

Dr. Evans Barongo Nyambega

Founder & Chairperson, Stroke Association of Kenya
Board Member, African Stroke Organisation
Nairobi, Kenya

CANDIDATE FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE · WORLD HEART FEDERATION BOARD ELECTIONS 2026

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Evans Nyambega is a pharmacist, a stroke survivor, and the founding Chairperson of the Stroke Association of Kenya (SAoK) the first and only survivor-led organisation in Kenya dedicated exclusively to stroke prevention, emergency care, rehabilitation, and policy reform. He has spent fifteen years building cerebrovascular advocacy in a country where stroke was, until recently, largely absent from the national health agenda.

His work sits at the intersection of three perspectives rarely held by one person: clinical training as a pharmacist, the lived experience of a patient who survived a stroke in a rural setting without access to timely diagnosis or acute care, and the institutional discipline of a civil society leader operating across a devolved forty-seven-county health system.

RECOGNITION

2025 World Stroke Organization Global Campaign Individual Achievement Award for Stroke Advocacy

Conferred by the WSO World Stroke Campaign Committee in recognition of sustained national and international contribution to stroke awareness and advocacy. Formally acknowledged by the World Heart Federation, April 2026.

CURRENT POSITIONS

Founder & Chairperson	Stroke Association of Kenya (2015 – present)
Board Member	African Stroke Organisation (ASO) ([confirm year] – present)
Member Representative	World Heart Federation · World Stroke Organization · Global Heart Hub
Proposer	The National Stroke Emergency Response and Post-Stroke Care Bill (Kenya)

LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Founding and building SAoK (2015 – present). Established SAoK together with fellow stroke survivors attending occupational therapy at Kenyatta National Hospital, in response to the near-total absence of post-hospital information, rehabilitation, and peer support in Kenya. Grew the organisation from a survivor support group into a nationally recognised civil society institution with a permanent secretariat, a functioning board, formal government engagement, and international affiliation.

Strategic Plan 2026–2031. Authored and now leads implementation of SAoK's five-pillar strategy: Awareness & Prevention; Emergency Response & Acute Care; Rehabilitation & Reintegration; Policy and Legislation; Research and Innovation, designed for delivery across all 47 Kenyan counties.

Legislative reform. Proposer of the National Stroke Emergency Response and Post-Stroke Care Bill, the first dedicated stroke legislation advanced in Kenya, addressing emergency response standards, stroke-ready facility designation, and post-stroke care entitlements.

Health financing advocacy. Leads SAoK's engagement to secure comprehensive stroke care within Kenya's Social Health Authority benefit package and represents stroke within the national non-communicable disease financing agenda alongside the Ministry of Health and the Financing Accelerator Network.

Disability inclusion. Negotiated an institutional partnership with Kenya's National Council for Persons with Disabilities to formalise stroke disability within national registration, funding, and service-coordination systems.

Data and surveillance. Initiated the Kenya National Stroke Registry, currently in early-stage development, designed as a replicable disease-specific surveillance model for low-resource, decentralised health systems.

Public mobilisation. Convenes Step Up for Stroke, Kenya's national stroke walk and awareness campaign, and has led World Stroke Day activity in Kenya for over a decade in partnership with the World Stroke Organization.

International research collaboration. Partners with Dutch neurorehabilitation researchers on the SAoK-REACH Programme, developing community-level rehabilitation and telerehabilitation models for rural and semi-urban settings, with materials adapted into both English and Kiswahili.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS CONVENED

Ministry of Health (Kenya) · National Council for Persons with Disabilities · Kenyatta National Hospital · Kenya Medical Training College · International Institute for Legislative Affairs · Angels Initiative · Novartis Pharmaceuticals Kenya · Amani Counselling Centre and Training Institute · Karolinska Institutet

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

[To be completed by Dr. Nyambega prior to submission]

- Bachelor of Pharmacy, University of Nairobi
- Registered Pharmacist, Pharmacy and Poisons Board of Kenya.

LANGUAGES

English · Kiswahili

Email

Evans.nyambega@strokeassociationofkenya.or.ke