



Press release

Rwanda to host the 11th ECASSA Social Security Policy Makers' Conference

On 22-23rd November 2018, Social Security Professionals, Managers and Policy Makers from countries in East and Central Africa will meet in Kigali for the annual East and Central African Social Security Association's (ECASSA) Policy Makers' Conference.

The two day meeting will be held under the theme "Towards Universal Health Coverage-Regional Perspective" an area where Rwanda has made significant milestones achieving near-total coverage of her population with health insurance under the Community Based Health Insurance Scheme popularly known as Mituelle de Sante.

The Association holds Annual Policy Makers' Conferences premised on topical themes hosted by ECASSA member countries on a rotational basis with the incoming Association Chairperson's country being the host. Rwanda first hosted the 5th Annual Policy Makers' Conference in November, 2012.

As a practice of the Association, the incoming Chairperson's country hosts the Conference during which his/her chairpersonship is inaugurated. The Director General of RSSB is the incoming Chairperson of ECASSA hence Rwanda's hosting of the 11th Annual Policy Makers' Conference.

Universal health coverage is goal 3.8 under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through which the global community has committed to ensuring health coverage for the world's inhabitants by the year 2030.

ECASSA as a sub-regional social security body whose aim is facilitating social security for all is committed to contributing to the achievement of this goal.

The meeting is expected to attract cabinet Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Board members of regional social security organizations, Members of Parliament, leaders of Social Security Institutions in the region and other key technocrats in the field of social security from East and Central African countries including Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Zanzibar, South Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Also, representation is expected from the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the International Social Security Association (ISSA).

Besides health coverage, the meeting will discuss broader social security and protection issues as enshrined in the 1948 Universal declaration of human rights especially in articles 22 and 25 which highlight 9 social security areas considered basic human rights including health coverage.

The policy makers' conference will be preceded by the ECASSA standing committee and council meetings which will take place from 19-21st November, 2018.

About ECASSA

ECASSA was formed in 2007, in Kigali, to address the need by social security institutions from East and Central Africa to work more closely in the interest of improving the quality and effectiveness of their services to the people of the region. This was possible by cooperation in exchanging best practices through workshops, study visits and conferences.

Since its conception, it has grown tremendously having 9 member countries and 31 social security schemes from 15 at inception.

The organization together with its recently established Social Security Training Institute is headquartered in Arusha, Tanzania.

For more information

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