



# U.S. Africa Command Humanitarian and Health Activities Conference



## U.S. Africa Command Vignette

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—Ambassador J. Anthony Holmes, U.S. Africa Command's deputy to the commander for civil-military activities.***

### Overview

U.S. Africa Command's Humanitarian and Health Activities Branch (HHA) conducted a Humanitarian and Health Activities Conference in Arusha, Tanzania February 1-5, 2010.

### The Team

The conference consisted of representatives from various African nation country teams, regional engagement cells, Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa and other specialists and stakeholders from U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) with involvement in humanitarian assistance.

### Objectives

The conference objective was to educate country team representatives on the various HHA programs and how to use them on the continent as well as to serve as an opportunity for a face-to-face meeting for attendees to address issues and ask questions related to their respective nations and programs.

Keynote speaker Ambassador J. Anthony Holmes, U.S. Africa Command's deputy to the commander for civil-military activities, shared his ideas on effectively implementing the 3D concept, a tripartite engagement between defense, diplomacy, and development.

"Enhancing peace and security in Africa will require that all elements of nation power be applied systematically



### The Bottom Line

U.S. Africa Command's Humanitarian and Health Activities Branch (HHA) conducted a Humanitarian and Health Activities Conference in Arusha, Tanzania to educate country team representatives on HHA programs and how to use them on the

and concurrently in a strategic fashion if we are to make progress," said Holmes. "Traditional Department of Defense programs need to be coordinated and incorporated into a broader foreign policy objective for each and every country where we engage.

### Outcome

In the short term, the conference featured discussions on Theater Security Cooperation programs, United States Agency for International Development, various U.S. Africa Command HHA programs and training on the OHASIS program used for tracking Humanitarian Assistance

projects to educate attendees.

In the long term, the conference provided information and education that will optimize utilization of HHA programs and enhance relationships between team members on the continent and at U.S. Africa Command.

"Many stakeholders were unfamiliar with the various HHA programs and how to exercise them," said Major Jim Gotlewski, U.S. Africa Command's HHA program officer. "This conference was an ideal forum for educating these stakeholders and an opportunity to work out difficulties that had been encountered by individuals in each country."