

FINAL PLENARY – SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

ITAI RUSIKE – 001009

1. The African region agrees that universal social security is a human right and we must achieve it.
2. As African countries, we are taking small steps, but we recognize that the resources that we have in Africa are not yet organized towards universal social security – so we will, all countries, develop a roadmap to achieve it.
3. The fundamental step is to embed the rights into the different dimensions of universal social security in our constitutional, legal and policy framework.
4. This connects with existing policy debates in our region such as (...) budget and financial debates, fair trade and investments, partnership with the global community, our debates on complementary PHC and social determinants of health.
5. We will mobilize at national and regional level, our governments, trade unions, civil society, employers and academics to realize our roadmap on Universal Social Security.
6. We have committed to have a unity in each African country to inform, debate and organize action towards universal social security.
7. We will connect with and take advantage of the continent, regional, economic and political arrangement under the African Union.
8. We also recognize that it is not the responsibility of one sector of government or society but the responsibility of the whole government and the whole of society and require massive mobilization to re-organize our social and economic models to make Social Security possible.
9. We also recognize that our economies have been plundered out of the region – we will, therefore, engage with the global community to make clear that Universal Social Security is not just a national obligation but a global obligation and we expect and will build alliances to achieve the same re-organization of the social and economic models and global level to make universal social security possible.
10. Finally, we want to welcome (...) you to WSF and the World Health Forum to be held in Dakar, Senegal in 2011. We would like you to come and enjoy African hospitality and share experiences on the steps we are taking in addressing Universal Social Security.