

Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY: WORLD FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY DAY VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE | 06-09-2021 AT 11:00 EAT



**MEDIA ADVISORY
WORLD FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY DAY VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE**

WHEN: 06 September 2021 | 11.00 am to 12.00pm EAT | 10:00 to 11.00 am CAT | 09:00 to 10:00am WAT | 08:00 to 09:00 GMT

WHAT: AFENET is joining a global movement to recognize and raise awareness of the vital role of field epidemiologists in protecting the health of populations and advancing global health security, and to advocate for increased investment in field epidemiology training, research, and professionals.

WHY: The past year has brought unprecedented visibility to the work of field epidemiologists as the world has fought COVID-19, but this visibility has not always resulted in understanding the importance of field epidemiology, nor in the increased support needed to strengthen public health systems around the globe to better detect and respond to outbreaks. The press conference to commemorate the first ever #WorldFieldEpidemiologyDay will shed light on the epidemiologist to population ratio, what the ideal critical mass of epidemiologists that Africa needs, and the training pace needed to catch up with Africa's rising population.

WHO: The African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) Director Dr Simon Antara will be flanked by senior epidemiologists from seven hubs across sub-Saharan Africa.

WHERE: Zoom Video Conferencing

Register here : <https://bit.ly/38JwhW5>

About AFENET:

AFENET is a non-profit networking and service alliance of Field Epidemiology (and Laboratory) Training Programs (FELTPs), and other applied epidemiology training programs. AFENET has operations in over 31 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa or the World Health Organisation Africa Region (WHO - AFRO). Established in 2005, AFENET is dedicated to helping Ministries of Health in Africa build strong, effective, sustainable programs and capacity to improve public health systems on the African continent. The network's goal is to strengthen field epidemiology and public health laboratory capacity to contribute effectively to addressing epidemics and other major public health problems in Africa.

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