

Election statement for the ILAE- Africa committee

I am honored and privileged to be nominated as candidate for the election to the position of board membership of the ILAE- Africa 2025-2029.

I have been actively involved in the care and management of epilepsy in both private and public sectors in my country. I belong to the epilepsy support association of Uganda, the neurology association of Uganda and the newly formed East Africa child neurology association. Am currently the pediatrics epilepsy training (PET1) country led which teaches evidence-based pediatric epilepsy management materials in an improve the care children with epilepsy.

Through community outreach programs and engagements, I have witnessed a big knowledge and treatment gap that exists regarding many of neurological disorders with epilepsy in particular.

Once elected as board executive member of the ILAE-Africa, I pledge to continue serving my country and the wide community at large through advocating for;

Training and education; Owing to the big knowledge gap exiting, a critical skilled human resource is key in improving the care and management of epilepsy. Leveraging on existing training models like (PET) and lobbying for training opportunities in pediatrics neurology, with a mindset of setting up local training programs, will reduce the gap of skilled health workforce to handle epilepsy and as such, align to the IGAP Strategical plan.

Improving the enhancing ILAE chapter membership and activities, that will eventually improve epilepsy awareness, stigma and care. This could be done by leveraging on the existing neurology associations members being chapters members, and enhancing networking and lobby for better epilepsy care through social media, TV and radio talk shows with a big number of chapter members strength.

Advocating, and strengthening collaborations, networking; a case in point is epilepsy surgery in Ugandan children as an option of epilepsy treatment option, being done through collaborations and networking with colleagues in resource rich setting. This can be taken up by the different chapters in an effort to improve epilepsy care.

I want to thank you for your consideration.

Robert K Sebunya