# EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

# EAST AFRICAN HEALTH RESEARCH COMMISSION

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## CONCEPT NOTE
## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EAST AFRICA JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 5th Extra-Ordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State held on 18th June 2007 established the East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC) as an institution of the East African Community. The EAHRC is established as the mechanism for making available to the community, advice upon all matters of health and health related research and findings necessary for knowledge generation, technological development, policy formulations, practices and related matters. EAHRC is the principal advisory institution to the EAC on Health Research and Development (R&D)

EAHRC proposes to establish the EAC regional journal on health science, as part of its mandate to promote and facilitate:

- Research innovation and development of innovative ideas in health in the region

- Application of Science, Innovation, and Technology in health

- Application of knowledge from health research innovation to strengthen regional STI capacity, healthcare delivery, and practice

- Development of human resource capacities and skills

- Exchange and dissemination of health research information

- Advocacy of evidences generated from health research

Thus the journal among other things, aims to be the media;

a. To represent the East African innovations in the health sector

b. To provide solutions through research, discovery, and development of solutions to priority issues that are relevant to the East African Community

c. To be a catalyst for innovation, and use of Science, Innovation, and Technology and Digital Health technologies and solutions

d. To guide development of product in health that harness the advancement of Science, Innovation, and Technology

e. To be the forum for sharing and dissemination of innovations and knowledge in heath

f. To provide a platform for scholarly recognition of professionals and institutions

g. To support career development of professionals

h. To provide a forum for researchers from EAC to become more visible globally

i. To provide direction in setting up health research priorities in the region

j. To contribute to the economic and social development through research innovation, and development in health

## 2. COVERAGE AND CONTENT

### a. COVERAGE

The journal will cover health and health-related sciences carried out in East Africa ranging from medicine, environmental health-related issues, dentistry, nursing science, pharmacology, toxicology, pharmaceutical science, veterinary science, food science, health-related agriculture science, etc.

It will publish ground-breaking research and findings, innovations, clinical trials (on investigational medicinal products, devices, and diagnostics), applied/basic science, applications of next generation technologies, digital health technologies and solutions, and other related matters

### b. CONTENT

The content will be peer-reviewed articles, original articles, (critical) reviews, short communications, surveys, commentaries, opinions, book reviews, supplementary issues, essays, and reports

## 3. PUBLICATION METHOD

a. Print

    i. A limited number of prints will be available for distribution to relevant Government institutions and organs, and to other stakeholders, including distribution during conferences, meeting, workshops, exhibitions, etc.

b. Electronic

    ii. Written: Abstracts, full text as HTML, PDF

    iii. Audio e.g. MP3, etc

    iv. Video e.g. showing experiment, ground breaking research findings, achievement, etc.

    v. Blogs e.g. to allow more interaction between the journal, authors, and readers

## 4. ACCESS POLICY

a. Abstracts and full articles will be available freely on website http://www.eahealth.org

b. Full text and journals:

**Prints** will be available by subscription to; Individual readers, Institutions, Ministries (Health, Science and Technology, higher education, EAC affairs, etc.), Presidents' office, universities, hospitals, research institutes, industries (medical and pharmaceutical, etc.), Donor community that support EAC

## 5. INFRASTRUCTURE

Physical infrastructure; the journal will be housed within the premises of the EAHRC

Equipment

a. ICT: for electronic processing from submission to final version, publication, and for printing. Printing of the complete journal will be done by professional companies

b. Cloud Server: that is capable to view files of the journal on the internet and to be seen by readers, reviewers, etc. Server will be robust with sufficient space to support accumulation of HTML, PDF, audio, video, and with option for expansion of the capacity. Thus the service provider among other things must provide reliable backup for the service, for the data, provide prompt technical support. The server must have a reliable (99 – 99.5%) uptime throughout, with high speed

c. Powerful connection to the backbone of the internet

d. Publishing software: for electronic processing of the journal from submission of articles, reviewing, editorial cycle to publishing of the final version for printing and submission to the server

## 6. PERSONNEL

a. TEAM

    i. Journal Editor-in-Chief       1

    ii. Journal Manager      1

    iii. Journal Copy-Editor      4 (part-time)

| iv. | ICT administrator | 1 |
| v. | Editorial board | 25 (volunteers) |
| vi. | Reviewers | 50 (volunteers) |

vii. Copyeditor: to improve the grammar and clarity of the article, statistics, methodology, adherence to journal's bibliographic and textural style. Copyeditors will be hired on temporary basis

viii. Layout editor: to transform the copyedited versions into galleys; for e-versions into e.g. HTML, PDF, and for print version into e.g. QuakXPress, Adobe InDesign, etc. Layout Editor will be hired on temporary basis

## 7. PROMOTION OF THE JOURNAL

Various promotion strategies will be employed

a. Marketing

   i. Promotion and advertisement

   ii. Social media

   iii. Website address added into staff address

   iv. Link to institutions, and libraries

   v. Submit to search engines

   vi. Indexing: EAHRJ will be submitted for indexing to allow the journal to be visible widely and for credibility of the journal

b. Certificate to authors: Criteria will be set to award certificates to authors with many, ground breaking, original articles, etc

## 8. SUSTAINABILITY: further consultations will be carried out to identify the best model for the sustainability of the journal; e.g. use of commercial firm to market and sale the journal, print on demand, use services such as Lulu (http://www.lulu.com), charge access to PDF, advertisement, membership fees, subscriptions from all institutions of the Partner States (EAC, EAC institutions, Ministries (MoHs, MEACAs, Education, etc) of Partner States, Presidents' offices, subscriptions from hospitals, academic and research institutions, business community, support from EAC, and development partners

9. **NAME OF THE JOURNAL**

The East Africa Health

# SCIENCE

*Search: Discover: Develop*

Acronym: **EASCI**
Frequency: **two** times annually and
**Supplementary issues** from conferences

10. **INSIDE PAGE**

| THE EAST AFRICA SCIENCE |
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| Search : Discover : Develop |
| ISSN No ………………     Impact Factor ……………     DOI……. Crossref®…………….. |
| A peer-reviewed journal  with twice annual publications in English |
| EASCI is listed in the (e.g. DOAJ, PubMed, AfricaBib, Africus Index Medicus, AGRIS, etc.)… |
| The Editor |
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