

NETWORK OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES ON HEALTH (NEAPACOH)

NEAPACOH Meeting, June 28-July 1, 2016

Country presentation on the implementation of country specific-
actions made during the NEAPACOH meeting 2014/2015

Country: UGANDA

Presented by: Hon. Khainza Justine

Specific Action

- To establish a National Health Insurance scheme that includes family planning

Progress towards implementation

- Members of parliament who sit on the health committee in 2014 held benchmarking exercise with Israel.
- Members of Parliament who are champions of Maternal and Child Health also held benchmarking exercises with the health department of South Africa on how they initiated the national Health Insurance Scheme.
- The members also held dialogue meetings with fellow members of parliament from Ghana, Ethiopia, Rwanda and shared experiences on how they can come up with a law on the NHI.
- Members of parliament also held a dialogue with ministry of health on the status of the NHI bill, and were informed that the bill is with the ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and awaiting a Certificate of Financial Implication.

Challenges

- Competing priorities (Parliamentary and Presidential elections)

Lessons learnt

- From South Africa, that the Health systems have to be in place for the NHI to be effective.
- The government has to allocate funds to the NHI
- That the NHI has to be piloted in some districts before being rolled out in the whole country.