UNACOH-
Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health –
A NPHA, member AFPHA & WFPHA

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Acknowledgements

- Organisers of Regional Consultation
- Sponsors of the Consultation
- Participant
UNACOH

- Genesis - Rooted in Alma Ata Declaration
- Motto - Health for All and By All
- Thrust - Community Empowerment and mobilization for Health
- Advocacy for healthy public policies
- Advocacy for a positive Health Culture (Needs vs Demands)
UNACOH Dialogue

- 4 Levels
  - Within Membership
  - Within Scientific Community
  - Government and Other Policy Makers
  - Public
Dialogue among Membership

- Multi-disciplinary, multi-sector – so while professional
  UNACOH is not about members but about the public
- So more of CSO, while also professional- registered with
  Uganda NNGO Board
- Democratic governance - elections every two years
- Open minded – no health issue is off the agenda, with
  CPHA support we had a number of consultations
  leading to Position Papers particularly on Health Sector
  Reforms at the turn of the Century/Millennium
- ASC (since 1993), DMLML (since 2002), JASH Conference
  (MakCHS) since 2010
Scientific Community

- ASC – to share knowledge and influence policy debates
- Research – especially intervention research
- Policy Discussion – sometimes with UHCA
- Other Health Discussion Forums (e.g., JISSC yesterday)
Policy Makers

- Consultations with Government - eg Tobacco Control, Alcohol Control, SPIP, VHT Strategy
- ASC
- Participating in Health Forums and Media Discussions, and publications
- Part of continental and International Discussions through AFPHA and WFPHA
- Worked closely with ECSA-HC on developing documents for establishing ECSA-CHS and now challenged on formation of ECSA_College of PH
Public

- UNACOH is open membership (Health for All and by All)
- Community Based Projects – as demonstration of policies that work
  - Health as a Human Right
  - NECDP (GoU/WB)
  - Tobacco Control (CPHA),
  - Alcohol Control (IOGT)
  - Immunisation (CIII2)
  - Pesticides and Health (Dialogos)
- Proponents and supporters of VHT and OSH Committees in the workplace as part of Community Empowerment and Mobilisation for Health (Health is made at home – etc…)}
Challenges

- National Negative Health Culture
- Fragmentation of National Health agenda (Silos within and external to Health Sector)
- Government and other key actors not yet coming out to support indigenous Health CSOs
Recommendation

- Promote Health in All Policies practically
- Encourage Whole Government in support of Health
- Community should be the Centre of the Health System, not a customer
- More Government support for local CSOs especially in promoting the Think Tank Function
- (Think about this: As Governments change policies change but for PHAs there is a permanent agenda of Health for All and by All – it is not about to change- only to adapt to leverage situations to favour communities)
Thank you very much for your attention!