

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Scientific Conference on Medical Products Regulation in Africa

27 – 28  
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Accra, Ghana

#SCoMRA

Important Discussion Topic – **ONE!**

## Medicines regulatory systems strengthening and harmonization in Africa – Where are we?

Medicines regulatory systems strengthening and harmonisation work has gained momentum in Africa and according to the Access to Medicines Index, access to medicine in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) has improved in 2016. However, Africa still accounts for over 25% of the world's disease burden and its share of global health expenditure is less than 1%. How can Africa devise mechanisms for sustaining this momentum, address challenges, share lessons learnt and best practices to accelerate knowledge exchange and overturn this deficit?

### No need to re-invent the wheel

Africa needs strong institutions that can address these challenges. Learning from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the

European Medicines Agency (EMA) driven collaborative efforts is critical in accelerating medicines regulatory systems strengthening and harmonization efforts in Africa, as well as the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Initiative and the African Vaccines Regulatory Forum (AVAREF). Establishment of a continental body such as the African Medicines Agency (AMA) is a step in the right direction to ensure proper coordination and strengthening of these Pan-African Initiatives.

Promoting partnerships and alignment of these efforts will ensure collective impact and mutual accountability. Involvement of private, public and private-public institutions is a cornerstone in sustaining this momentum and achieving sustainable growth of the pharmaceutical industry in Africa.

Join us at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Scientific Conference to participate in the process and learn more

 <http://www.nepad.org/scientificconference/>

