

Prof. Nyamongo Attends the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Meeting on Demand Creation for Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC)

Date and time:
Fri, 2013-04-05 21:55

Location / Venue:

Lusaka, Zambia

Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision is now widely recognized as one of the ways to reduce transmission of HIV. In 2007, WHO and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS convened stakeholders to evaluate the strength of the evidence in support of male circumcision as an intervention approach against HIV transmission. Several priority countries in Eastern and Southern Africa, namely Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, were identified on the basis of the prevalence of HIV and low prevalence of male circumcision. From April 3 – 5, 2013 Prof. Isaac Nyamongo, Director, Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies attended a meeting convened in Lusaka, Zambia to assess progress and consider new approaches to create demand for voluntary medical male circumcision. In particular, focus was on how to reach the adult male and the role of traditional and religious leaders in VMMC demand creation. The meeting was supported by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Participants came from the priority countries in the region as well as India and the US (CDC, PEPFAR, US Department of Defense, USAID). Through support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 3ie will in due course release a call for proposals to support proposals which propose innovative ways of creating demand for VMMC.