

Francis Omaswa Bio for Nursing Now Campaign

Francis Omaswa is the Executive of the African Centre for Global Health and Social Transformation (CHEST), an initiative incorporated in Uganda and promoted by a network of African and International leaders in health and development. ACHEST is an independent Think Tank and Network that works to stimulate the growth of African rooted capacity for leadership and excellence in health and to make Africa a stronger player in global health.

His is the President, African Platform on Human Resources for Health (APHRH), the African Health systems Governance Network (Ashgovnet) and Co Chair of the Global Policy Council on Health Worker Migration. He chairs the Independent Advisory Group to the WHO Director for the African Region.

He has served as **Chancellor of Busitema University in Uganda**. Until May 2008, he was a Special Adviser to the World Health Organization (WHO) Director General and founding Executive Director of the Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA) a partnership that is dedicated to identifying and providing solutions to the global health workforce crisis.

Between 1999 – 2005, he was the Director General of Health Services in the Ministry of Health in Uganda and coordinated major reforms in the health sector in Uganda.

He was Head of Cardiothoracic Surgery at University of Nairobi and Kenyatta National Hospital in Kenya, and founding Director of the Uganda Heart Institute at Makerere University, Uganda. He is the founding President of the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa. He has a keen interest in access of the poor to quality health services and spent five years at the rural Ngora hospital coordinating and testing various approaches. His current research interests are in Leadership Capacity of Ministries of Health, Health Systems Governance, Health professionals education and training and Health Worker migration, retention and distribution. **He was Principal Investigator of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative. He is author of two books: “African Health Leaders, making change and claiming the future” and “Handbook for Health Ministers”.**

At global level, he was chair of the GAVI Independent Review Committee, Senior Advisor to the Ministerial Leadership Initiative for Global Health, founding Chair of the Global Stop TB Partnership, Chair of the Portfolio and Procurement Committee of the Global Fund Board. He was a member of the steering committee of the High Level Forum on health-related MDGs. At the African Level, he has served on many committees and expert panels and he was the lead consultant in developing the African Union HIV Policy.

Francis Omaswa is a graduate of Makerere Medical School, Uganda, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and Ireland, the New York Academy of Medicine. He is an International Associate at the National Academy of Sciences of the USA and is a Senior Associate at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He has several qualifications in health services management and medical education. His contributions have been recognized by multiple meritorious awards nationally and internationally.