

PAEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION OF THE GAMBIA

3rd ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Theme: Nutrition in Gambian Children – Challenges, Progress, and the Way Forward

Pre-Conference Workshop

Date: 12–13 November 2025 | **Time:** 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Topic: *Improving Neonatal Care in The Gambia – Getting the Basics Right*

Facilitators: Dr. Wahab Sallah (Senior resident, neonatal unit, EFSTH), Dr. Hammad Khan et. al. (Humanity First, UK), Mrs. Bintou Beyai (Nurse neonatal unit, EFSTH),

DAY 1 Date: 14 November 2025 |

OPENING CEREMONY 9:00 am – 10:45 am

Welcome address, Remarks and Speeches by designated Guests

Keynote lecture: *Global Standards, Local Realities: WHO's Role in Tackling Malnutrition*
– Dr. Nathan Kayaita, WHO Representative. Confirmed

10:45 – 11:15 am – Tea Break

SYMPOSIUM I – Malnutrition in The Gambia: Where Do We Stand?

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Time	Topic / Speaker
11:15 – 11:40	<i>40 Years of Evidence: What Research Has Taught Us About Malnutrition in The Gambia</i> Prof. Andrew Prentice, MRC – confirmed
11:40 – 12:05	<i>The Nation's Nutrition Program: Progress, Pitfalls, and the Way Forward</i> Malang N. Fofana , the Executive Director of the National Nutritional Agency (NaNA) in The Gambia – confirmed
12:05 – 12:30	<i>Breastfeeding First: The Lifeline for Child Survival</i> Yankuba Sawo , Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF Gambia - confirmed
12:30 – 12:55	<i>Securing the Future: Government Strategies to End Malnutrition in The Gambia</i> Michael M. Mendy , Director of Health Promotion and Education Directorate; and National Focal Point for Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Ministry of Health - confirmed
12:55 – 1:40	Panel Discussion (WHO; MRC; NaNA, UNICEF, MoH): Integrating Research, Policy, and Practice to Eliminate Childhood Malnutrition in The Gambia

1:40 – 2:40 pm – Lunch and Poster Session

2:40 – 5:00 pm – Mixed / Parallel Sessions + Q&A

DAY 2 Date: 15 November 2025 |

SYMPOSIUM II – Child Health at the Crossroads: Nutrition, Infection, and Vulnerable Populations

9:00 am – 10:45 am

Speakers from various Gambian Institutions and Organizations

10:45 – 11:15 am – Tea Break

PARALLEL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS 11:15 am – 1:15 pm

1:15 – 2:15 pm – Lunch & Poster session

Session: *Key Messages for the Management of Malnourished Children in the Gambia*

2:15 – 3:00 pm

Practical take-home points on recognition, emergency stabilization, feeding, and follow-up of malnourished children in Gambian healthcare settings.

CLOSING CEREMONY 3.15 pm – 4.00 pm

Closing Speeches, Awards – Best Presenter, Presentation of Conference – Communiqué, Vote of Thanks

PATG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Time: 4:15 – 5:00 pm (*Members only*)