established that the medicines stock status in the health facilities is, on average, at 75%.

For the information of the committee

Item # 5: Provincial Integrated Meeting (PIM)

The district attended the Provincial Integrated meeting that took place in Mbala, at which performance for quarter 4, 2024 was reviewed in comparison with 2023. The meeting may wish to know that during the PIM, Mbala district came out best in the following;

1. HIV/EMTCT-Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission

2. Low Maternal Death

3. Overall, the second-best performing district in the province

For the information of the committee

Item # 6: New Health Workers Received

The district received 22 new health workers from the recent nationwide recruitment of 4,000 health workers. These are of different cadres; Nurses, Midwives, Clinical Officers, Environmental Health Technologists (EHT) and Community Health Assistants (CHA). They have since been allocated where to go, and deployed to those places.

For the information of the committee

Item # 7: Suspected Monkey Pox and Anthrax

The district reported 1 suspected M-Pox case as well as 2 suspected Anthrax cases involving a mother and a 1 and half year-old baby. Both cases came out negative after laboratory culture test. The elderly anthrax suspect was also diagnosed with Malaria. They have all been responding well to treatment.

For the information of the committee

Item # 8: Human Resource New Staff Induction

The district conducted an induction of staff that are newly recruited in a 3-day meeting held from March 3-5, 2025. The staff were oriented in all the major programmes of the district such as HR conditions of service and disciplinary code, Planning, Financial Management, Information, Clinical, Nursing, MCH, Public Health, Pharmacy, among others. The district received 22 new health workers, who have since been sent to their respective health facilities to report and commence work.

For the information of the committee