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THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE NO. ADM.105/309/23



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Ministry of Health
P. O. Box 7272
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Wandegeya
KAMPALA
UGANDA

27th August, 2020

All Permanent Secretaries
The Clerk to Parliament
All Executive Directors
All Managing Directors of Corporations
All Chief Administrative Officers
All Town Clerks
Directors of National and Regional Referral Hospitals
Director Immigration, Ministry of Internal Affairs

COST RECOVERY FEE FOR COVID-19 TESTING SERVICES

The Ministry of Health would like to thank you for the support you have rendered in the ongoing control of COVID-19 Pandemic in the country. I am writing to inform you that whereas Uganda has recorded 2500 cases of COVID-19 infections out of more than 350,000 samples tested, giving an infection rate of less than 1%, it has been observed that the infection rate has sharply increased in recent times due to community spread of the virus.

To this end, the Ministry of Health continues to conduct testing of COVID-19 in order to detect the virus early to avoid overwhelming the health system. However, the Ministry continues to receive requests from Organizations to have their staff tested, which it finds difficult to sustain due to inadequate in-country stock of test kits, resource constraints and the high cost of COVID-19 testing.

In view of the above fact therefore, the Government has introduced a testing fee of US\$ 65 (United States Dollars Sixty-five), or UGX 240,500 (Uganda Shillings forty thousand five hundred only) per test for certain categories of individuals and organizations. This is a cost recovery mechanism that will enable the Ministry of Health to acquire more test kits for continued access to testing services in the country.

A COVID-19 testing fee collection account has accordingly been opened in Stanbic Bank Uganda where payments will be made in order for the mentioned categories to access testing services:

BANK NAME: STANBIC BANK UGANDA
ACCOUNT NAME: MOH COVID-19 TESTING FUNDS
ACCOUNT NUMBER 9030017657983

The categories of people who will pay for the testing services with effect from 1st September 2020 are listed below: -

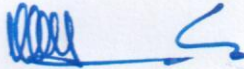
1. Truck drivers at the different Points of Entry.
2. Individuals seeking to know their COVID 19 status.

4. Organizations (both Government and Private) that wish to test their staff for purposes of prevention.
5. Ugandans returning from abroad.
6. Visitors arriving into the country from other countries.

Please note that Government will continue to offer free testing services to the following categories:

1. Patients who present to health facilities with COVID-19 symptoms.
2. Contacts of people who have tested positive for COVID-19.
3. Community surveys to establish the extent of spread of the virus.
4. Surveillance samples.
5. Front line Health workers.

The purpose of this letter therefore is to inform you of this new arrangement and to request for your support for its implementation.



Geoffrey Sseremba

FOR: PERMANENT SECRETARY

Copy to: Hon. Minister of Health

Hon. Ministers of State of Health

Auditor General

Head of Public Service & Secretary to Cabinet

Deputy Head of Public Service & Deputy Secretary to Cabinet

Permanent Secretary & Secretary to the Treasury

Secretary to the Inspectorate of Government

Principal Private Secretary to H.E. The President

Principal Private Secretary to H. E. the Vice President

Senior Private Secretary to the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

Accountant General

Director General Health Services

Commissioner – National Health Laboratory & Diagnostic Services

The Chairpersons, COVID-19 District Task Force

The District Health Officers