G4 alliance | GHANA 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

20TH PERMANENT COUNCIL MEETING

Policy to Practice

Implementing Emergency, Critical and Perioperative Care across Africa



MAIN CONFERENCE	FULL WEEK	VENUE
9–10 Nov 2026	5–11 Nov 2026	Alisa Hotel, Accra

THE WEEK IN ACCRA

Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7	Sun 8	Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11
Trauma course · Board	Internal meetings	Global Mercy visit	Free day	Conference Day 1	Conference Day 2	Smile Train visit (optional)

PRE-CONFERENCE 5 – 8 November

All times GMT

Thursday 5 November — Pre-conference course and Board

Daytime	**Prehospital Trauma Skills & Leadership Course**
18:00 – 21:00	**G4 Alliance Board Meeting** · Board members only

Friday 6 November — G4 Alliance internal business day

07:30 – 08:00	Registration and overview of the day
08:00 – 10:00	**Nursing and Midwifery Meeting**
10:00 – 10:30	Morning tea and coffee
10:30 – 12:30	**Nursing and Midwifery Meeting** (continued)
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch and networking
13:30 – 15:30	**Concurrent Working Group Meetings** Women and Girls Working Group · Africa Working Group · Operative Encounter Registry Allows cross-cutting working groups involving nurses and midwives to meet.
15:30 – 16:00	Afternoon tea and coffee
16:00 – 18:00	**Permanent Council Business Meeting**
19:30	**G4 Alliance Family Dinner**

Saturday 7 November — Global Mercy visit, with Mercy Ships

09:00 – 11:00	Informal working group meetings and catch-ups, as required · Space available; coffee and breakfast at own cost
11:30 – 12:30	Travel to the Port of Tema and the Global Mercy
12:30 – 13:30	**Lunch on board the Global Mercy**
13:30 – 16:30	**Tours of the Global Mercy**
16:30 – 17:30	Return to the Alisa Hotel
17:30 – 19:30	Free time
19:30	Casual dinner · Own cost

Sunday 8 November — **Free day.** The main conference begins on Monday 9 November at 08:00.

DAY 1 Monday 9 November

All times GMT

08:00 – 08:30 Arrival and registration (badge collection)

08:30 – 09:00

OPENING

Welcome Addresses

President, G4 Alliance · Board Chair, G4 Alliance
Dr Hafiz Adam Tahir, Director, Technical Coordination, Ministry of Health
Dr Richard Selormey, General Secretary, Ghana Medical Association
Brian Holler, Mercy Ships · Acknowledgement of sponsors
Ambassador Erieka Bennett, Diaspora African Forum

09:00 – 09:30

MINISTERIAL ADDRESS

Address by the Minister for Health, Ghana

Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, Minister for Health

09:30 – 09:50

KEYNOTE

Made in Africa: Advancing African-Led Medical Equipment Manufacturing to Strengthen Surgical Systems

Dr Delese Mimi Darko, Director General, African Medicines Agency

09:50 – 10:30

PRESENTATIONS

G4 Alliance: Key Initiatives

TBI as a notifiable condition	**Prof Tariq Khan**
WHO OEM Pilot	**Dr Neil Wetzig**
The PAHO initiative as a model for other regions	**Colin McIff · Maria-Jose Garcia**

10:30 – 11:00 Morning tea and networking

11:00 – 11:20

PRESENTATION

Ghana's SOTA Landscape: Making the Case for National Surgical, Obstetric and Anaesthesia Plans Across Africa

Prof Richard Adanu, Rector, Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons

11:20 – 11:50

PRESENTATION

The NSOAP Development Process

Prof Afua Hesse, Vice-Chair, NSOAP Implementation Committee

11:50 – 12:00

PATIENT PERSPECTIVE

The Case for a Plan: A Patient's Perspective

Ernestina Obour Tabi

12:00 – 13:00

PANEL DISCUSSION

From Dialogue to Implementation: Lessons and Challenges from Ghana's National Surgical Planning Journey

MODERATOR **Dr Teddy Totimeh**, Consultant Neurosurgeon, Accra Medical Centre, Osu

Dr Richard Selormey, General Secretary, Ghana Medical Association

Mr Benjamin Nyakutsey, Head, Policy Coordination, PPME, Ministry of Health

Dr Theresa Barnes, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Ghana

Selina Dussey, Quality Improvement, Ministry of Health, Ghana

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch and networking

14:00 – 14:20

FIRESIDE CHAT

Breaking Down Silos: Integrating NSOAPs and Emergency, Critical and Operative (ECO) Care for Stronger Health Systems

Why NSOAPs need language on integration with ECO care.

MODERATOR **Ruben Ayala**, Operation Smile

Colin McIff, Executive Director, G4 Alliance · **Maria-Jose Garcia**

14:20 – 14:40

PRESENTATION

The Role of Complementary Providers in NSOAPs

Evelyn Abayaah-Issah, Acting Administrative Secretary, Traditional Medicine Practice Council, Ghana

14:40 – 16:00

PANEL DISCUSSION

National Surgical Planning: What Are the Barriers?

MODERATOR Irene Devine Dzirasa

Ghana	**Prof Afua Hesse**, Vice-Chair, NSOAP Implementation Committee
Sierra Leone	**Dr Mustapha Kabba**, Ministry of Health
Tanzania	**Dr Mwinyikondo Amir**, Ministry of Health
Kenya	**Paul Odula**, University of Nairobi
SADC	**Prof Emmanuel Makasa**, SADC Region

16:00 – 16:30 Afternoon tea and networking

16:30 – 18:30

KEY EVENT · ROUNDTABLE

Making Access to Safe, Timely, Affordable Emergency, Critical and Perioperative Care a Reality

Together, participants will identify the priorities, partnerships and financing mechanisms needed to accelerate progress toward equitable access to emergency, critical and operative care for all.

MODERATORS Dr Neil Wetzig · Colin McIff

ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS

Prof John Nkrumah Mills, Chair, Ghana NSOAP Committee

Mr Ernest Owusu Sekyere, Head, Budget and Planning, PPME, Ministry of Health

Kow Akyen Sackey, Republic Bank (Ghana) PLC

Dr Kennedy, World Bank Ghana

Ms Kat Kimpton, Community and Engagement Lead, Watsi

Prof Emmanuel Makasa, SADC Region

Paul Odula, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Dr Mustapha Kabba, Ministry of Health, Sierra Leone

Prof Afua Hesse, Vice-Chair, NSOAP Implementation Committee

Dr Katherine Attoh, National Professional Officer, RMNCAH, World Health Organization, Ghana

Dr Belinda Afriyie Nimako, Director, PPBME, Ministry of Health

Ms Selina Dussey, Quality Assurance, Ministry of Health

Dr Richard Selormey, General Secretary, Ghana Medical Association

Dr Opoku Ware Ampomah, Member, NSOAP Committee

Dr Ernest Konadu Asiedu, Head, Medical and Dental Unit, Ministry of Health

Prof Richard Adanu, Rector, Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons

Prof Pius Agbenorku, Vice President, Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons

Dr Samuel Kaba, Director General, Ghana Health Service

Dr Theresa Barnes, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Ghana

Dr Ruby Aileen Mensah Annan, Director, Strategic Health Purchasing, NHIA

Dr Eric Nsiah Boateng, Deputy Director, Data Analytics, NHIA

Dr Hintterman Mbroh, CEO, Ho Teaching Hospital

Dr Aiden Suntaa Saanwie, Medical Director, Eastern Regional Hospital

Mrs Evelyn Amoako, Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Ministry of Health

Ernest Agyei-Tuffour, NSOAP Coordinator, Ghana

19:30

EVENING

Gala Dinner and Cultural Evening

Including the official handover of the Presidency of the Permanent Council to **Richard Henker**

DAY 2 Tuesday 10 November

All times GMT

08:00 – 08:30 Arrival and registration (badge collection)

08:30 – 09:00

PRESENTATION

Global Surgery within the Changing Global Health Architecture

Irene Devine Dzirasa · **Colin McIff**, Executive Director, G4 Alliance

09:00 – 10:30

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Critical Role of Nursing in NSOAPs

MODERATOR **Richard Henker**

Bunmi, Nurse and Midwife, G4 Alliance
Amy Leah Potter, Nurse, G4 Alliance / Operation Smile
Gloria Simpong, Regional Director, Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana
Harriet Darko, Nurse Anaesthetist

10:30 – 11:00 Morning tea and networking

11:00 – 12:00

PRESENTATIONS

State of SOTA Care at Regional and District Level

Dr Samuel Kaba, Director General, Ghana Health Service
Prof Emmanuel Makasa, SADC Region

12:00 – 13:00

PRESENTATION & PANEL

NSOAP and ECO Care Implementation: Lessons Learned and Lessons Still to Learn

MODERATOR **Dr Sunny Phillips**

Dr Ernest Asiedu, Head, Medical and Dental Programme, Ministry of Health; Member, NSOAP Implementation Steering Committee
Prof John Nkrumah Mills, Chair, Ghana NSOAP Steering Committee
Dr Ekremet, Head of Emergency Care, University of Ghana Medical Centre
Prof Obiri, Cleft Leadership

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch and networking

14:00 – 15:00

PANEL DISCUSSION

From Policy to Practice: Financing and Delivering NSOAP Implementation

What needs to be done at district, national, regional and global levels, and how will progress be monitored?

MODERATOR **Colin McIff**, Executive Director, G4 Alliance

Dr Ruby Aileen Mensah Annan, Director, Strategic Health Purchasing Directorate, National Health Insurance Authority

Further panellists to be announced

15:00 – 16:00

KEY SESSION

The Road Ahead: Turning Commitments into Funded Action

Financing the future of emergency, critical and perioperative care

CHAIR **Richard Henker**, with **Ruben Ayala**, Operation Smile, and **Colin McIff**, G4 Alliance

16:00 – 16:30 Afternoon tea, networking and consensus discussions

16:30 – 17:30

CLOSING SESSION

Consensus Statement: What Is Agreed Moving Forward

Colin McIff, Executive Director, G4 Alliance

17:30

Wrap-up and close of conference

OPTIONAL

Wednesday 11 November

Smile Train Visit to Kumasi

An optional visit for participants, at their own expense.

IN COLLABORATION WITH

SmileTrain | Mercy Ships | Operation Smile | OHANAONE INTERNATIONAL SURGICAL AID & EDUCATION

This program is subject to change. For the latest version and event details, visit **ghana.theg4alliance.org**