17th - 21st June 2019

RE: INVITATION TO THE "OPENMRS CAMP CRADLE" HACKATHON

Dear Nyambura,

The Kenya Health Informatics Association (www.kehia.org) in conjunction with the OpenMRS Kenya Community Of Practice is pleased to invite you to the OpenMRS hackathon that will be held from 17th June 2019 to 21st June 2019 in Eldoret, Kenya.

The primary reference of this hackathon is the collective recognition from the OpenMRS Kenya Community meeting a few weeks ago that basically agreed that moving forward, as a region of EAST Africa, we must find a way to collaborate. The ongoing global conversation, "*An amazing future of OpenMRS* - https://talk.openmrs.org/t/an-amazing-future-for-openmrs/22328", provides us the perfect opportunity to put that recognition and agreement into action. We encourage participants to fully familiarise themselves with the conversation, "An Amazing Future for OpenMRS" and the front end technology called micro front-ends that we will dominate this hackathon. This will ensure that the activity stays well grounded and practical particularly focusing on hacking together a high-level prototype as the key deliverable. We expect the diversity of instantiations that will be represented to greatly enrich the process and enable us all to achieve the following purposes of the hackathon;

1. Build a common technical approach for building OpenMRS powered EMR systems for all of Kenya as the host, but also for the region and that also feeds into the ongoing global effort.
2. Distribute the ensuing work across all the participants of the hackathon.
3. Plan for a series of follow-on hackathons as will be necessary.

For the common technical approach, we agreed to link up with the global initiative to use the micro-front end architecture and this will significantly dominate the hackathon. This was also informed by the fact that technology has significantly advanced and we as the OpenMRS Kenya Community must keep up with this in a way that enables us to build more responsive, user-friendly and resilient EMR systems. During the OpenMRS 3.0 discussion, it became clear that there was both the interest, the willpower and the ability for the Kenya Informatics Community to play a leadership role in the development of a modern Application Framework, to create a collaborative approach to future EMR development in Kenya and globally as well.

Central to this initiative at the global OpenMRS Community is to further enhance OpenMRS to support "value-based" care models that will support better alignment of patients, payers and providers to achievement of the best achievable health outcomes. In Kenya for example as in many other countries that have prioritised Primary Health Care for the achievement of Universal Health Care, OpenMRS as the preferred EMR system in the public health sector will significantly catalyse attainment of this desired "value based" health system.

The focus of this hackathon will be significantly technical and therefore participants with strong software development (in OpenMRS, Javascript, React/Angular) and user experience designers.

We look forward to meeting you again next month for a fun-filled week long at the "OpenMRS Camp Cradle" in Eldoret, Kenya.

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