

Jeremiah Chakaya Muhwa, MBChB – Bio-sketch



Jeremiah Chakaya Muhwa is currently acting as the chief executive officer/technical director at the Respiratory Society of Kenya and is a volunteer lecturer, department of medicine, dermatology and therapeutics, at the Kenyatta University school of medicine. He was born and bred in a village at the Kenya coast, attended local schools before joining the university of Nairobi to study medicine and qualified with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree in 1985. Chakaya enrolled for a master's in medicine degree, Internal Medicine at the University of Nairobi and successfully completed this training in 1992. In 1995 he obtained respiratory medicine training at the National Heart and Lung Institute, University of London at the Brompton hospital and in 1997 he obtained a certificate in bronchology from the Kyorin university at the Kyorin university hospital in Tokyo, Japan. Chakaya worked with the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) at the Centre for Respiratory Diseases Research, from 1992 to 2013, rising to the level of chief research officer and Centre director. He managed the national TB, Leprosy and Lung Diseases Program of the Kenyan Ministry of Health for four years from 2003- 2006. He has been engaged in global TB care and prevention efforts through roles such as chair of the DOTS expansion working group of the Stop TB Partnership, Vice Chair of the Stop TB Partnership coordinating board, Chair of WHO's Strategy and Technical Advisory Group for TB (STAG-TB) and Chair of the Global Fund's Technical Review Panel. He served as the President of the International Union Against TB and Lung Disease (the Union) between 2016- and 2019. In 2020, he was appointed professor for global lung health at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. He has been engaged in multi-agency and multi - country research partnerships including being a co-director of the International Multi-disciplinary Programme to Address Lung health and TB in Africa (IMPALA). He currently serves as the Kenyan principal investigator for the Leaving no-one Behind: Transforming Gendered pathways to Health for TB (LIGHT) funded by UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO) and is a co-director of the Integrating TB and Respiratory Diseases research program funded by UK's National Institute for Health and Care Research (NHIR). He is actively engaged in the provision of respiratory medicine services in several health care facilities in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2011, he was awarded by the respiratory society of Kenya the James Anga'wa award for excellence in advancing lung health in Kenya and in 2014, the Japanese TB Association in partnership with the Union awarded him the Princess Chichibu memorial award for global tuberculosis control at the 45th union world conference on lung health held in Barcelona, Spain. He is listed as an author or co-author in more than 100 publications in peer reviewed journals.