



Press Release

Amref International University Achieves Major Milestones in Leadership and Accreditation

Nairobi, Kenya – 19 November 2025 – Amref International University (AMIU) has reached two significant milestones, reinforcing its position as a leader in health sciences education across Africa. The University has been officially awarded a Charter, signifying its full accreditation and transition to an autonomous institution. In addition, Mrs. Tsitsi Masiyiwa, a renowned philanthropist and advocate for youth empowerment, has been installed as AMIU’s new Chancellor, marking the beginning of a new phase in its leadership and continental impact.

The award of the Charter underscores AMIU’s longstanding commitment to quality education, robust governance, and its significant contribution to advancing public health training in Africa. This achievement not only validates AMIU’s academic rigor but also positions the University to broaden its academic offerings, enhance research initiatives, and build stronger partnerships to address Africa’s evolving health challenges.

“Today, we celebrate not just an academic institution but a national asset,” said His Excellency President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, who presided over the event. “AMIU’s Charter reflects our shared belief in the power of African solutions for African health challenges. It is institutions like AMIU that will build the workforce to deliver Universal Health Coverage and drive primary health care reform.”

The University currently offers 78 programs, ranging from certificate courses to postgraduate degrees, and has a student body of over 3,800 learners from 32 countries. To date, AMIU has trained more than 271 primary healthcare workers who are now contributing to health leadership across the continent.

Dr. Githinji Gitahi, Group CEO of Amref Health Africa, reaffirmed the institutional legacy that paved the way for this milestone. “AMIU is the embodiment of Amref’s six-decade commitment to health equity,” he said. “From training midwives in remote villages to now shaping policy thinkers, researchers, and innovators, AMIU has evolved to meet Africa’s health needs with African-led solutions. This Charter and Chancellor installation are not endpoints, they are catalysts for even greater impact.”

The Cabinet Secretary for Education, Julius Migosi, also congratulated AMIU on its achievement. “With this Charter, AMIU is now positioned to play an even greater role in providing education and training that responds to the real health needs of Kenya, Africa,

and the world. This is a crucial step toward strengthening the health sector both locally and globally.”

In addition to the Charter award, Mrs. Tsitsi Masiyiwa was installed as the new Chancellor of AMIU. A distinguished philanthropist and co-founder of the Higherlife Foundation and Delta Philanthropies, Mrs. Masiyiwa brings decades of experience advocating for education, health access, and youth empowerment across Africa. In her address, she emphasized the importance of ethical leadership and community-centered healthcare.

“AMIU represents the future of Africa’s health systems,” she said. “It is where the next generation of ethical, skilled, and community-centered health professionals will be nurtured. I am honored to serve as Chancellor at this transformative moment in the University’s journey.”

Mrs. Masiyiwa’s leadership will focus on advancing AMIU’s mission to provide competency-based training, drive research aligned with community needs, and foster partnerships that strengthen Africa’s healthcare systems.

About Amref International University (AMIU)

Amref International University is a premier Pan-African health sciences institution, founded in 2017 as part of Amref Health Africa’s 60-year legacy in public and community health. The University offers competency-based training in primary healthcare, public health, nursing, midwifery, health systems management, and health innovation. Serving a diverse student body from across Africa, AMIU is dedicated to producing leaders who advance health equity and strengthen health systems across the continent.

AMIU integrates classroom learning with community-based practice and digital education to deliver relevant, high-impact training. Through strategic partnerships, research initiatives, and leadership roles, including chairing the Africa Health Collaborative, the University continues to expand its influence and shape Africa’s future health workforce.

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