SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL HIGHLIGHTING W.H.O ZAMBIA SUPPORT TO THE HEALTH SECTOR

GUEST EDITORIAL TEAM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The purpose of this special issue of the *Medical Journal of Zambia* is to direct attention of the medical community to the immense contribution of WHO Zambia to healthcare in the country. We believe the role of this global player in shaping health care in Zambia is important, understudied and understated. Indeed, this special issue had its inception in informal conversations with colleagues in the Association and at the WHO Country Office.Our two organizations discovered a confluence of interest among our institutions as we look to support the Ministry of Health in the provision of quality health care to all citizens.

The production of this document would not have been possible without the active and dedicated efforts of a number of institutions and individuals. My sincere gratitude goes to the guest editorial team, for their tireless efforts and commitment shown throughout the compilation of this issue of the *Journal*. I also wish to recognize the immense contributions made by Professor Bellington Vwalika, Specialty Editor (Obstetrics & Gynaecology/Epidemiology) and this issue's sponsoring editor, for his patience and diligence in providing guidance, counsel, oversight and expertise, without hisinvolvement, this publication would not have been a success.

John S Kachimba Editor-in-Chief



Jacob Mufunda received his MBChB and MBA degrees from the University of Zimbabwe and PhD in Physiology from Michigan State University, Postgraduate Certificates in Emergency Medicine from Auckland and

Global Health Diplomacy from Geneva. He then spent 14 years in the Department of Physiology later becoming Professor and Dean of Medicine at the University of Zimbabwe and serving as Associate Editor of the Central African Journal of Medicine, Prof Mufunda joined the WHO in 2004 as Technical Officer and Professor and for the establishment of Orotta School of Medicine in Eritrea where he served as Professor of Physiology and Research. He served as Professor and Coordinator of University of Namibia School of Medicine. Prof Mufunda was appointed WHO Representative for Lesotho, then for Sierra Leone, briefly for Mozambique before reassignment to Zambia in 2014. He has published scientific research articles predominantly in non-communicable diseases in journals like Journal of Human Hypertension, Acta Pediatrica, Diabetologica, South African Medical Journal and Ethnicity and Disease. He has also published in communicable diseases, medical education and human resources including Ebola and malaria. Cumulatively Prof Mufunda has co-authored more than 80 scientific manuscripts in peer reviewed journals.



Freddie Masaninga received his B.Sc (Ed) at the University of Zambia (UNZA), Master's Degree, from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK, and PhD from UNZA. He obtained certificates in Epidemiology of malaria (Moscow, Russia),

Integrated Pest Control (Nairobi, Kenya) and monitoring and evaluation, data management and analysis at UNZA. He spent over 15 years at the Tropical Diseases Research Centre (TDRC) in Ndola, Zambia, as Head of Vector Biology Unit and researcher in Human African Sleeping Sickness, Schistosomiasis and malaria. He was Director of a USAID supported community-based malaria programme in Eastern Province of Zambia and joined WHO as professional Officer, where he has served as advisor on malaria control for 15 years and contributed at Global, Regional and National level in strategic reviews, plans and drafting resource mobilization documents in Switzerland, Nigeria, Ghana, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. His interests cover communicable diseases, particularly on vector-borne diseases and has co-authored over 25 manuscripts on malaria, sleeping sickness, nutrition and adolescent health in peer reviewed journals, including; PloS One, Acta Tropica, Annals of Tropical Medicine, Asian Pacific Journal of Tropical Medicine, Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Journal of Global Infectious Diseases, Journal of Public Health Epidemiology, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Virology Journal, Journal of Adolescents, Central African Journal, Malaria Journal and WHO Bulletin.



Mazyanga Lucy Mazaba received her BSc and Master's degree from the University Of Zambia School Of Medicine. She specializes in virology and public health (vaccines and preventable diseases)

and her experience spans over a period of 20 years. She then spent 20 years in the Department of Pathology and Microbiology at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia. Ms. Mazaba joined the WHO Country Office in Zambia in 2005 and works as a National Professional officer-Laboratory Scientist and data manager in the Virology Laboratory of the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka. Her research interest in Virology covers Rubella, Polio, Measles, Cholera and the new emerging diseases of international concern. Ms. Mazaba has published research articles in journals like Virology Journal, Journal of Infectious Diseases, International Journal of Child health and Human Development, Medical Journal of Zambia, Frontiers in Public Health among others. She is currently studying for her DSc. in public heath degree with the Copperbelt University School of Medicine where she also serves as an Honorary Lecturer in public Health. Ms. Mazaba is currently a member of the Biomedical Society of Zambia and also serves as an Associate editor on Child Health and Human Development (specialty section of Frontiers in Public Health and Frontiers in Pediatrics) and a Reviewer for the International Journal of Environmental Science and Toxicology and Journal of Virology & Retrovirology. Ms Mazaba has authored/co-authored cumulatively over 50 scientific manuscripts and book chapters in peer reviewed journals and edited three books and a special issue.



Peter Songolo obtained B. Sc. (Hb), University of Zambia, School of Medicine in 1985 and MB. Ch.B, University of Zambia, School of Medicine, in1988. During service he obtained the following qualifications; Certificate (Management &

Administration). ESAMI, Arusha, Tanzania, 1992. Diploma (Tb Epidemiology), RIT, Kivose-shi Tokyo, Japan, 1993, Certificate (Tb Field Training), KIT, Seoul, Korea, 1993 and MPH, Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen, The Netherlands, 1997. He joined MoH, Zambia as JRMO, Ndola Central Hospital, Ndola, Zambia, 1988-94; Medical Officer-in-charge Kafue Gorge Hospital, Mazabuka, Zambia, 1994-98, Senior Medical Officer at Kanye SDA Hospital, Kanye, Botswana, 1999-2000, Public Health Specialist with theBotswana Ministry of Health, Community Health Services Division, Epidemiology & Disease Control Unit, Gaborone, 2001-2005 and as NPO/DPC, World Health Organization, Lusaka, Zambia, 2005 - to date. He has published extensively in peer review journals such Biomed Central, Journal of Hypertension, J. Public Health and Epid, Am. Med J., Archives of Medicine, etc.



Solomon Kagulula is a graduate in Economics and Public Health disciplines from the University of Zambia, University of Zambia, University of Manchester, and University of Cape Town. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Business

Administration, currently at Thesis Stage, with a university in Scotland, UK. Solomon also holds a Master of Health Economics degree from The University of Cape Town, a Master of Primary Health Care degree from the University of Manchester, and a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in Economics from the University of Zambia. He is a Policy, Planning and Budgeting expert with vast experience in public health and research. He has spent the last 25 years implementing and coordinating health programs including teaching, policy, strategy development and monitoring and evaluation of health services. Prior to his appointment as NPO/MPN at WHO Country Office -Zambia, he held various positions in Government in the health sector including that of Lecturer, at Chainama College of Health Sciences and Principal Health Economist at Ministry of Health Headquarters in Lusaka. Solomon has authored, co- authored and reviewed more than twelve research articles in peer reviewed journals available online.