



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PRESS STATEMENT ON WORLD HEART DAY 2022

Minister of Health

29th September, 2022

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Kampala, 29th September, 2022, Uganda joins the rest of the World to commemorate World Heart Day and to raise awareness about heart health under the theme **"Use Heart For Every Heart"**.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) has many causes: ranging from smoking, diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity, to air pollution, and less common conditions such as EMF, Chagas disease and cardiac amyloidosis. For the 520 million people living with CVD, COVID-19 has been heartbreaking and many have been afraid to attend routine and emergency appointments, and have become isolated from friends and family. These need joint support from friends and family.

In line with this year's theme **"Use Heart For Every Heart"** I take this opportunity to call upon everyone to stop and consider how support each other access treatment and support for CVD, contribute to a clean and healthier environment and lower stress levels (exercise, meditation, and getting enough quality sleep) since psychological stress can double the risk of having a heart attack.

Remember, defeating CVD is something that matters to every beating heart therefore listen to your heart, attend your regular check-ups and ensure to call the emergency services if you need to. This will enable you to get timely professional medical care.

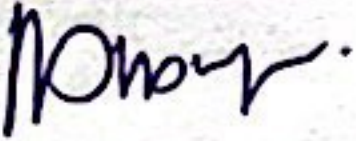
It should be noted that World Heart Day is a World Heart Federation initiative, celebrated annually with a crucial role to play in improving the world's heart health, reducing the global economic burden of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and achieving the UN target of 1/3 reduction in non-communicable-disease-related (NCD) premature mortality by 2030.

The Ministry of Health (Government of Uganda) working closely with the Uganda Heart Institute in partnership with other Stakeholders are driving this cause of a healthy heart through the role of Policy guidance which entails promotion of healthy living, prevention of Non Communicable Disease (NCDs) especially cardiovascular disease, early diagnosis and interventions and definitive treatment and rehabilitation.

I'm delighted to inform you that Uganda will soon witness the expansion of cardiovascular services to all parts of the country. Parliament already approved our request for a USD 70 million loan for the construction and equipping of the Uganda Heart Institute (UHI) Infrastructure project on the 10 acreage of land at Nakawa Naguru that will accommodate the Cardiac Center of Excellence with a 250 bed capacity. Ultimately, the need to refer patients abroad will be no more.

I wish you good health

For God and My Country

For 
MINISTER OF HEALTH