

A two-day conference on healthcare reforms kicks off in Cape Town, South Africa, next week. The Healthcare in Africa summit to be held on February 19th and 20th will focus on identifying healthcare solutions designed to meet the needs of patients.

Healthcare in Africa is a progressive, collaborative forum bringing more than 150 leaders from government, healthcare providers, suppliers, patient groups, donors and NGOs together to explore key issues around healthcare systems on the continent.

According to Marianne Mazou-Haddad Conferences Director, *The Economist Events*, “This year’s conference will question traditional assumptions and will focus firmly on the best ways to maximize the health and well-being of Africans, including whether patient-centric approaches such as those being implemented in Europe and the United States, could help to remove the constraints to access, affordability and quality of healthcare prevalent in Africa.”

Conference speakers include Durhane Wong-Rieger, *Chairman*, International Alliance of Patients’ Organisations (IAPO); UssielNdagijimana, *Permanent Secretary*, Ministry of Health Rwanda; Lord Nigel Crisp, *Chairman*, Global Health Workforce Alliance; Mark Britnel, *Chairman Global Health Practice*, KPMG International; Regina NamataKamoga, *Country Manager Uganda*, Community Health and Information Network (CHAIN); William Rodriguez, *CEO and Co-Founder*, Daktari Diagnostics and IlonaKickbusch, *Director*, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute of Internal and Development Studies.

Putting the patient at the forefront of healthcare in Africa

Written by Humphrey Opondo

“Empowering communities to help themselves, getting world-class healthcare on a shoestring, access to affordable medicines, the future of donor-funded healthcare and effectively addressing non-communicable diseases are among the themes to be discussed,” concluded Marianne Mazou-Haddad.