

Museveni urges men to go for HIV testing

IGANDA

By Donald Kilrya
and Moses Bikala

President Yoweri Museveni has attributed the increasing cases of HIV/AIDS prevalence among couples on reluctance by men to take tests to ascertain their status.

Museveni's message was read by the Minister for the presidency, Esther Mbiye, at the East Central Region stakeholder engagement and accountability forum for the presidential fast-track initiative to end AIDS in Uganda by 2030.

The initiative was officially launched in Busoga at Namayingo Primary School playground.

He said men were reluctant to take HIV tests and had left the burden to their wives.

"If we can get men who have deliberately refused to undergo tests to go for testing, then we would be on the right track to end the scourge by the year 2030," he said.

Museveni advised unmarried youths and students to abstain from sex, until marriage as one of the preventive measures.

"AIDS is still a killer disease because there is no ready cure for it yet. So, take care and avoid living reckless lives," he said.

"Keep yourselves safe by abstaining from sex, until the right time, when you get the right partner and you are ready to become parents," Museveni added.

He told the parents to also play their role in guiding children, adding that, children look to parents for advice, though many parents were absent to provide it.

He said parents should make time for their children to discuss issues of growing up and how to resist peer pressure.

Museveni said a total of 1,324,685 people were living with HIV and 1,070,062 had been tested, counselled and started on ART, hence resulting in reduction in AIDS-related deaths, from 28,000 in 2016 to 20,628 last year.

"HIV infections have also reduced from 52,000 in 2016 to 46,000 in 2017. These statistics are unacceptably high and we must work hard to reduce them if we are to achieve the 90-90-90 strategy," Museveni said. He added that by working together, they would end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Museveni said his five key points were, to engage men in HIV prevention and close the gap on new infections, especially among girls and young women; accelerate the test-and-treat programme, consolidate the gains in our elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, mobilise sufficient resources for the HIV and AIDS response and strengthening institutions for the coordination and management of the response.

The President urged leaders and service providers to take services where they are most needed, such as in fishing communities, among long-distance truck drivers, bodaboda riders, sex workers and their clients, plantation workers, miners, road construction workers and employees in the formal sector.

"By doing this, we shall be able to reach men, whom I am reliably informed form the bulk of the persons living with HIV," Museveni said.

He said the Government was committed to reducing the HIV/AIDS scourge to zero by the end of 2030, if all people undergo testing to establish their status.

He thanked all development partners and their respective governments for the generous contribution to the national HIV/AIDS response and commended the efforts of implementing partners working with the Government to ensure that the services reach communities.

Dr Diogo Nantamu, the Jinja district health officer, said a total of 237,653 people in the 10 districts of Busoga region had tested HIV-positive during the past three months of the year. He said 75,356

ON THE GROUND



Dr Joseph Muvawala, the prime minister of Busoga, called on the general public and stakeholders to embrace the cultural values of their kingdoms and avoid engaging in practices that promote the transmission of HIV.

them were men.

Nantamu said in a bid to reduce the scourge of HIV/AIDS, medical personnel had adopted methods of using starter packs for identified clients in two weeks.

This has been done to limit delays in initiation and to link the gap from the time of testing and starting the medication.

He said 106,910 patients, representing 83% of the

people, have been reached with HIV/AIDS services.

Pledges to end AIDS were made and the prime minister of Busoga, Dr Joseph Muvawala, called on all stakeholders and the general public in Busoga to embrace the presidential initiative to end AIDS by upholding their cultural values and disengaging from negative cultural practices which promote HIV transmission.

Post Annual General Meeting (AGM) Notice



Umeme Limited (the Company) hereby informs its shareholders and the general public that at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company held at the Sheraton Kampala Hotel on 17th May, 2018 the following resolutions were passed:

Ordinary Resolutions

- 1 Receipt of the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017, including the reports of the directors and auditors.
- 2 Declaration of a final dividend of UGX 7.6 per share.
- 3 Appointment of M/S KPMG Certified Public Accountants as external auditors of the Company for 2018.
- 4 Re-election of **Hon. Gerald Ssendaula, Mrs. Florence N. Mawejje, Mr. Andrew Buglass, Mr. Anthony Marsh, Mr. Stephen Emasu and Mr. Riccardo Ridolfi** as directors of the Company. The nomination for the re-election of Mr Pius Bigirimana as a director of the Company was not approved.

On behalf of the board

Shonubi, Musoke & Co Advocates

Company Secretary

17th May, 2018

Dividend payment

The dividend will be paid on or about 6th July 2018, to shareholders whose names appear on the Company's register at close of business on 20th June 2018. Shareholders are advised to contact their brokers to update their bank account details. Shareholders desiring to receive dividend payments through mobile money are encouraged to visit the Company's Share Registrar, Custody and Registrar Services Uganda Ltd on 4th Floor, Room 403, DTB Centre to update their records.

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Share Registrars

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