



LUIS GOMES SAMBO

Biography

*SUMMARY: Medical Doctor, specialist in Public Health, holding a PhD on Critical Systems Thinking. With more than 40 years of experience in health management at subnational, national and international levels. He held different positions in the Angolan National Health Service, from district medical officer up to Minister of Health. As a staff-member of the World Health Organization (WHO) during 25 years, he started as Regional Adviser on health systems and reached the post of WHO Regional Director for Africa. The Executive Board of WHO adopted a Resolution in which it expresses profound gratitude and appreciation for his invaluable contribution to the work of WHO. He is at the present a distinguished fellow at the Centre for System Studies of the University of Hull, UK; Professor of Public Health at the University Nova de Lisboa and the University Agostinho Neto, Luanda; Fellow of the UK Royal Society of Medicine, member of the International Society of Systems Science, member of the Public Health College of the Portuguese Medical Association and member of Health Systems Global. He is author or co-author of more than 50 scientific publications including articles and book chapters. Fluent in Portuguese, English and French; and working knowledge of Spanish. He holds national and international awards and distinctions for his contribution to public health. Areas of interest: health systems management, training and research.*

## **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

**1977:** graduated in Medicine, MD, by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Angola, and the Faculty of Medicine, University Nova de Lisboa, Portugal.

**1988:** degree of specialist in public health, from the Angola's College of Advanced Medical Studies, certified by the Agostinho Neto University.

**2004:** obtained the diploma of Specialist in Public Health and became member of the College of Public Health Specialists of the Portuguese Medical Association.

**2009:** he obtained a *PhD* in Management, Systems Science option, from the University of Hull, United Kingdom. Title of thesis: *Health Systems Thinking: The need for a more critical approach.*

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

**1977:** started his career as *medical doctor in Cacuaco district*, Luanda province, Angola.

Between **1978 and 1982:** occupied the position of *Director of Health Services* in Cabinda province, Angola, where he also assumed directorship of the provincial hospital.

**1982 - 1983:** *Director of Human Resources for Health* and *Head of the Department of Postgraduate Education* in the Ministry of Health, Angola.

**1978 to 1981:** served as *member of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization*.

**1983:** appointed *Vice-Minister of Health of Angola*, a position he occupied for five consecutive years. He was also Chairman of the National Health Inter-Ministerial Committee and Coordinator of the public hospitals in Luanda.

**1989:** recruited by the World Health Organization as the technical adviser in charge of providing support to strengthen national health systems, at the *Inter-country Strategic Support Team*, based in Harare, Zimbabwe.

**1990:** appointed WHO *Country Representative* in Guinea-Bissau.

**1994:** reassigned to WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO), Brazzaville, to head the *Unit in charge of coordinating the implementation of the "Health for All"* strategy, based on the primary health care approach.

**1996:** following a competitive process, was appointed *Director of the WHO Regional Office Division providing support for health services strengthening* and therefore in charge of supervision and coordination of technical areas related to development of health policy; development of human resources for health; health technologies; health financing; and organization of health care delivery systems.

**1998:** appointed *Director of Programme Management*. In that capacity, he was responsible for coordination of WHO technical programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa the management of the WHO Programme Budget in the Region.

**September 2004:** elected as *WHO Regional Director for Africa* and unanimously re-elected to the same post in 2009 for a second five-year term up to January 2015.

**July 2015:** Secretary of State of Health, in Charge of research, training and health regulation, Angola.

**March 2016 – October 2017:** Minister of Health of Angola.

## **AFFILIATIONS TO PROFESSIONAL, ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS**

- ⇒ Professor of Public Health at the *University Nova de Lisboa* (16 PhD students in the field of International Public Health) and Professor of Global Health at the *School of Advanced Health Education Portugal*; member of the College of Public Health Specialists of the *Portuguese Medical Association*;
- ⇒ Visiting Professor of the Department of Public Health of the *University Agostinho Neto*, Angola (15 PhD students in the field of Biomedical Sciences and 16 PhD students in the field of Public Health); Member of the *Angola Medical Association*;
- ⇒ Visiting Distinguished Fellow at the *Centre for System Studies at the University of Hull*, UK; Life Fellow of the *Royal Society of Medicine* in UK; member of the International Board of Editors of the *Global Library of Women's Medicine* (GLOWM) based in UK;
- ⇒ Member of the *International Society for the Systems Sciences* and;
- ⇒ Member of *Health Systems Global*.

## **AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS:**

- Doctorate *Honoris Causa* by the *Universidade Nova de Lisboa*, (2012);
- Medal of *Officer of the Order of Value* of the Republic of Cameroon, (2012);
- Medal of *Commander of the National Order of Merit* of Benin (2012);
- Medal of *Knight of the Order of the Green Crescent* of the Union of Comoros (2011);
- Medal of *Officer of the National Order* of Burkina-Faso (2010);
- Medal *Paul Harris Fellow* and certificate of the Rotary International (2010);
- Doctorate *Honoris Causa* by the University of Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (2009);
- *Silver Plate* prize awarded by the Angola Medical Association (2008);
- Medal of *Commander of the Order of Madagascar* (2007);
- *Gold Medal of Public Health*, awarded by the Republic of Niger (2006).

## **LANGUAGE AND COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE**

Fluent in Portuguese, French and English; working knowledge of Spanish; and has computer skills.

## ESSENTIAL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

## Forthcoming publications:

- a) Chapter on *Financing Health Care in Low-Income Developing Countries: A Challenge for Equity in Health*, accepted for publication in Oxford Textbook of Medicine, OUP, 2019.
- b) Article on *Health Systems Research and Critical Systems Thinking: the case for partnership*, accepted for publication in Systems Research and Behavioural Science, Wiley, 2019.

## Published articles and book chapters as author and co-author:

1. Guerreiro CS, Hartz Z, Sambo L and al. **Scientific Research Policy for Health in Portugal I: European and national environment**, Acta Med Port, 2017 Feb; 30(2): 141-147; <http://dx.doi.org/10.20344/amp.8011> - [www.actamedicaportuguesa.com](http://www.actamedicaportuguesa.com)
2. Guerreiro CS, Hartz Z, Sambo L and al. **Scientific Research Policy for Health in Portugal II: Facts and suggestions**, Acta Med Port, 2017 Feb; 30(2): 233-242; <http://dx.doi.org/10.20344/amp.8012> - [www.actamedicaportuguesa.com](http://www.actamedicaportuguesa.com)
3. Sion M, Rajan D, Kalambay H, Sambo L, and Cherian M. **A Resource Planning Analysis of District Hospital Surgical Services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, (pages 56-70)Published by Global Health: Science and Practice, 2015/Volume 3/Number 1. [www.ghspjournal.org](http://www.ghspjournal.org)
4. Sambo LG and Kirigia JM (2014). **Investing in Health Systems for Universal Health Coverage in Africa**. Published by BMC International Health and Human Rights, 2014, 14:28 <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-698X/14/28>
5. Sambo LG. (2014). **Epidemiology and Health Policy in Africa**. (pages 71-101), chapter 6 of the book entitled African Health Leaders: Making Change and Claiming the Future, published by Oxford University Press [www.oup.com](http://www.oup.com)
6. Sambo LG and Kirigia JM. (2013). **Health Financing in Africa, data analysis**, [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23497637](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23497637)
7. Sambo LG, Dangou JM, Adebamowo C, Albrecht CF, Gombé-Mbalawa C, Ngoma T, Moeti M, Sambo BH: **Cancer in Africa: a preventable public health crisis**. *J. Afr. Cancer*. 2012; 4: 127-136. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12558-012-0212-2>
8. Sambo LG. (2012). **Africa's Priorities to achieve its Goal for the Development of Better Health**, Global Health publication, The Graduate Institute, Geneva, [www.ghdp.utoronto.ca/pubs/Global-Health-2012.pdf](http://www.ghdp.utoronto.ca/pubs/Global-Health-2012.pdf)
9. Sambo LG. (2012). **Towards Global Health Equity: Opportunities and Threats** published by *Glob Health Action* 2012, 5: 18842 – <http://dx.doi.org/10.3402/gha.v5i0.18842>
10. Yarnell John, Mendis S., Connolly S., Sambo LG., Kebede D., Jakab S., Bertollini R., Yu S., and Zhao K., **Global Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** (pages 370-402), of the book entitled Epidemiology and Disease Prevention: A Global Approach, published by Oxford University Press <http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199660537.do>
11. Sambo LG, Amazigo U. et al **Sistemas de Saúde em África: Percepções e Perspectivas das Comunidades**, Estudo multipaíses publicado pela OMS, Escritório Regional para África, Junho, 2012 (ISBN:9789290340522)
12. Sambo LG: (2011). **Access to primary health care: thirty-two years after Alma Ata - what advances have been achieved in the Continent of Africa?** In: Caritas in Veritate Toward an Equitable and Human Health Care. November 18-19, 2010. New Synod Hall Vatican City. *Dolentium Hominum*. 2011; 76(1): 28-32.
13. Sambo LG, Kirigia JM: (2011). **Africa's health: could the private sector accelerate the progress towards health MDGs?** *International Archives of Medicine* 2011, 4:39. [www.intarchmed.com/content/4/1/39](http://www.intarchmed.com/content/4/1/39)
14. Sambo LG. **Health and Development in Africa: the cycle of poverty and ill-health** *International Hospital Federation Reference Book 2007/2008*.