

Vaxcess

THE LOCAL VACCINE MANUFACTURING MAGAZINE

Protecting
Health,
Promoting Life

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Our cover photo showcases a Kenya BioVax scientist at work during the 2025 Hands-on Training on Upstream Processes in Cell-Based Vaccine Manufacturing, held at the Korea Bio-Pharmaceutical CMO Center and organized by the International Vaccine Institute (IVI).



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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Dr. Wanjala is a pharmacist with an MBA, experienced in health policy, innovation, and research commercialization, and a key technical advisor in advancing local vaccine and biopharmaceutical manufacturing in Africa.

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Dr Rabera is a pharmacist seconded from the Ministry of Health.. Her main areas of responsibility include managing operations and interactions with relevant government agencies, and supporting planning activities to establish the Institute.

DR. SERAH MUTERU

Dr. Muteru is a seasoned pharmacy professional with nearly 20 years' experience in pharmaceutical quality assurance, former NQCL Director, GMP/GLP inspector, and a University of Nairobi-trained expert with multiple quality and professional accreditations.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the inaugural Kenya BioVax Magazine, **Vaxcess**, a publication that documents our collective progress toward vaccine self-sufficiency, innovation, and public health excellence. "Vaxcess" is a blend of "vaccine" and "access" and therefore implies the intention to attain "success" in vaccine access. This aligns with our mission: "To manufacture and commercialize safe, effective, and quality vaccines and other health products and improve access to affordable healthcare."

In our maiden issue, we acknowledge the scientific breakthroughs, the alliances with strategic partners, and the stature of human capital that have and are influencing Kenya BioVax to grow into a global vaccine manufacturer; a glimmer of hope for health security in Kenya as well as Africa.

In these pages, you will discover stories of resilience and collaboration — from our scientists pioneering new research and regulatory experts engaging at global forums, to our strategic partners working tirelessly to strengthen the vaccine manufacturing ecosystem across the continent. Each feature reflects our commitment to transparency, knowledge sharing, and advancing Africa's capacity to produce its own essential health products.

As we move from vision to realization, we remain inspired by the collective effort driving this transformation. Kenya BioVax is more than an institution — a movement for progress, empowerment, and self-reliance. We invite you to journey with us through these stories, celebrate the milestones achieved, and stay connected to the pulse of Africa's growing biomanufacturing future.

Dr. Abook Brian

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Turning Vision into Reality

At Kenya BioVax Institute, our journey is guided by a clear and compelling vision — A world free of vaccine-preventable diseases with a mission to manufacture and commercialize safe, effective, and quality vaccines and other health products, and improve access to affordable healthcare.

Kenya's pursuit of local vaccine manufacturing is a strategic step toward strengthening national health security, enhancing self-sufficiency, and ensuring equitable access to affordable vaccines. What began as an ambitious vision to reduce dependence on external supply chains is now steadily evolving into meaningful progress and lasting impact.

Thanks to the BioVax Institute, we are steadily building the foundation for vaccine self-reliance and sustainable public health security through strategic partnerships, investments in technology transfer, and an unwavering commitment to quality.

As we transition from planning to execution, BioVax embodies innovation, resilience, and collaboration. Our teams — from the technical to shared services staff — are working to translate this noble ambition into measurable outcomes, advancing projects that enable local production of vaccines and other critical health products. This transformation is about augmenting infrastructure, empowering people, strengthening systems, and ensuring that Africa's health priorities are defined and driven from within.

Our progress is proof that collective effort turns vision into reality.



Dr. Wesley Ronoh

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Correspondence



Being part of this publication, through sharing articles, has deepened my appreciation for how storytelling connects our scientific work to real human impact. Each issue reminds me that people and passion are driving Kenya BioVax's mission beyond the laboratories and regulatory milestones. Contributing as a correspondent has allowed me to amplify those voices and showcase our progress toward health self-sufficiency. I'm proud to be part of a platform that documents our journey — one story at a time.

DR. CECILIA WANJALA, GM COMMERCIAL SERVICES

This publication has reaffirmed my belief in Kenya BioVax Institute's mission. Each story we tell reflects the dedication, innovation, and partnerships that bring this mission to life. Through my contributions, I've witnessed how every milestone, whether in the lab or in policy, moves us closer to a future where Kenya and the continent can sustainably meet their own vaccine needs. It's an honor to help share that journey and the purpose that drives it.

DR. SERAH MUTERU, REGULATORY AFFAIRS, PRODUCT QUALITY ASSURANCE & SAFETY

Vaxcess

Vaccine Science & Innovation

PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE INTERNATIONAL VACCINE INSTITUTE

The photo showcases a Kenya BioVax scientist at work during the 2025 Hands-on Training on Upstream Processes in Cell-Based Vaccine Manufacturing, held at the Korea Bio-Pharmaceutical CMO Center and organized by the International Vaccine Institute (IVI).

Leadership Transition: Dr. Ronoh Takes Over as CEO



Group photo of the BioVax staff members together with the outgoing Acting CEO, Dr. Cecilia Wanjala (Seated Left), the Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji (Center), and the new substantive CEO, Dr. Wesley Ronoh (Right).

Dr. Cecilia Wanjala, the Acting CEO of Kenya BioVax Institute Limited, has officially handed over leadership to the substantive CEO, Dr. Wesley Ronoh, in a ceremony presided over by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dr. Charles Githinji, at the Kenya BioVax headquarters.

Dr. Ronoh brings over 25 years of rich experience in the pharmaceutical sector development across Africa, having most recently served as the Market Shaping Lead for Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) at Africa CDC, where he led the Market Design and Demand Intelligence Bold Programme and supported the development of the African vaccine procurement pooling mechanism.

A seasoned pharmacist with postgraduate training in Medicinal Chemistry and an MBA, Dr. Ronoh has held senior advisory roles with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the European Union, the East African Community, and the SADC Secretariat, contributing significantly to regional health product policies, investment frameworks, and access-to-medicines strategies. His extensive expertise in life science product development, regulatory affairs, intellectual property, strategic planning, and private sector development positions Kenya BioVax for strengthened leadership as it advances its mandate in local vaccine manufacturing and health security.



The outgoing Acting CEO, Dr. Cecilia Wanjala (Left), looks on as the Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji (Center), officially hands over the leadership mantle to the new substantive CEO, Dr. Wesley Ronoh (Right), during the handover ceremony.



BY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

(Right) Technical teams from MPP, Kenya BioVax, and KEMRI during a joint session in one of KEMRI's laboratories.

(Below) A lab technician loading samples into a PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) machine in KEMRI.

KEMRI and Kenya BioVax Strengthen Ties in mRNA Innovation

On the second day of the WHO/Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) mRNA Technology Transfer 2025 Meeting, the Kenya BioVax Institute delegation, together with representatives from WHO and MPP, visited the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) to explore synergies in mRNA vaccine development.

During the visit, the team toured the Center for Virology Laboratory, gaining insights into KEMRI's cutting-edge research infrastructure. A key highlight was the proposed mRNA Technology Transfer Unit, envisioned as a regional hub for innovation and capacity building in vaccine manufacturing.

Kenya BioVax reaffirmed its commitment to deepening collaboration with KEMRI, recognizing its scientific excellence as vital in advancing local vaccine production and regional health security.





People, Culture & Excellence

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Kenya BioVax Institute Limited (KBI) toured Tasa Pharma's facilities to explore strategic collaboration in research, technology transfer, and local vaccine production. The engagement focused on leveraging local expertise, strengthening regulatory compliance, and scaling regional manufacturing capacity—advancing Africa's journey toward sustainable, high-quality, locally manufactured vaccines.

BioVax Achieves Key Milestone in mRNA Manufacturing Capacity Through Afrigen Training

Kenya BioVax Institute Limited proudly acknowledges the successful completion of a three-week intensive mRNA technology transfer training undertaken by our scientists at Afrigen Biologics (Pty) Ltd, in partnership with the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and the global mRNA Technology Transfer Programme.

This advanced hands-on programme, conducted in Nov/Dec 2025, equipped the Kenyan team with critical competencies in manufacturing mRNA drug substance and drug product at 100 mL scale and in performing associated analytical testing—a significant milestone in strengthening Kenya’s technical readiness for local vaccine development and production.

The training forms a core component of the technology transfer demonstration activities designed to build a skilled workforce that can drive Kenya’s future vaccine ecosystem and support national and continental health security goals.



(Above) Kenya BioVax and KEMRI scientists showcasing the final bulk product they successfully manufactured and tested during the training at Afrigen. Photo by Afrigen Biologics (Pty) Ltd.

“This collaboration accelerates Kenya’s readiness to develop and produce high-quality mRNA vaccines for national and regional health security.”



Strengthening vaccine manufacturing capacity through participation in Africa CDC Biomanufacturing Fellowship



Trainees of the Africa CDC Biomanufacturing Fellowship pose together during an intensive hands-on study tour across leading vaccine manufacturing institutions in Egypt. The program brought together experts from across the continent to build practical skills in R&D, manufacturing operations, quality systems, regulatory affairs, and engineering—strengthening Africa’s collective capacity toward vaccine self-reliance and the goal of producing 60% of vaccines locally by 2040.



Kenya BioVax Institute has marked a milestone in strengthening its biomanufacturing capacity following the successful participation of one of its production scientists, Mr. Jones M. Mutua, in the Africa CDC Biomanufacturing Fellowship Study Tour and Training Programme held in November–December 2025. The fellowship, designed to address Africa’s critical shortage of vaccine manufacturing talent, immersed participants in a rigorous blend of technical rotations, peer learning, and industry-led workshops. Over the course of the programme, fellows were exposed to end-to-end vaccine development and production processes across multiple platforms—advancing the continent’s mission to grow its manufacturing workforce in line with Africa CDC’s New Public Health Order and long-term ambition to locally produce at least 60% of Africa’s vaccines by 2040.

During the study tour, Dr. Mutua joined experts and fellows from across Africa for hands-on training at leading institutions, including VACSERA, BGP, EVA Pharma, and the Faculty of Pharmacy at Cairo University, as well as additional engagements with the Egyptian Drug Authority. The rotations provided practical exposure to R&D, MSAT, quality control, regulatory affairs, engineering, and operations—equipping participants with industry-ready skills essential for scaling Kenya’s emerging vaccine manufacturing ecosystem. His successful completion of the programme not only enhances Kenya BioVax’s technical depth but also strengthens regional collaboration as the institute advances toward full operationalization of its Smart Vaccine Manufacturing Facility. The fellowship outcomes have positioned Kenya BioVax as an active contributor to Africa’s growing network of biomanufacturing excellence.

Empowering Local Talent for Africa's Vaccine Self-Reliance

BY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
PHOTOGRAPHY BY LB

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria: South Africa.

Kenya Biovax Institute supported one of its staff members, Lornah Bonareri, in participating in the African Biomanufacturing Workforce Training and Skills Development Programme, held and sponsored by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) from 5 to 30 May 2025.

Ms. Lornah Bonareri (Center) receiving her certificate after successfully completing the African Biomanufacturing Workforce Training and Skills Development Programme, organized by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria, South Africa.



“The transformative four-week programme was tailored to strengthen Africa’s capacity in vaccine and biotherapeutics manufacturing”



The transformative four-week programme—delivered in a hybrid format (two weeks online and two weeks in person at CSIR, Pretoria)—was tailored to strengthen Africa’s capacity in vaccine and biotherapeutics manufacturing.

Lornah’s successful completion of the course, which featured intensive theoretical and hands-on training in upstream and downstream bioprocessing, affirms BioVax’s ongoing investment in building a competent workforce capable of driving Kenya’s and Africa’s vaccine self-sufficiency agenda.

Empowering Innovation: Kenya BioVax Invests in Advanced Training on IP and Technology Transfer



Ms. Clare Lai, Ag. Company Secretary/Manager Legal Services at Kenya BioVax Institute Limited, during the WIPO-CEIPI-INPI Advanced Certificate Training Program in Strasbourg, France—strengthening institutional capacity in intellectual property, technology transfer, and licensing to support BioVax’s mandate as Kenya’s local vaccine manufacturer.

As part of its ongoing efforts to enhance staff capacity and institutional knowledge, Kenya BioVax Institute Limited highlights Ms. Clare Lai’s participation as Ag. Company Secretary/Manager Legal Services, in the prestigious WIPO-CEIPI-INPI Advanced Certificate Training Program on Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer, and Licensing held in Strasbourg, France. The program—jointly organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization – WIPO, the Center for International Intellectual Property Studies - CEIPI, and the French National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI France)—serves as a globally recognized platform for building capacity in the complex fields of IP law, licensing, and technology transfer, which are central to Kenya BioVax’s role as a local vaccine manufacturer.

Sessions like the one led by Mr. Alain Werner on IP valorization in the pharmaceutical industry offered timely insights into regulatory data protection for clinical and pre-clinical data—an area essential for BioVax as it engages in licensing negotiations and prepares for marketing authorization processes. The training reflects the Institute’s broader strategy to deepen internal expertise, enabling the team to navigate technology transfer agreements and protect intellectual property effectively.

Kenya BioVax remains committed to investing in its personnel, recognizing that global exposure and interdisciplinary learning are vital to advancing local vaccine manufacturing and fostering sustainable health innovation across Kenya and the region.

A Kenya BioVax scientist in the laboratory during the 2025 Hands-on Training on Upstream Processes in Cell-Based Vaccine Manufacturing at the Korea Bio-Pharmaceutical CMO Center. The training was organized by the International Vaccine Institute (IVI).

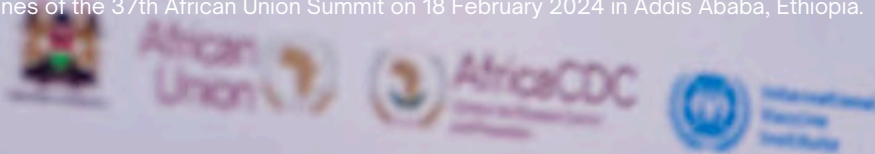
Photo Credit: IVI



Health Security & Public Health Impact

PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE INTERNATIONAL VACCINE INSTITUTE

H.E. Dr. William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, delivers a keynote address at a high-level side event co-hosted by the Government of Kenya, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), and the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), held on the sidelines of the 37th African Union Summit on 18 February 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.





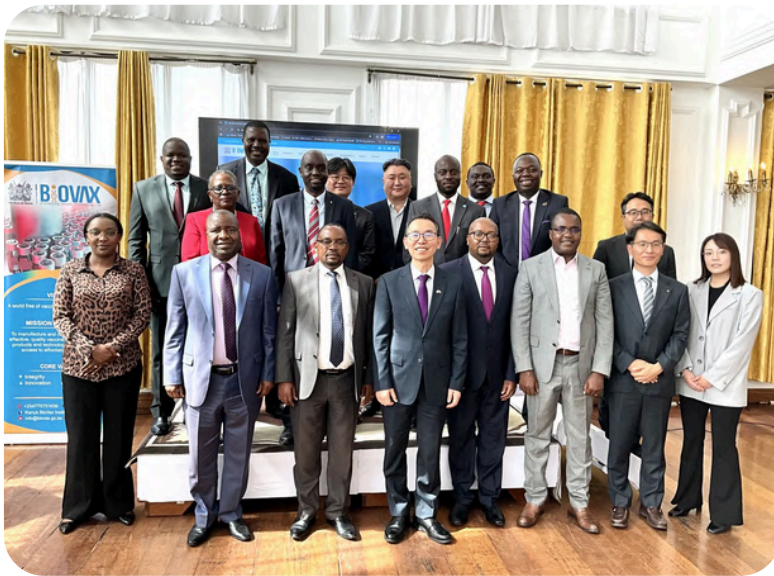
Kenya Becomes IVI Member State

BY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
PHOTOGRAPHY BY IVI

Kenya has formally joined the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) as a Member State, a milestone marked during a ceremony at IVI Headquarters in Seoul, where President William Ruto raised the Kenyan flag to celebrate the country’s ratification of the IVI treaty. In his remarks, President Ruto emphasized that Kenya’s accession strengthens its resolve to achieve vaccine self-reliance, drawing lessons from COVID-19 and committing to reducing dependence on external manufacturers. He underscored that improved vaccine availability is essential for primary healthcare, disease prevention, and universal access — noting that “no one is safe until everyone is safe.” The President welcomed IVI’s decision to establish a Country and Project Office in Nairobi, affirming that the partnership will bolster Universal Health Coverage and accelerate Africa’s pathway to health sovereignty through enhanced research, development, manufacturing, and a tripartite collaboration with KAIST and K-AIST to build advanced scientific training and a resilient healthcare ecosystem.

Final Feasibility Report Launched: Paving the Way for Kenya's End-to-End Vaccine Production

BY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



Senior government officials, Kenya BioVax Institute leadership, consortium partners, and experts from research, academia, and regulatory institutions pose together at the launch of the Final Feasibility Report for the Smart Vaccine Manufacturing Facility Project—signaling a shared commitment to advancing Kenya's end-to-end vaccine manufacturing and regional health security..

Kenya has launched the Final Feasibility Report for the Smart Vaccine Manufacturing Facility Project, marking a significant step toward establishing a modern end-to-end vaccine manufacturing ecosystem. The Final Study was developed through extensive consultations spanning government agencies, policy institutions, research organisations, academia, industry players, and regulatory bodies. Key contributors included Kenya BioVax Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Kenya Vaccine Consortium—comprising AtkinsRéalis, SK bioscience, and the International Vaccine Institute (IVI)—as well as experts from leading academic and research institutions and national regulatory counterparts.



H.E. Amb. Kang Hyung-shik, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Republic of Kenya, delivering a speech during the launch of the final report on the Smart Vaccine Facility in Nairobi.

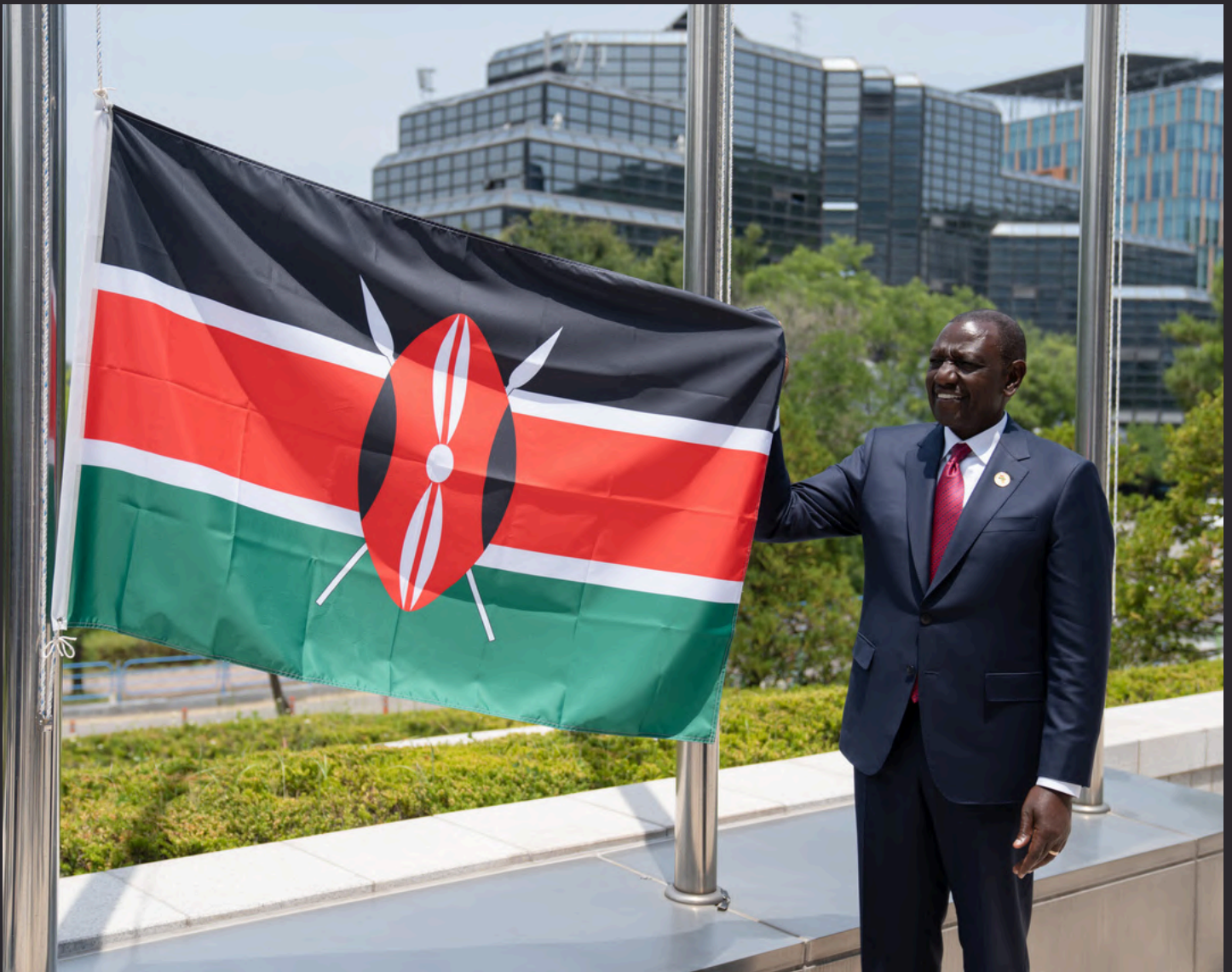
During the launch, Kenya BioVax Board Chair Dr. Charles Githinji reaffirmed the Board's commitment to steering the Institute into the implementation phase. Mr. James Ntobo, representing the Ministry of Health, highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration in shaping the study. H.E. Amb. Kang Hyung-shik reiterated Korea's long-standing partnership and support for Kenya's aspirations to manufacture vaccines, reflecting the strong international cooperation behind the project.

This milestone aligns with progress under the World Bank-supported fill-finish project in Embakasi, ensuring coherence between the feasibility study's recommendations and the enabling works already underway at Kenya BioVax Institute. Together, these complementary initiatives position Kenya to build a fully integrated, multi-stakeholder, and future-ready vaccine manufacturing platform capable of serving the nation and the region.

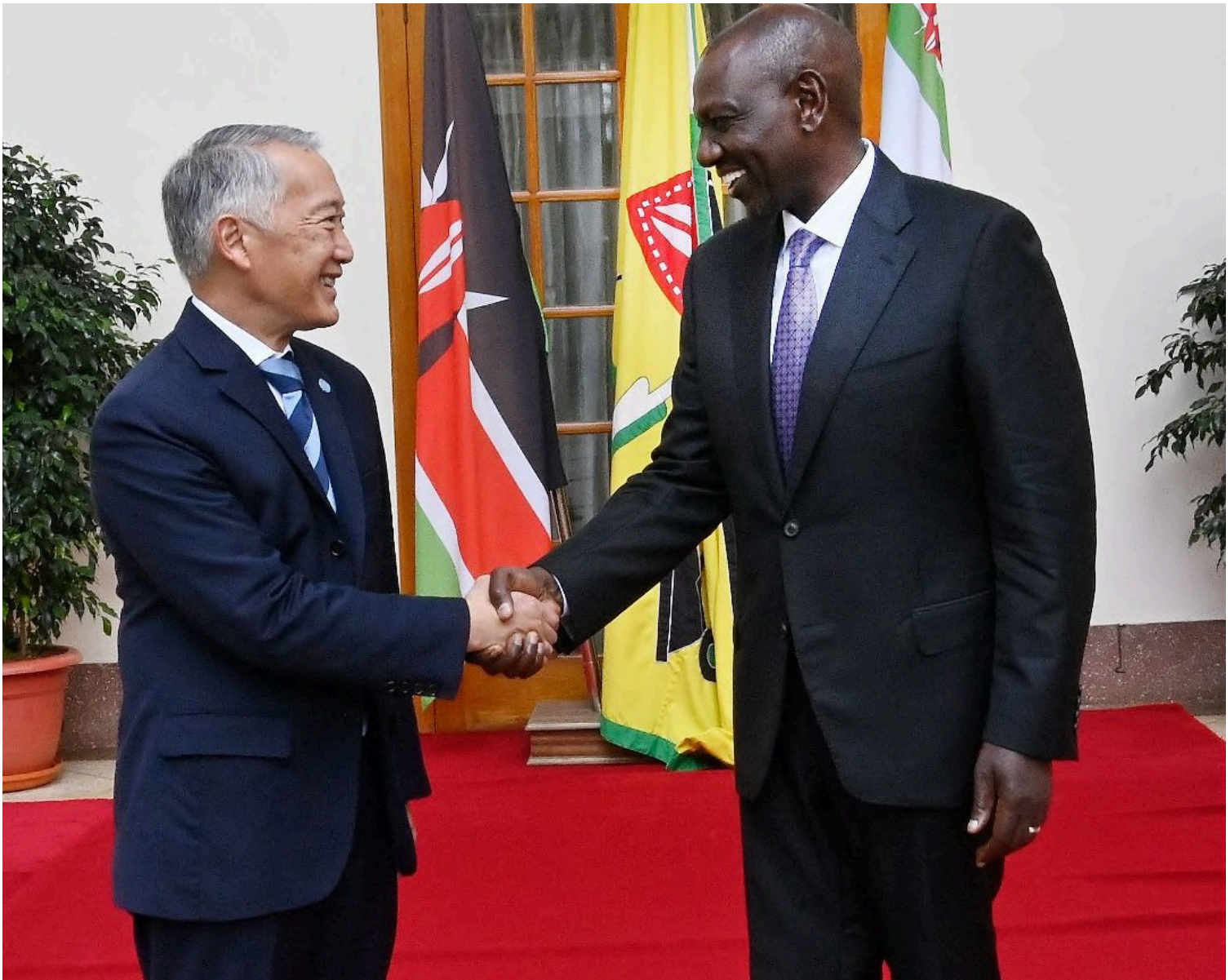
Kenya's official accession to IVI

BY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE INTERNATIONAL VACCINE INSTITUTE



H.E. Dr. William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, raises the Flag of Kenya at the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) Headquarters during the Accession Ceremony. The moment symbolized Kenya's official accession to IVI and its commitment to advancing vaccine innovation, manufacturing, and health security across Africa.



H.E. Dr. William Ruto (Right), President of the Republic of Kenya, and Dr. Jerome Kim (Left), Director General of the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), shaking hands at State House, Nairobi. Their meeting marked the official launch of IVI's new Country and Project Office in Kenya, a strategic milestone in advancing end-to-end vaccine R&D and sustainable manufacturing across Africa.

“IVI has highlighted Kenya as a strategic anchor for its work in the region.”

Kenya's deepening partnership with the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) entered a transformative phase as President H.E. Dr. William Ruto hosted IVI Director General Dr. Jerome Kim at State House, Nairobi. The engagement marked the official launch of IVI's new Country and Project Office in Kenya — a hub that will anchor the Africa Vaccine Ecosystem and Capacity (AVEC) Initiative. Through this office, IVI will collaborate closely with Kenyan institutions, regional bodies, and global partners to accelerate end-to-end vaccine research and development and to build sustainable manufacturing capabilities across Africa. The move aligns strongly with IVI's mission to expand equitable access to life-saving vaccines and Kenya's ambition to become a continental leader in biomanufacturing.

Additionally, during Kenya's accession ceremony at IVI Headquarters in Seoul, President Ruto reaffirmed the country's commitment to advancing vaccine innovation, strengthening primary healthcare systems, and contributing to Africa's collective health security. IVI has highlighted Kenya as a strategic anchor for its work in the region, citing the country's growing scientific ecosystem, strong policy support, and its role in shaping Africa's path to vaccine self-reliance.



Public Engagement & Science Communication

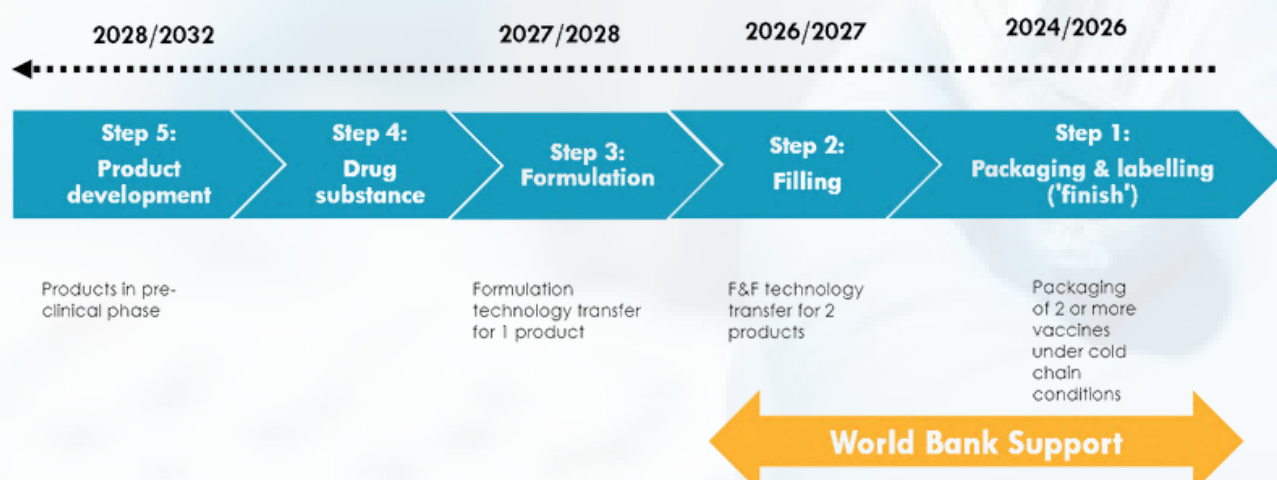
PHOTOGRAPHY BY THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF KENYA

Kenya BioVax Institute Limited proudly celebrates Dr Cecilia Wanjala, General Manager, Commercial Services (Right), for being honoured at the Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya (PSK) Dinner & Gala for her outstanding contribution to the pharmaceutical profession. This well-deserved recognition reflects her exemplary leadership, commitment to quality, and impact on public health—values that resonate deeply with our mission and vision.

Establishing Kenya's Human Vaccine Manufacturing Facility: A Transformational Journey

The government commissioned a feasibility study in 2020 to explore local vaccine manufacturing, and the study's findings confirmed Kenya's readiness to build its own capacity. The disruptions caused by COVID-19 between 2020 and 2022 further underscored the importance of national health security and the risks of relying on global supply chains. Consequently, a Multi-Agency Committee was formed in 2021 to operationalize the study's recommendations, leading to the incorporation of Kenya BioVax Institute in September 2021. BioVax was thus created as a state-owned entity to champion vaccine research, development, and manufacturing, positioning Kenya as a regional leader in health security and pharmaceutical innovation.

Kenya BioVax Institute will adopt a Reverse Integration Approach to kickstart vaccine manufacturing in Kenya. This strategy outlines a phased pathway toward full vaccine production capacity, beginning with the final stages of manufacturing and gradually building backward to upstream processes. Through this approach, BioVax will progressively develop capabilities in packaging, filling, formulation, drug substance production, and ultimately, product development. The process—supported by the World Bank—ensures a structured, sustainable transition toward end-to-end vaccine manufacturing and long-term self-reliance in vaccine production.



Kenya BioVax Institute's Reverse Integration Roadmap – A phased, World Bank-supported approach guiding Kenya's journey from vaccine packaging and labelling to full-scale product development and self-sustained manufacturing capacity by 2032.

BioVax Champions Local Manufacturing at the ECSCA-HC Forum

At the 15th Best Practices Forum of the East Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSCA-HC), held in Mauritius and hosted by the Government of Mauritius, Dr. Rabera Kenyanya presented the long history of manufacturing in Africa, tracing its roots to 1930 in Kenya. Speaking under the sub-theme of “Driving Innovation & Resilience: Local Manufacturing for Health Security,” Dr. Kenyanya underscored the progress Kenya is making in building local vaccine manufacturing capacity through BioVax. She highlighted the vast opportunities for ECSCA nations to scale local production — including in supporting industries such as active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) manufacturing and packaging — and called for increased investment and harmonization of regulatory systems to facilitate broader market access.

BioVax’s participation was particularly apt given its national mandate to spearhead Kenya’s vaccine self-reliance agenda and its alignment with regional efforts to strengthen health security through sustainable manufacturing. The forum spotlighted proven solutions and forged South–South partnerships to strengthen health systems across the region.

Dr Rabera Kenyanya making a presentation during the 15th Best Practices Forum of the East Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSCA-HC) in Mauritius.





**Partnerships & Strategic
Collaborations**

Partnering for Impact

Why Partner with Us?

Partnering with Kenya BioVax Institute offers a unique opportunity to contribute to Africa's journey towards vaccine self-reliance and health security. As the only state-backed vaccine manufacturer in Kenya, BioVax combines strong government support with cutting-edge scientific expertise and strategic collaborations.

Some of our strategic partners are:

Local

Ministry of Health, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Kenya Institute of Primate Research (KIPRE) and Local Universities

Global and Regional

World Bank, World Health Organization Africa CDC, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), Biofarma of Indonesia, SK Bioscience of South Korea, Hayat Biotech of UAE, Afrigen of South Africa, AstraZeneca, Sanofi



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Kenya BioVax and Egypt’s Minapharm Deepen Dialogue on Technology Transfer and Local Biomanufacturing



H.E. Hatem Yousri Hosni, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Kenya, alongside the Minapharm Pharmaceuticals technical team, during a strategic engagement with Kenya BioVax Institute CEO Dr. Wesley Ronoh—exploring partnerships in technology transfer and local vaccine and biopharmaceutical manufacturing to strengthen regional health security.

“BioVax and Minapharm reaffirmed their commitment to collaborative innovation”

H.E. Hatem Yousri Hosni, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Kenya, together with the senior technical team from Minapharm Pharmaceuticals–Egypt, paid a courtesy call on the CEO of Kenya BioVax Institute Limited, Dr. Wesley Ronoh. The engagement centred on exploring strategic partnerships in technology transfer, local vaccine and biopharmaceutical manufacturing, and advancing Africa’s collective health security agenda. BioVax and Minapharm reaffirmed their commitment to collaborative innovation to strengthen regional production capacity and accelerate access to quality, affordable biologics across the continent.

Continental Dialogue on Fast-Tracking Vaccine Approvals in Africa

Dr. Serah Muteru, from Kenya BioVax Institute Limited, participated in the Workshop on Expedited Regulatory Pathways for Locally Produced Health Products in Africa, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting, jointly organized by Africa CDC and African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH)/AUDA-NEPAD under the Platform for Harmonized African Health Products Manufacturing (PHAHM), brought together regulators, policymakers, and manufacturers from across the continent to deliberate on strategies to accelerate the market authorization of locally produced medical products.

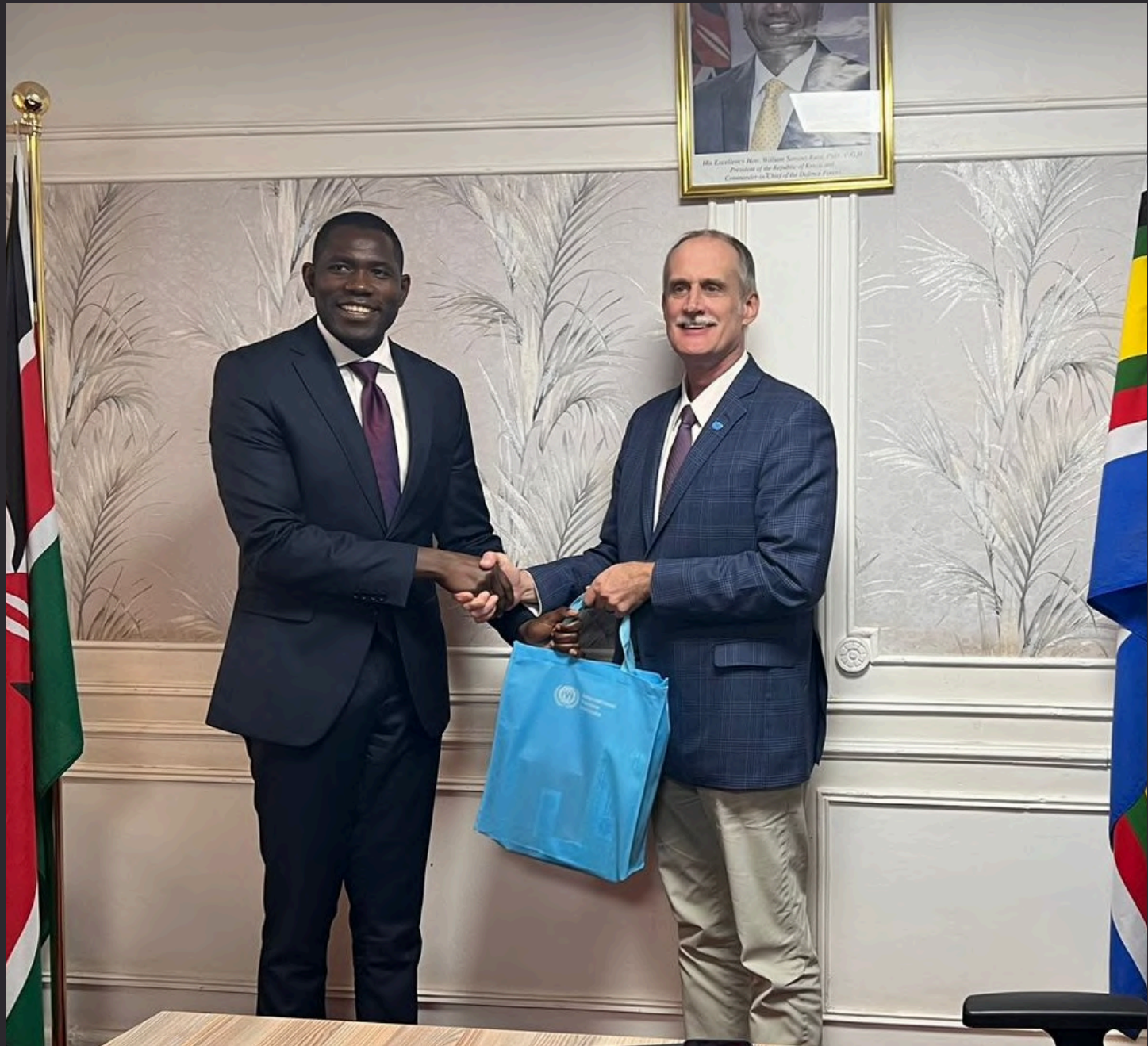
Representing Kenya BioVax among a select group of African manufacturers and regulatory experts, Dr. Muteru reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to supporting regulatory harmonization, regional collaboration, and timely access to life-saving vaccines. Her participation underscored BioVax's growing role as a key player in shaping Africa's vaccine manufacturing and regulatory landscape.

During the two-day workshop, Dr. Muteru contributed to thematic working groups and policy discussions, sharing Kenya BioVax's practical experiences and lessons in navigating regulatory processes for locally manufactured vaccines. Her insights helped inform recommendations for establishing a Priority Track mechanism within a Continental Listing framework—a system designed to streamline approvals for African-made health products.

The engagement also reinforced the Institute's alignment with continental efforts under the Africa CDC's New Public Health Order (NPHO), emphasizing African solutions for African health challenges.



Dr. Serah Muteru (2nd Right) with Dr. Michael Lusiola (Right) of RVMC and other participants at the Workshop on Expedited Regulatory Pathways for Locally Produced Health Products in Africa, Addis Ababa.



Dr. Ouma Oluga (Left), Principal Secretary for Medical Services, greets Dr. Douglas Shaffer (Right), Deputy Director General of Global Affairs and Communications and Special Envoy for Global Health Diplomacy at the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), during the submission of the Interim Report on Kenya's Smart Vaccine Manufacturing Project at Afya House, Nairobi. The meeting marked a significant milestone in advancing Kenya's vision for vaccine self-reliance and regional manufacturing leadership.

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