Congratulations for improving the health sector infrastructure .....The Government told....... But more people still suffer by paying out of pocket!

Ahead of commemoration of World health Day April 7th, 2019, The Government of Tanzania has been praised for investing in construction and renovation of 352 health facilities in five phases. The Government has been advised to embrace the slogan Leave No One behind! And therefore develop systems and insurance subsidy that will ensure that poor people can access health service when they need it....

Speaking at the Mwananchi Health Camp at Leaders Club in Dar Es Salaam Director of Programs for Health Promotion Tanzania Mr. Salvator Hokororo told hundreds of attendees and media that the Government has so far done well in improving health infrastructure by constructing and renovation of 352 health facilities.

Mr. Hokororo urged the government to invest and implement the Universal Health Coverage. He said that Universal Health Coverage must ensure that people have access to the health care they need without suffering financial hardships. He explained that there are political, economic and health benefits to invest in universal Health Access. Responding to journalist question, he said that an estimated 66 Tanzania in every hundred don’t have health insurance and have to pay on counter when they get sick. He further said that while World Health Organization recommends 4-5% of GDP to be invested in health to achieve universal in health, Tanzania was investing 1.7% of GDP by 2017.

Giving examples of global leaders who successfully embarked on UHC, Mr. Hokororo mentioned President Hu Jintao of China among others in 2006 who in five years was able to reach 95% (1.3billion) of Chinese with health insurance. He urged that it therefore possible to reach all Tanzania who are less than 60 million. In conclusion, he cited three overarching steps towards leaving No one behind to be (a) Renewed political commitment from top leaders, (b) Heavy Government subsidy and (c) Financial and political responsibilities delegated to local government.

Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT) is a National NGO affiliated to Action Global Health Partnership (www.action.org) working towards healthy and responsible communities. HDT have a particular niche of Reducing Maternal and Child Mortality. The Executive Director of Health promotion Rev. Dr. Peter Bujari is a member of WHO/UHC Social Participation on UHC. For more information on UHC please visit http://www.healthpromotiontanzania.org/.

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