

## **Press Invitation**

To: News Editors & Reporters

Subject: Announcement of New HIV/AIDS Vaccine Drive & MITS Van Study

**Explains Causes of Under Fives in Kisumu & Siaya Counties** 

Date: Tuesday, 28th, February 2024 and Thursday 29th, February 2024

Venue: KEMRI-Kisumu and KEMRI-Kericho

The Kenya Medical Research Institute will this week unveil two research projects with monumental public health significance not only in Kenya but globally. Please see the brief below:

## 1. <u>WEDNESDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup>, FEBRUARY 2024, 11.00 AM AT CGHR, KISIAN, KISUMU COUNTY.</u>

KEMRI has been piloting a research programme that provides the first of its kind in Africa Mobile Mortuary services for the purpose of researching on the cause of death in Siaya and Kisumu counties as part of Child Mortality Studies. Initial preliminary results from the study support by this van clearly explain the cause of most deaths among children under 5 years in Kisumu and Siaya Counties. This unique Mobile facility is set to be launched this Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup>, February 2024 at KEMRI's Center for Global Health Research Centre in Kisumu by the Ag. Director General Prof. Elijah Songok from 11.00 am.

Transport to and from the KEMRI Centre will be available from Kisumu City at 9.30 am.

## 2. THURSDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup>, FEBRUARY 2024, 9.30 AM AT KEMRI-KERICHO STATION, KERICHO COUNTY.

The search for a new HIV/Aids vaccine gets a new impetus following an award of \$45.6 Million (Ksh.6.6 billion) to researchers at KEMRI-Kericho for the advancement

and development of an African-led HIV Vaccine Candidate. Under a programme that brings together, KEMRI and Walter Reed Project (WRP) Clinical Researchers who are part of a consortium led by the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) under a five-year USAID award plan titled BRILLIANT (BRinging Innovation to Clinical and Laboratory Research to end HIV In Africa through New vaccine Technology). This initiative this is to be formally launched this Thursday, 29th, February 2024, 9.30 am at KEMRI-Kericho station, Kericho county.

Transport to and from the KEMRI Kericho Centre will be available from Kisumu City at 7.00 am.

Media is invited to provide coverage. For logistical purpose, please confirm attendance by 12.00pm, Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup>, February 2024.

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