

37TH ANNUAL AHSAG CONFERENCE

- **Title**

37th Annual Conference of Association of Health Services Administrators, Ghana (AHSAG)

- **Theme**

Towards the achievement of the MDGs 4, 5 & 6: Sustaining the Gains so far made

Why the Theme?

The MDGs span the critical development issues of poverty and hunger, education, health, especially child and maternal mortality, gender equality and women's empowerment, environmental sustainability and global partnership for development. Since the adoption of the MDGs in 2000, Ghana has formulated several strategies and initiatives with the objective of achieving the MDGs. Even though reduction in maternal, neonatal and infant mortality in Ghana has been slow, significant progress, as noted by the last five Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) and the Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), has been made with respect to general access to quality maternal and child health services. Antenatal care (ANC) for pregnant women with at least one visit improved from 82% to 96.7% while those with four visits increased from 58.9% to 84.7%. Skilled assistance at delivery also registered a 28.4% increase over that of 1988. Again, demonstrable progress has been made against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Much as there have been some gains, the issue of sustaining the gains in order not to reverse the positive results so far achieved and accelerating efforts towards addressing any emerging issues remain a challenge. The critical areas of concern include inadequate professional staff such as doctors and midwives, poor health infrastructure, inadequate funding of activities and initiatives and broad socio cultural barriers including gender. With about two and half years still to go before the MDG end point, there is a critical need for the health sector to appropriately address these challenges, sustain the momentum and jealously guard the hard won gains made so far to ensure more equitable levels of achievement across the regions by the target year and beyond.

- **Objective(s)**

The main objectives of the programme is to further sensitize participants and enhance their appreciation of the roles of stakeholders in mobilizing and accelerating the implementation of the strategies and initiatives towards the achievement of the MDGs by the target date of 2015 and the sustainability of the gains thereafter.

- **Theme Address**

Dr. Ebenezer Appiah-Denkyirah, Director-General, Ghana Health Service

- **Key Note Address**

Hon. Hanny Sherry Ayithey, Minister of Health

• **Chairman**

Prof. Agyeman Badu Akosa, Former Director General of the Ghana Health Service

• **Sub –Themes and Resource Persons**

- i. Strategies to attain the MDGs: The Journey so far - Dr. Patrick Aboagye, Deputy Director (FHD)
- ii. Financing the health investments towards the achievement of the MDGs – Professor Irene Agyapong, School of Public Health, Legon.
- iii. Sustaining the gains in achieving MDGs 4, 5 and 6: The Human Resource Implications - Dr. Margaret Chebere, Director HRD, GHS

• **Participants**

The programme seeks to bring together about 250 health services administrators drawn from the Ministry of Health/Ghana Health Service, the Teaching Hospitals, the CHAG, Quazi- Government Health Institutions and private healthcare providers across the country.

• **Other Guests**

- Hon. Julius Debrah, Greater Accra Central Regional Minister
- Dr. Linda Vanotoo, Regional Director of Health Service, Greater Accra
- Dr. Quansah-Asare, Director Family Health Division, GHS
- Mr. Kofi Opoku, Director HASS, GHS
- Mr. Abu Kuntulo, General Secretary, HSWU of Ghana TUC
- The Press

• **Date**

Tuesday, 8th – Saturday, 12th October, 2013

• **Venue**

Pentecost Convention, Gomoa Fetteh, near Millennium City, Kasoa

• **Host**

Greater Accra Regional Caucus of AHSAG

• **Organizers**

National Executives of AHSAG

• **Supported by**

Ghana Health Service and other agencies of Ministry of Health (CHAG, Teaching Hospitals, Quasi-Government Health Institutions)

• **Conference Fee**

The conference fee is **(GH¢800)**. Participants are to pay the fee into AHSAG Account No. 1051130001727, Ghana Commercial Bank, Ministries Branch, Accra.

The three-day event will involve: opening ceremony, training workshop, business session, election and dinner dance