



**Guest speaker: Her Excellency Dr Joyce Banda**  
Former President of Malawi  
International Bureau for Epilepsy Africa  
Ambassador



**AFRICA REGION**

# WEBINAR INVITATION

Join us for our webinar series



**Launch Message: His Royal Highness Prince Bandzile**  
Patron of Eswatini Epilepsy Organization &  
Chairperson of Africa Epilepsy Trust Fund

## Getting Our Advocacy Right! Launch of the IBE African Epilepsy Advocacy Toolkit

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2021      **Time:** 2:00pm Pretoria time

(-2hrs GMT, -1hr WAT and CET, +1hr EAT, +2hrs Mauritius/Seychelles) **Moderator:**  
Comfort Mussa (Cameroon), IBE Africa Communications Committee.

To register and receive a webinar link email [amos\\_action@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:amos_action@yahoo.co.uk)



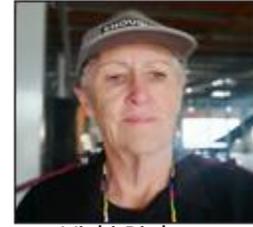
Sharon Mbugua



Nkandu Nchindila



Florence Baingana



Vicki Pinkney-  
Atkinson

*Speaker's profiles can be found on the next page*

### PROGRAMME

- 2:00pm**      **Welcome remarks**
- 2:05pm**      **Opening remarks: Action Amos, IBE Vice President Africa**
- 2:10pm**      **Epilepsy inclusion on the health agenda is not a matter of choice but the way to go:** Her Excellency, Dr Joyce Banda (Live presentation)
- 2:25pm**      **Launch message:** His Royal Highness Prince Bandzile, Patron of Eswatini Epilepsy Organization and founding Chairperson of the Africa Epilepsy Trust Fund
- 2:30pm**      **Panel discussion: Failure by governments to prioritize epilepsy – getting our advocacy right now!**  
Panelists:      Sharon Mbugua (Kenya), Advocate Nkandu Nchindila (Zambia), Dr Florence Baingana, WHO (Congo, Brazzaville), and Dr Vicki Pinkney-Atkinson (South Africa)
- 3:00pm**      **Plenary discussion**

**Visit our website [www.epilepsyafrika.org](http://www.epilepsyafrika.org)**

Supported by a grant from the BAND Foundation



# MEET THE PANEL SPEAKERS



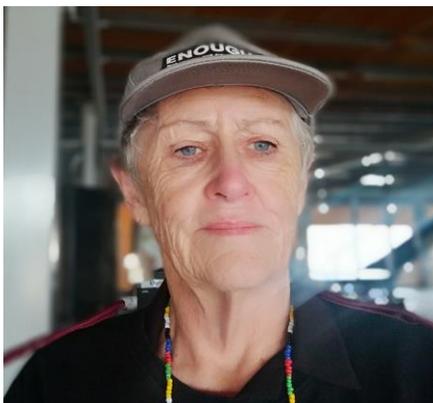
**Sharon Mbugua, Kenya**, is a person with epilepsy and a member Kenya Association for the Welfare of People with Epilepsy (KAWWE). She is Chairperson of the Mental Health Alliance of Kenya (2021). Despite her epilepsy she is a very able market re- searcher and behavior evaluation specialist who brings a wealth of knowledge to her leadership of the Amethyst Consulting business team. She is passionate about the power of research to solve business problems. In addition to her research expertise, she is a certified talent assessor, first level executive and business coach, and is an accredited Hogan assessor.



**Adv. Nkandu Nchindila, Zambia**, is a lawyer, writer, researcher and humanitarian worker whose niche centers around human rights; international humanitarian law; international criminal law and forced migration studies. She has a special interest in epilepsy advocacy and is supporting the International Bureau for Epilepsy Africa. She has worked for the United Nations, intermittently, in various functional capacities since 2014 at both national (South Africa) and international levels. A Member of the International Law Association and International Bar Association, she holds an LL.B degree and Advanced Certificate in Human Rights from the University of Pretoria as well as an LL.M degree (cum laude) from the University of South Africa. She is currently a Doctor of Laws candidate at the University of South Africa in the Department of Public, Constitutional and International Law. Furthermore, Nkandu has certification in Disaster Risk Reduction, Response and Management. Between humanitarian assignments and legal practice, Nkandu draws from her professional and academic experience to render operational and strategic consultancy services to NPO entities through the Kalinda Foundation, which she established in 2019.



**Dr Florence Baingana, WHO Afro Regional Mental Health Policy and Planning Coordinator**, graduated with an MB ChB and MMed (Psychiatry) and an MSc Health Policy, Planning and Financing in 2010. She has worked for over ten years in mental health policy and planning. She worked for four years as the National Mental Health Coordinator with the Ministry of Health of Uganda (1996 – 2000), where she established the Mental Health Unit in the Ministry, developed standards and guidelines for mental health care and got mental health included as a component of the Uganda Minimum Health Care Package in the Health Policy and the Health Sector Strategic Plan. In 2000, Dr Baingana joined the World Bank in Washington DC, seconded by the Mac Arthur Foundation, US Center for Mental Health Services and National Institute of Mental Health. In 2007, following her stint at the World Bank, Dr Baingana returned to Uganda and worked as a Research Fellow with Makerere University School of Public Health. She has worked as a Research Fellow with Makerere University School of Public Health, TPO Uganda and Basic Needs UK. Dr Baingana has a number of publications to her name. Her major interest areas are evaluation of mental health programmes and how to strengthen and finance mental health programs in low income



**Dr Vicki Pinkney-Atkinson, South Africa**, is the CEO of the South African Non-Communicable Disease Alliance (SANCDAs), in which capacity she has served since its formation in 2013. Vicki was born with an NCD, psoriasis, and now lives with around 20 NCDs conditions. She is the survivor of multiple near-death NCDs experiences, which shaped her NCDs and health activism. Two and a half years ago, Vicki stopped her private health insurance. Today she advocates for NCDs policy coherence in South Africa. Her preferred research form is qualitative research with triangulation of methods when needed. Her doctorate explored the needs of nurses and people living with NCDs in a clinic setting (University of the Witwatersrand). She is a registered nurse, midwife, tutor and administrator. Over 50 years of work experience in the health sector allows a 360° perspective of stakeholders and spaces that stretch from Soweto in the 1970's and rural apartheid "homelands" to continental and global forums. Today she enjoys the reach and safety that the internet provides. Her target is to live for 20 more months to beat the UN premature NCDs mortality cut off of 70 years. She wants these years to count toward NCDs equity.