



COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING A TWO DAY LEGISLATIVE RETREAT ON ZERO-DOSE LEARNING HUB PROJECT FOR MEMBERS OF STATES ASSEMBLY, HEADS OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES/BOARDS FROM BAUCHI, BORNO, KANO AND SOKOTO STATES

LAGOS DECLARATION

BACKGROUND/PREAMBLE

In recognition of the urgent need to address persistent immunization inequities and reach the Zero Dose and under-immunized children in Nigeria, a two-day Legislative Retreat was convened in Lagos State from 18–19 July 2025. The retreat brought together key stakeholders including members of the National Assembly, State Houses of Assembly (Health and Appropriation Committees) from Bauchi, Borno, Kano, and Sokoto States, and Chief Executive Officers of the respective State Primary Healthcare Development Agencies/Boards.

Anchored on the theme “*Legislative Partnerships for Reaching Zero-Dose Children in Nigeria*,” the retreat was organized under the auspices of the Zero Dose Learning Hub (ZDLH) initiative, with the goal of strengthening legislative commitment, fostering intergovernmental collaboration, and driving sustainable, evidence-informed solutions to close immunization gaps.

Participants engaged in constructive discussions and shared practical insights and field experiences that culminated in a set of consensus-based recommendations and legislative commitments aimed at accelerating impact in the four ZDLH supported states.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE RETREAT:

- To assess the implementation progress and performance of the Zero Dose Learning Hub (ZDLH) across core thematic areas: Promoting Country Learning on Identify, Reach, Measure, Monitor and Advocate (IRMMA) Strategy, Capacity Building as well as Advocacy & Stakeholder Engagement.

- To facilitate high-level dialogue with national and state legislators, as well as Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of State Primary Healthcare Development Agencies/Boards (SPHDAs/SPHCDBs), on emerging priorities, challenges, and strategic opportunities for reaching zero-dose and under-immunized children.
- To support state legislators in co-developing actionable policy and funding resolutions that directly contribute to addressing immunization gaps in zero-dose LGAs and missed communities.

OBSERVATIONS:

1. There is no Routine Immunization Budget line in some states of the federation, and this is key to ensuring sustainable immunization financing.
2. There are many barriers for uptake of immunization services by parents and care givers of children across the four ZDLH project states of Bauchi, Borno, Kano and Sokoto.
3. There are no Governing Boards of State Primary Health Care Development Agencies/Boards in some of the ZDLH project states, this is important in ensuring smooth governance and coordination of all primary health care activities including immunization.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. The Chairman House Committee on Health, National Assembly, Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji would convene a meeting with all Chairmen House Committees on Health from the States Assembly and key stakeholders from all 36 states in Abuja by Q3/Q4 2025. The Nigerian ZDLH consortium will participate in the meeting.
2. The Chairman House Committee on Health of the National Assembly would advocate for the creation of the Budget line for immunization in 2026 budget across the states.
3. The Chairman House of Committee on Health to organize a visit to all the four ZDLH project states starting from Borno in July to conduct oversight functions on BHCPF, Health MoU counterpart funding etc.

4. The Chairmen House Committees on Health from all ZDLH project states would convene a meeting and provide feedback from ZDLH survey findings with LGAs Chairmen, and their corresponding Members of the State Houses of Assembly
5. The States Assembly through the House Committees on Health pledged to ensure that all Primary Health Care Development Agencies/Boards take ownership of the Decentralized Immunization Monitoring (DIM) surveys
6. The Health Committee Members to participate actively in all PHC and immunization activities
7. The House Committee on Health in all States should encourage motivation and accountability mechanism for immunization
8. Legislators will convene a quarterly oversight functions to Health Agencies and Health facilities
9. The Health Committee to facilitate timely release of PHC and Immunization funds approved by the council to Ministries, Department and Agencies

CONCLUSION

This communique has been unanimously adopted this date Saturday 19th July 2025, at the Amber Residence Hotel, GRA, Ikeja, Lagos



Sign by Chairman of the Retreat

Hon. Amos Gwamna Magaji

Chairman House Committee on Health Care Services

National Assembly