



MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

Perpetual Succession Land Act. Pat. 98 of 20-284, Incorporation No. 2558.

National Secretariat:

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4th April 2020

STATEMENT OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MWAN) ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN) is a non-political, non-sectarian, non-profit making organisation of qualified female Medical and Dental Doctors in Nigeria. With our motto being "healing with the love of a mother", our aim over the years has been improving the health of women and children, and to also expand the role of women in the achievement and maintenance of health in the Nation. The Association has been carrying out programmes targeted at achieving SDGs particularly Goals 3 and 5 as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

In the advent of the Corona Virus outbreak the National Secretariat set up a Volunteer COVID-19 Team led by the National President, Dr. Minnie Oseji, in order for MWAN to make significant contribution to mitigating the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic locally and globally. Over 1,000,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and over 50,000 deaths have been recorded world wide. Nigeria has recorded over 200 confirmed cases of the disease with 4 deaths.

The MWAN COVID-19 Team produced a video jingle in Pidgin English to create awareness on how to prevent the spread of Corona virus. This has been circulated widely on social media platforms. The team also produced a video jingle and flyer for soliciting support to respond to the SOS from Italian Medical Women via the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA). Members of the team have been interfacing with a number of companies that provide applications for Tele-medicine services in order to adopt this strategy for patient care which will help to protect our Medical Doctors and Health Workers as well as our patients in this challenging time. Re-usable face masks have been donated to the elderly by members of the MWAN COVID-19 Team. MWAN Members have been encouraged by the team to get educated about the disease through various on-line resources such as the free online course on COVID-19 run by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for 3 weeks from March 23 2020.

<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/courses/short-courses/free-online-courses/coronavirus>

MWAN State branches are also carrying out several activities in their respective States to curb the spread of COVID-19. As at 4th April 2020, 24 States sent in reports of their activities. They are: Kaduna, Zamfara, Edo, Kebbi, Delta, Ebonyi, Rivers, Enugu, Lagos, Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Akwa Ibom, Imo, Osun, Oyo, Ogun, Kogi, Kwara, Benue, Cross River, Plateau, Bayelsa, Adamawa, Niger State, and Abia States.

MWAN FOUNDING MEMBER: Prof. Oludayisi Oduntan

TRUSTEES: Prof. Oyin Elebute (Chairman), Prof. Oyin Olurin, Dr. Clara Akele, Dr. Ebimle Okara, Prof. Hadiza Galadanci, Dr. Kechi Ogbuagu
Dr. Minnie Oseji (National President) Dr. Lillian Otolorin (National President-Elect) Dr. Bobola Agbonle (National Coordinator)
Dr. Uchechukwuka Okwe (National Assistant Secretary) Dr. Ejiroghene Umuerrri (National Treasurer) Dr. Ngozi Ali (National Financial Secretary)
Dr. Vivian Omo-Aghoja (National Publicity Secretary) Dr. Onyiwealehi Owa-Nwabuzo (National Internal Auditor)
Dr. Evonemo Esievoadje (National Coordinator - YDF - Special Interest Group)
Dr. Joyce Barber (Immediate Past National President) Dr. Stella Essiet (Immediate Past National Coordinator/Secretary)
Dr. Affiong Elumelu (Immediate Past National Treasurer)

This response is in line with directives from the associations that MWAN is affiliated to - the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) and the Medical Women's International Association (MWIA).

MWAN reiterates the commendation given to President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, by our International President of MWIA, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi on efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19 when he received her and other Medical Women at the State House, Abuja on 10th March 2020. The current actions of the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 is a testament to his resolve to mitigate the impact of the pandemic in Nigeria.

MWAN stands in solidarity with the Honourable Minister for Health, Dr. Osagie Ehanire and his team for their commitment in implementing various interventions to contain COVID-19 in Nigeria.

MWAN appreciates all the State Governors in Nigeria, who have taken bold steps in the fight against COVID-19 in order to protect the lives of their citizens.

MWAN salutes all the Medical Doctors and Health Workers who are currently in the frontline of this outbreak, while praying for their safety.

MWAN applauds all returnees from countries who are experiencing high levels of transmission of COVID-19 who voluntarily went into self-isolation for 14 days according to the directive of the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

MWAN advises the general public to adhere to all the government directives given to protect Nigerian citizens from COVID-19, and be patient as this too shall pass.

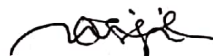
MWAN empathises with all those undergoing treatment for COVID-19, wishing them a speedy recovery without any sequelae.

MWAN congratulates all COVID-19 patients who have been discharged and prays for them to continue to experience a healthy life.

MWAN recommends that there be documentation of case reports and case series on all cases of COVID-19 been managed in the country. These can be peer reviewed and conclusions drawn can be translated into policy for the future.

Together we shall overcome COVID-19 and emerge stronger than ever.

Thank you and God bless.



Dr. Minnie Oseji

National President

Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (MWAN)