



2nd Conference of the African health Economics and Policy Association (AfHEA)

We call on all African health economists and health policy analysts or those working in Africa or on research of relevance to Africa to submit abstracts for the **Second Conference of the African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHEA)**, which will be held in Dakar, Senegal from 15th to 19th March 2011. The overall theme of this conference is **“Toward universal health coverage in Africa”**. Universal coverage is understood to mean providing financial protection against health care costs for all as well as ensuring access to needed health care for all.



Abstracts are particularly encouraged for research related to the sub-themes of the conference:

- Health care financing for universal financial protection in Africa, including issues around:
 - user fee removal
 - strategies for improved *domestic public* funding of health care (through general taxes and/or mandatory health insurance)
 - strategies to extend financial protection coverage to those outside the formal employment sector
 - reducing fragmentation across funding pools
 - the role of global funding in achieving universal coverage
- Promoting universal access to needed health services, including issues around:
 - Purchasing of health services (benefit packages and provider payment mechanisms including performance-based financing)
 - Identifying and addressing health service access barriers
- Strategies and tactics for key steps to move towards universal coverage, including issues around:
 - Getting universal coverage onto the health policy agenda
 - Ensuring the acceptability of policy proposals to different actors
 - Managing key actors in implementing universal coverage policies

Abstracts may be submitted in English or French and must be structured as follows:

- Title of paper
- Name, institutional affiliation and e-mail address of presenting author
- Names of co-authors
- 400 word maximum abstract which indicates the aim and objectives of the paper, the methods used and the key findings.

The above sub-themes are not exhaustive and individuals are encouraged to submit abstracts on interesting or topical research, especially on any aspect of the health system that could contribute to universal coverage.

Abstracts must be submitted by **31 August 2010** to john.ataguba@uct.ac.za and copied to afhea08@gmail.com.

They will be reviewed by the AfHEA conference Scientific Committee, which includes representatives from a wide range of African countries and is chaired by Prof. Di McIntyre of the University of Cape Town. Those submitting abstracts will be informed of the outcome by the end of October 2010.

Extension: Submission of Abstracts for AfHEA's 2011 Conference, Senegal

Dear Colleagues,

You will recall that the Call for Abstracts for AfHEA's 2011 Conference had indicated a closing date of 31st August 2010, further to which the Scientific Committee has acknowledged the receipt of an appreciable number of submissions. However, the Scientific Committee has equally received late submissions, as well as, enquiries on the possibility of an extension of the submission date, to allow for wider participation by interested researchers within and beyond AfHEA's membership.

Following discussions within AfHEA's leadership, a decision has been reached to **extend the submission date for individual abstracts to Monday 11th October 2010.** At the same time, proposals for organized sessions may be submitted to the AfHEA email address at afhea08@gmail.com. Note that proposals for organized sessions may be accepted even after the 11th October deadline if they are sufficiently topical and of great interest.

May we also take this opportunity to ask everyone to stay tuned for more details (including costs) of the conference itself, now scheduled to be held in **Senegal over 3 days from 15th to 17th March 2011**. The overall theme of the conference is **"Toward universal health coverage in Africa"**.

Pls find attached the initial call for abstracts for further details on sub-themes, while noting the extension of the submission date indicated therein.

Best Regards,
Chinwe Ogbonna
Secretary- AfHEA Executive Committee