



CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



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Advocating for a People Centered Budget that Dignifies Humanity



Parliament Health Committee chair insists on better staffing, salaries for health

“For the last twenty years, the allowances for health workers have remained really low. This needs to be changed for us to attract and retain our health workers in the country.”



A patient receives medical treatment from a health worker. The Chairperson of the Health committee in Parliament, Hon. Bukenya (Inset) has called for an increase in remuneration and staffing for health workers in the FY 2018/19 budget.

Michael Bukenya Iga, the Chairperson of Parliament Committee on Health has asked Government to increase the Budget for human resource in the health Ministry, to boost remuneration of health workers. “The staffing levels for health workers are still very low, especially in hard to reach areas, health workers are not motivated enough and this is affecting the government’s ability to attract health workers,” Hon. Bukenya said. Hon. Bukenya, who also doubles as the Bukuya County MP, wants Government to consider prioritizing improving the condition of the Health workers as well as other health sector challenges such as drug stock outs, shortage of health workers among other issues affecting this sector.

legislators that the Ministry wants to increase allowances for nurses and midwives from the current Sh66, 000, to Sh288, 000 per nurse /midwife, per month.

In FY 2017/18, the Ministry asked for Sh641b for enhancement of salaries for health workers across the board, but the request was put under the unfunded priorities.

Unfunded priority

Through a phased manner, the Ministry sought to effect the increments starting with doctors and consultants. However, the Parliament Committee on Health opposed the proposal, arguing that Nurses and Midwives are important in the health sector and should be considered alongside doctors.

Medical workers including interns across the country, have on several occasions engaged in strikes over poor pay, but with no much intervention by Government. Put under the unfunded priorities in the current FY2017/18 budget, Hon. Bukenya now wants Government to

prioritize this item justifying that if adopted it would motivate health workers. Hon. Bukenya also wants Government to consider implementation of the National Health Insurance Scheme for improved health care for Ugandans. “As Parliament, we are waiting for the Bill to start on the process, we feel Ugandans need to access improved health services,” the Health Committee Chair noted. Recently, the Ministry of Health informed Parliament that it had acquired a Certificate For Financial Implication, and a Bill for the establishment of the scheme would be tabled before Parliament soon.

Open scheme to all Ugandans

CSOs have since proposed that the scheme should be opened to all Ugandans both the working and non-working class for better health service delivery. Their proposal aims to ensure that the Policy brings on board people in the informal sector as contributors and beneficiaries of the health scheme. In its current form, the policy seems to be targeting only the working class, which the government thinks can sustain the scheme.

MAKING THE BUDGET PROCESS OPEN & INCLUSIVE

CSO Budget Advocacy Road Map: July 2017 - June 2018

Stage/Activity	Government budget process	CSO budget advocacy action	CSO Timeframe
Evaluation of the FY 2016/17	Publishing of Annual Budget Performance Report and Annual Government Performance Report FY 2016/17	Publishing CSO Annual budget performance review for FY 2016/17	15th September 2017
	Publishing of OAG report FY 2016/17	Analysis and popularizing of Office of the Auditor General report FY 2016/17	30th September 2017
	Annual Sector Review Meetings	Present CSO positions at the Government Annual Sector Reviews Organise parallel CSO sessions assessing Sector FY 2016/17 performance	30th September 2017 August - November 2017
Execution/ Implementation of FY 2018/19	Quarterly release of FY p2017/18 funds by Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development	Produce Quarterly budget CSO performance monitoring report Compile and share regional budget releases for Regional Budget Coalitions Develop Regional Budget guides	September and December 2017 Every quarter 8th September 2017
	Local Government budget consultation on FY 2018/19 among all Local Governments and Municipalities by Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development	Developing and present CSO local government position papers at the Local Government Budget Consultative Workshops Mobilise CSOs to participate in the Local Government Budget Consultative workshops	1st August - September 2017 August/ September 2017
	National Budget Conference on FY 2018/19 for all Ministries Department and Agencies and Local Governments organised by Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development	Present CSO position on the National Budget Strategy FY 2018/19 Mobilise CSOs to attend the National Budget Conference FY 2018/19	September 2017 1st - 4th September 2017
Preparation stage FY 2018/19	District Budget Conferences organised by respective districts	Sub national CSOs present CSO perspectives at district budget conferences	October/September 2017
	Sector Working Group Meetings	Develop CSO positions on sector issues including grant guidelines	By 30th November 2017
	N/A	Review the CSBAG CSO budget advocacy roadmap	December 2017

To download the Budget advocacy road map for FY 2018/19 follow this link:

CSO2018/19ADVOCACYROADMAP.ORG



Citizens Alternative budget FY 2017/18

A civil Society Position Paper on the National Budget FY 2017/18

To download the Citizens Alternative Budget, please follow the link below:
CITIZENSALTERNATIVEBUDGETFY2017/18/CSBAG.ORG

