



## MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin

11 - 17 July, 2022

The MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin summarises key activities, including meetings, of the preceding week carried out by the Offices of the Minister and Chief Medical Officer, Directorates, Programmes, and Agencies of the Ministry.

### Minister of Health and Sanitation Participates in PMNCH Board Meeting

29th - PMNCH Board Meeting



The Minister of Health and Sanitation, Dr. Austin Demby, has participated in the Partnership for Maternal New-born and Child Health Board Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Established in 2005, PMNCH is the world's largest alliance for women, children and adolescents' health and well-being, with 1,250 partner organizations working together through constituency groups including governments, donors and foundations, NGOs, health professional associations, academic and research institutions, global financing mechanisms, UN agencies etc. PMNCH is hosted by the World Health Organization in Geneva.

The meeting laid critical emphasis on global commitments towards securing greater women, children and adolescent's well-being especially in times of COVID-19, conflict and climate change, upholding Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, galvanizing a global movement for adolescent wellbeing and maintaining momentum on maternal, new-born and child health.

### Deputy Minister of Health and her Team Paid Unannounced Visits to Two Main Hospitals in Freetown



Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation, Princess Dugba, accompanied by the Deputy Chief Medical Officers, Directors of Hospital Inspection and Hospitals and Ambulance Services made unannounced visits to the Choithram and Jui Hospitals on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

The spontaneous check is in line with practical baseline assessment of healthcare facilities, and to discuss challenges and explore opportunities for enhanced service

delivery and health workforce capacitation through public-private partnership.



Furthermore, the Minister's unsparing inspection effort is to ensure that the leadership of MoHS remains as close to patients and healthcare workers as possible and in the event, hold candid discussions around issues impeding delivery and ways of breaking those barriers for accelerated quality care.

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### **DPPI Engages Civil Society Organisations, Religious Leaders and the Media on the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Bill**

In a humane bid to considerably reduce maternal and infant mortality, provide quality and thorough healthcare services to mothers and children, the Directorate of Policy, Planning and Information, on 14 & 15 July 2022, held consultative meetings with Religious Leaders, Civil Society Organizations and the media on the Proposed Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Bill at Family Kingdom, Freetown.

Sierra Leone has signed several international and regional human rights instruments and has made strides to ratify and domesticate some by enacting national laws and developed strategies to protect rights of women and girls. Despite these strides, the protection and promotion of female reproductive health and rights and access to quality services still remain a serious challenge.

To achieve inclusivity and ownership, the deliberations keenly focused on garnering contributions, ideas and strategies that will form the basis of the Proposed Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Bill.

### **National Rehabilitation Programme and MIT Officials Visit Clinics in Freetown, Makeni, Kono and Bo**

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), represented by two Prosthetic and Orthotic Professionals from the international P&O training institution, together with the National Rehabilitation Program Manager have on 11-14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 visited four P&O Clinics in Freetown, Makeni, Kono and Bo.



The visit was in relation with evaluating sites and identifying candidates for substantial training in the Prosthetic and Orthotic Department. It has been established that the department is challenged with skilled staff and structure.

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation and MIT have therefore developed a sustainable care infrastructure and delivery model to double the production of prosthetics in the first four years, with a key objectives to gather accurate data on epidemiology, prosthetics needs, access and potential, establish a supply chain for prosthetics materials, inclusive investment in training for independent operations of prosthetics and orthotic services and prepare infrastructure of clinics to double national production per year



## Sierra Leone Social Health Insurance and Partners Meet to Develop a Strategic Plan

In line with enhancing social health insurance, healthcare utilization, financial protection and quality of care without financing barrier for every Sierra Leonean, the Sierra Leone Social Health Insurance has completed a three-day retreat (13-15 July 2022) at Occasions Resort, Lakka, Freetown.

The fundamental objective of the engagement was to develop an 8-year Strategic Plan (2023-2030). The development of this plan took into serious consideration contributions made by multi-sectorial players ranging from pertinent government agencies, WHO, civil society organizations etc.; all with the singular motive of guaranteeing quality, affordable and accessible health care towards Universal Health Coverage for every Sierra Leonean.

## DHSE Trains Trainers on Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

The Directorate of Health Security and Emergencies (DHSE), on 14 & 15 July 2022, conducted a training of national trainers on Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) at Family Kingdom, Freetown.

THIRA is a risk assessment tool developed by the US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and adapted for Public Health practice by US CDC. The 1st edition of the customized tool described a standard process for identifying community-specific threats and hazards and setting targets for each core capability identified in the National Preparedness Goal.



The objective of the District Risk Assessment is to identify high-risk situations and determine prevention, preparation, response, mitigation and recovery measures to keep the risk to an acceptable level in the district