

NATIONAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES AGENCY

NMSA

**2025
DISTRIBUTION
PLANNING
MEETING**

**NMSA SUPPLY CHAIN
REVIEW WITH
DISTRICT
STRUCTURES**



NMSA 2025 DISTRIBUTION PLANNING MEETING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

To ensure an effective and efficient distribution process for 2025, National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) at the beginning of the year engaged key partners in the supply chain of drugs and medical supplies. Distribution of drugs and medical supplies is among the three mandates of the Agency hence, proper planning will enhance effective delivery. The 2025 Distribution planning meeting provided a platform for

reflection on 2024 distribution activities, discussions on how to identify challenges, while developing a scheduled of 2025 distribution activities. NMSA conducts two distribution activities; Free Healthcare (catering for pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under-five, Ebola and Covid 19 survivors and persons living with disabilities) and Integrated distribution (catering for Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria) that are done on a quarterly basis.



JATU ABDULAI - MD NMSA

The timely provision of drugs and medical supplies to health facilities across the country is critical to improving quality health outcomes. Hence, NMSA is positioning itself to ensure it fulfills its role to improving health service delivery throughout the country.

LOGISTICS TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING



The Logistic Technical Working Group meeting is a high-level technical meeting by the National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) that targets key stakeholders and partners working towards improving health service in the country, especially in with the provision of drugs and medical supplies needed. The maiden meeting for 2025 focuses on enhancing understanding among partners while seeking to improve supply chain activities in 2025.

The discussions focus on partners alignment, meeting procurement deadlines, warehousing and inventory management, distribution supply landscape of 2025 and building on the gains of M-supply deployment. Addressing members on the Logistic Technical Working Group, Managing Director of NMSA Jatu Abdulai discloses that the key area of focus for 2025 will be on replenishment and reorder, with the aim of streamlining timelines

for key activities, m-supply mobile deployment and setting up of hub, improvement in m-supply desktop usage thus using data to trigger re-supply, construction of Kerry Town Warehouse, commodity security strategy and revitalizing the cost recovery scheme.

The meeting was aimed at creating a pathway to enhance coordination and ultimately improve service delivery with the availability of drug and medical supplies in health facilities





dialogue with the entire districts supply chain teams including line supervisors, with the hope of ensuring that supply chain activities are successful. The importance of such engagement cannot be over-emphasized owing to the fact that supply chain from the central level is mostly implemented at district level. Better understanding of roles, and the different processes involved would therefore help to address the many challenges and bottlenecks felt at district level.

NMSA SUPPLY CHAIN REVIEW WITH DISTRICT STRUCTURES

The National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) with support from Global Fund conducted two days Supply Chain review engagement, targeting key stakeholders that include District Medical Officers (DMOs), District Logistics Officers (DLOs), Medical Superintendents, District and Hospital Pharmacists as key actors within the supply chain at district level.

This review meeting was geared towards enhancing better understanding and clearly define roles at district level thus, enabling the National Medical Supplies Agency implements one of its key mandates of distribution of drugs and medical supplies. The engagement according to the Managing Director of the National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) Jatu Abdulai, is a platform for



The intention for the gathering the Managing Director of NMSA re-emphasized is, a platform for frank discussions on supply chain issues at hand, finding ways to addressing them while improving understanding of the roles of each player in the chain. The discussions from the two days engagement identified practical examples that has to do with delays, stockout at district and facilities, proper utilization of stocks while also recommending solutions to making supply chain efficient thereby, enhancing effective health service delivery throughout Sierra Leone.



COMMENCEMENT OF FIRST QUARTER FREE HEALTHCARE DRUGS DISTRIBUTION



The National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) commenced its first quarter Free Healthcare Distribution of Drugs and Medical Supplies for 2025 on the March 28th, with a delivery of two fully loaded trucks to the Ola During Children’s and the Princess Christian Maternity Hospitals in Freetown. The two trucks loaded with drugs and medical supplies will target the Free Healthcare

beneficiaries that includes; pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under-five, persons living with disabilities and Ebola and Covid 19 survivors. Handing over the consignments of drugs and medical supplies to the Medical Superintendent at the Ola During Children’s Hospital in the presence of beneficiaries, Robert Dixon Director of Human Resources at

NMSA, stressed the need for proper utilization of the items, while informing beneficiaries that the drugs should be administered to them free of cost. He noted that the items delivered were based on the requested need presented by the hospital. These drugs and medical supplies are to last these hospitals for three months.



NMSA INDUCTS ELEVEN NEW EMPLOYEES



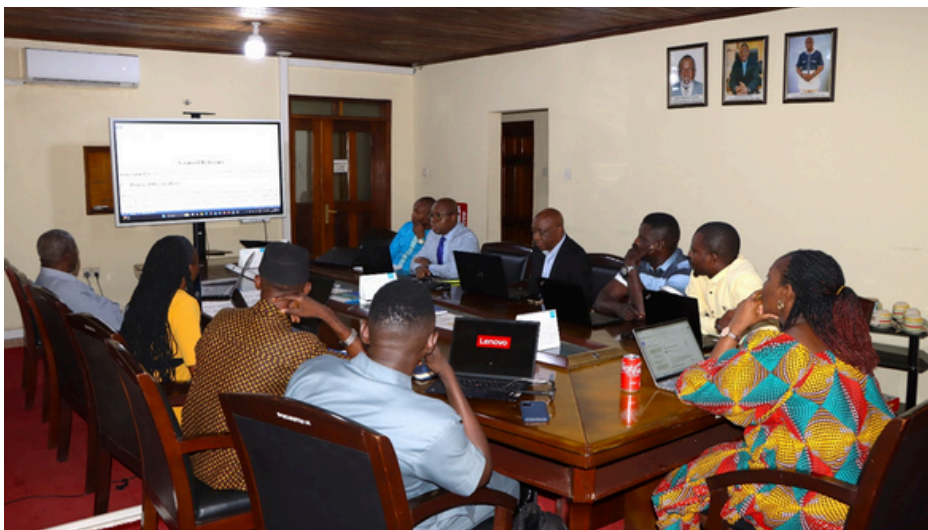
In a determined move to ensure the National Medical Supplies Agency delivers on its mandates, the agency in March added eleven new employees to its human resource capital, filling in critical positions. The recruited positions included a Warehouse Manager, a Finance Officer, two MIS officers, one Stores and Inventory Management Officers, two Store Assistants and four drivers. Addressing the new recruits during a day orientation, Managing Director Madam Jatu

Abdulai expressed belief that their presence will bring more value to the hardworking team. As a health supply chain Agency, the Managing Director underscores the critical role of the Agency in the health outcomes of Sierra Leone thus, stressing the need for effectiveness, efficiency and deliverables from the new recruits. The day orientation involved presentations from different departmental heads on their daily operations, thereby giving the new employees a direction on what is



expected of them in driving the agency forward.

The one-day orientation was climaxed with a tour at the different facilities of the Agency, keeping to the new employees up to speed as the commenced work.



As a body changed with the mandate to procure, warehouse and distribute drug and medical supplies to public health facilities, this Manul is expected to serve as a guiding document that outlines the principles, procedures, and best practices to ensuring the quality, safety, and effectiveness of all pharmaceutical products and medical supplies procured, stored and distributed by the NMSA. This Manual will provide a standardized framework to ensure the quality and

NMSA REVIEW DRAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE MANUAL

The National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA), in early March hosted a two-day review of its draft Quality Assurance Manual, a document that seeks to provide step by step procedures in the provision of quality drugs and medical supplies at NMSA. The Quality Assurance Manual will encompass several Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), that will enhance coordination in the strive to ensure quality, safety, and

effectiveness of products handled by NMSA that are essential to public health, and the agency's commitment to providing efficient and reliable healthcare service. The Manual prioritizes among other areas, Quality Standards and Specifications, Supplier Qualification and Auditing, Product Inspection and Testing, Storage and Distribution, Complaint Handling and Adverse Event Reporting.



safety of medication procured, mitigating the risk of purchasing substandard, counterfeit or contaminated drugs that could potentially harm patients. This quality Assurance Manual comply to the requirement of the ISO 9001:2015 standard and with the recommendation for quality assurance systems focusing on prequalification of products and manufacturer, purchasing, storage and distribution of pharmaceutical products.





million worth of health commodities, a support from the GC 7 grant currently being implemented by the Ministry of Health through the Global Fund to fight AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria. This distribution saw the delivery of Drugs and Medical supplies to twenty-four Government hospitals, some private hospitals, Key Population (KPs) and Sixteen District Medical Stores. These commodities will be distributed by the district medical stores to all respective Peripheral health units approximately 1500 in total across the country.

NMSA MD Updates the Media on Distribution Activities

The Managing Director of the National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) Madam Jatu Abdulai, at a press briefing on 2nd April 2025, provided an update to the media on the Agency’s work.

During her opening statement, the Managing Director reminded the media of the Agency’s core mandates of procurement, warehousing and distribution of drugs and medical supplies for and on behalf of Government to all Public Health Facilities.

Keeping the media updated on current activities undertaken by the

Agency, the MD informed the press on the just concluded first quarter Integrated Distribution of HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria drugs across the country, and the commencement of the Free Healthcare Distribution; targeting pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under-five, persons living with disabilities and Ebola and Covid 19 survivors.

According to the Managing Director, the first quarter Integrated Distribution for 2025, which commenced in February and was completed in March was a \$3



The Managing Director further revealed that the Free Healthcare distribution commenced on the 28th of March and will continue for the next two to three weeks. The Free Healthcare distribution she continued, will also target all sixteen district medical stores, government hospitals and all respective Peripheral Health Units across the country with medical supplies worth \$2.5 million dollars. Discussion points from the briefing included how to strengthen monitoring in the utilization of commodities at Facility level thus, ensuring it benefits the targeted groups, actions against those found selling these medicines amongst other issues.

The Agency sees the media as a valued partner in the implementation of its core mandates, that seek to improve quality health delivery in the country hence, such engagement will be continues.





whose lives depend on the work the Agency does. She hailed her staff for doing their very best regardless of the challenges and difficulties that come with the job, further appealing to them to make good use of the little resources available to ensure drugs and medical supplies reach health facilities. The MD also stressed on the need for effectiveness, efficiency and the importance of every staff in delivering the mission of the Agency.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETS WITH GENERAL STAFF

As part of her transformative drive towards ensuring the National Medical Supplies Agency (NMSA) enhanced service delivery in the Health Supply Chain system of Sierra Leone, the Managing Director Madam Jatu Abdulai together with Senior Management Staff on Wednesday 16th April 2025, held what was described by staff as the first of its kind general meeting of the Agency.

The meeting which brought together staff across all departments and working locations within the Western area, provided a platform for the Managing Director and Senior Management to interact and listen to them. Commending the strides of staff towards ensuring the Agency live up to its mandates of procurement, warehousing and distribution, the Managing director reminded them of the number of Sierra Leoneans



The engagement also provided an opportunity to staff members to speak on issues that needed attention from the MD and Senior Management Staff, while also giving out recommendations to addressing same. This was the first General engagement with staff of the Agency since her appointment as Managing Director in December 2024. She promised to continue such engagement on a quarterly basis.



NMSA PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Managing Director being interviewed by Adeyemi from Radio Democracy 98.1



MD together with Senior Management updating the media on activities for the first quarter of the year. This will be a quarterly engagement with the media.



Director Robert Dixon on Afriradio evening Current Affairs Program speaking on the work of the Agency. The one-hour program also provided an opportunity to get feedable from the public.



Filling fulfilled after eloquently informing the public on the work of the Agency.

WHO WE ARE



OUR MANDATE

The Agency shall have exclusive responsibility for the procurement, Warehousing and distribution of drugs and medical supplies in a transparent and cost-effective manner for and on behalf of all public institutions throughout Sierra Leone (The NMSA Act, 2017 – Part III, Section 12-11)

OUR MISSION

To increase access to affordable, effective, safe, and high quality health commodities to enhance health service delivery in Sierra Leone.

OUR VISION

To be the sustainable and reliable public-sector health supply chain service provider for Sierra Leone

