



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Postponement of the Heroes in Health Awards 2020 Prize Giving Ceremony

Kampala, Uganda – March 19th, 2020 – The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has now spread to at least 166 countries and territories. In Africa; Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and others have already reported cases. Although Uganda has no registered case of COVID-19, the possibility of spread remains dangerously high.

Based on the assessment made by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Ministry of Health regarding the onslaught of the epidemic, and emergency measures announced by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on March 18th, 2020; the Heroes in Health Awards (HIHA) 2020 Organizing Committee today announces the postponement of the Gala Prize Giving Ceremony initially scheduled for April 3rd, 2020 at Hotel Africana.

It is necessary to note that amidst the present circumstances, the frontline public health workforce (doctors, nurses, laboratory technicians, researchers, epidemiologists, community health workers, law enforcement officers, immigration personnel and others) involved in Uganda's COVID-19 response are bearing a disproportionate burden of this epidemic, due to their constant contact with potential carriers and sufferers of the virus. The mental, physical and emotional toll that the Coronavirus outbreak is taking on them is enormous. And yet they have soldiered on with courage to ensure the wellbeing and safety of Ugandans. They truly are the unsung heroes in this epidemic response and espouse the values that the Heroes in Health Awards proudly stand for---Service above Self, Passion, Empathy, Humility, Resilience in the face of Adversity, Professionalism, and Never-Ending Diligence. HIHA lauds their unmatched efforts.

Relatedly, the Awards Organizing team would like to thank the public for their enthusiastic participation in the nominations process which ended on March 15th, 2020. Thousands of nominations were received from all over Uganda. Judges are currently vetting all nominees to formulate shortlists of four finalists for each award category. Nominees will be shared with the public.

The Prize Giving Ceremony will be communicated in due course.

For more information, contact:

Agaba Ronald Bills, HIHA Awards Coordinator, ronagaba2015@gmail.com, +256 774244183
Ainebyoona Emmanuel, Senior PRO, Ministry of Health, emmabyoona@gmail.com, +256 779220588

#Hiha2020

Visit www.hiha.xtraordinarymedia.com for details

