

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

8:30-9:15	Registration & Networking
9:15-9:25	Welcome & Introductions
	Welcome remarks by Prof Miranda Wolpert, Head of Mental Health Priority Area, Wellcome Trust, and Dr Nick Westcott, Director, the Royal African Society.
9:25-9:30	The UK and global mental health
	Dr Chris Lewis, Head of Health Profession, Department for International Development, will describe the UK's work in international development and global mental health.
9:30-9:40	WHO's commitment to better mental health in Africa
	Video message from Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organisation; and introductory statement by Dr Florence Baingana, Consultant, Non-Communicable Diseases Cluster, WHO Regional Office for Africa.
9:40-9:50	<i>Mental health in Africa: a neglected past, a hopeful future</i>
	Keynote address by Prof Olayinka Omigbodun, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Ibadan and former President of the International Association of Child Psychiatry and Allied Professionals.
9:50-10:00	Innovation presentation: Mental Health Leadership and Advocacy Programme
	By Joshua Duncan, Programmes Manager, Mental Health Coalition of Sierra Leone.
10:00-11:00	<i>Africa's Innovators: key players tackling mental health</i>
	Panel exploring the latest developments in mental health innovation from the continent. Speakers: Dr Mohammed Abdulaziz, Principal Medical Epidemiologist, Africa Union's Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. Prof Abiodun Adewuya, Executive Director, Centre for Mental Health Research & Initiative and Professor of Public Mental Health, Lagos State University College of Medicine. Grace Gatera, Mental Health advocate and Young Leader for the Lancet Commission. Anna Kydd, Director, The SHM Foundation. Joshua Duncan, Programme Manager, Mental Health Coalition of Sierra Leone. Moderator: Dr Julian Eaton, Co-Director of the Centre for Global Mental Health (CGMH), LSHTM; and Mental Health Director, CBM International.
11:00-11:30	Coffee break & browsing of Innovation Fair
11:30-13:00	<i>Informing a practical roadmap for better mental health in Africa</i>
	Conference participants join one of three parallel interactive work-streams to review the continent's progress in meeting the objectives set out in the World Health Organisation's Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2030, and collaboratively discuss means to bring about transformative change.
	Work-stream A: Enhancing leadership and investment for mental health MH Action Plan objective 1: 'strengthen effective leadership and governance for mental health'. Facilitator: Prof Stanley Okolo, Director General, West Africa Health Organisation.
	Work-stream B: Prevention, promotion and access to care MH Action Plan's objectives 2 ('providing mental health and social care services in community-based settings') and 3 ('promotion and prevention'). Facilitator: Dr Victoria Mutiso, Principal Investigator, Africa Mental Health Foundation.
	Work-stream C: Strengthening information systems, evidence and research MH Action Plan objective 4: 'strengthen information systems, evidence and research for mental health'. Facilitator: Prof Crick Lund, Professor of Global Mental Health & Development, Cape Town University and CGMH, King's College London.

13:00–14:00	Lunch break & browsing of Innovations Fair
14:00–14:10	Innovation presentation: The Friendship Bench
	By Ephiphania Munetsi, Project Coordinator, Friendship Bench.
14:10–15:00	<i>Gaps and priorities for mental health in Africa</i>
	Work-stream facilitators feedback to plenary on the gaps and priorities identified in their groups. Speakers: Prof Stanley Okolo, Director General, West Africa Health Organisation. Dr Victoria Mutiso, Principal Investigator, Africa Mental Health Foundation. Prof Crick Lund, Professor of Global Mental Health & Development, Cape Town University and CGMH, King’s College London. Moderator: Prof Olayinka Omigbodun, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Ibadan.
15:00–15:30	Coffee break & browsing of Innovations Fair
15:30–16:30	<i>Mobilising human and financial resources for mental health in Africa</i>
	Panel exploring how to resource existing gaps for improved mental health provision in Africa. Speakers: Dr Florence Baingana, Consultant, WHO Regional Office for Africa. Dr Victor Ugo, Founder, Mentally Aware Nigeria Initiative and Senior Campaign Officer, United for Global Mental Health. Camilla Knox-Peebles, Chief Executive, Amref Health Africa UK. Prof Crick Lund, Professor of Global Mental Health & Development, Cape Town University and CGMH, King’s College London. Dr Titi Banjoko, Managing Director, National Health Service. Moderator: Zeinab Badawi, Chair, the Royal African Society.
16:30–16:40	Innovation presentation: Project Khuluma
	By Desmond Chauke, Youth Mentor, Project Khuluma.
16:40–17:00	<i>Walking the talk – conference roundup and next steps</i>
	Closing session summarising the conference’s key discussion points, identified priorities and next steps. Includes an executive feedback from the linked conference held in Burkina Faso at the West Africa Health Organisation. Speakers: Prof Eugene Kinyanda, Head of Mental Health Project, MRC & LSHTM Uganda Research Unit. Prof Stanley Okolo, Director General, West Africa Health Organisation. Dr Julian Eaton, Co-Director of CGMH, LSHTM; and Mental Health Director, CBM International. Moderator: Zeinab Badawi, Chair, the Royal African Society.
17:00–19:00	Networking Reception & Poetry
	Post-conference drinks and networking reception featuring poetry readings by Zimbabwean born writer Belinda Zhawi, author of “Small Inheritances” (2018) and award-winning poet and PhD scholar Keith Jarrett, author of “Selah” (2017). The readings will be followed by book signings and there will also be a book stand selling a specially curated list of books by African authors, whose texts touch on the theme of mental health with empathy, honesty and insight.