



Global Maternal and Child Oral Health Center
Seoul National University School of Dentistry



SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



WHS
Regional
Meeting

NAIROBI | APRIL 27 - 29
2026

Integrating Oral Health into Kenya's Primary Healthcare System: Policy, Practice and People's Voice

This session, co-hosted by the WHS Academic Alliance and Seoul National University's KOICA project, examines Kenya's pioneering approach to integrating oral health into primary healthcare systems, with a focus on maternal and child oral health (MCOH). Oral diseases affect an estimated 3.5 billion people globally, yet oral health remains systematically excluded from primary healthcare delivery. With annual treatment costs reaching \$357 billion, comparable to diabetes and cardiovascular disease, the WHO's 2024 Global Strategy on Oral Health calls for urgent integration of oral health services into primary care systems worldwide. Kenya's recent policy reforms create unprecedented opportunities for systemic change.

Primary Healthcare, UHC, NCDs, IDs and Social Determinants of Health Track Session

Tuesday Apr 28, 2026

9.30 - 11:00 AM



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Join this session by registering WHS Regional Meeting

<https://www.whsnairobi2026.com/programme/>

THE SPEAKER LINEUP

CHAIR



Livia Ottolenghi

Co-chair of the WHS Working Group on "Oral Health and General Health"

POLICY PERSPECTIVE



Hyewon Lee

Director, Global MCOH Center
Seoul National University

GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE



Penny Muange

Head of the division of Oral Health, Eye Health and Hearing care

PAN-AFRICA PERSPECTIVE



Morenike Oluwatoyin Folayan

Co-Founder
African Oral Health Network

ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE



Caroline Chelimo Kibosia

Senior Lecturer
Moi University, School of Dentistry

VOICE FROM FIELD



Mary Mwakughu

MCH Nurse in Charge
Kilifi County Hospital

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