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**Common enemy, common war: Coronavirus obliges us to adapt and innovate our strategy!**



“The humanity is in war. ”: Therefore, most of the world leaders have expressed themselves in against one of the deadliest pandemics of the humanity history!

It is obvious that in such a situation where until now no body is spared, intellectual revolution should immediately be engaged to finally come out with responses that save humanity.

The more developed countries have been waging war for several months against a surprising little virus whose consequences had quite been underestimated! Meanwhile, developing countries, particularly African ones, had almost relied on the Most High God hoping that the world of viruses would undoubtedly refuse entry visas to this little one unexpectedly knocking when we expected it the least!

Unfortunately, due to inevitability, imprudence, negligence, absent-mindedness or porosity of borders; it finally crossed them (countries) and since then, there are at least one new case every day.

More than 686,514 cases of infections, including 46,436 deaths, 193,431 cured worldwide, 109 in the DRC, already 9 deaths and 3 cured: both fear and desolation are so great! In South Kivu, within Bukavu town, two cases have been detected four days now; psychosis and panic unfortunately win the spirits.

Until then, Africa seemed to be spared. But the current speedy spread of the virus remains fearful. Either the Most High God saves us or there will be a chaos where humankind loss will likely be the most serious and incised.

### **Thus, time is no longer for distraction or irresponsible procrastination**

While approaches tending to monopolize actions are very perilous, serious mobilization of the resources imposes itself. Both intelligent and coherent use of human, material, financial and logistical resources should be used since it has not been too late. Actors should avoid going in dispersed order!

### **Some situations should be deplored:**

On the one hand, in South Kivu and perhaps also elsewhere in our country, individuals, services and structures seem to be competing for the lead or would like to take sole control of actions. Instead of concentrating on simulating health emergency, some would see it as an opportunity for new positioning. In the meantime, people among those fighting are not themselves really sure that they will survive! Although shame does not kill, people should avoid it!

On the other hand, some people have remained cynical and pessimistic. The situation is not seriously addressed, fake information is disseminated in social Medias, goes from phone to phone, from computer to computer; misinform public opinion at the very great risk of weakening all the prevention and protection mechanisms hitherto offered. We unfortunately, even, without respect, share images of people said to be victims of human regardless of their dignity and confidentiality respect. Those doing it wrongly justify it by the fact that they want to alert other people who have come into contact with them in order to go for testing. They have no idea about how much they are stressing, traumatizing those they want to help. Rather, they are making them more and more vulnerable to the virus. This behavior should be absolutely avoided and discouraged.

Finally, the poverty context that confronts response strategy with the precariousness of the life of population living in the informal sector and the weakness of the accompanying measures they need to fully comply with certain directives!



The SYNIGL-RAMIS consortium invites all stakeholders: population, health structures, public authorities, security services, civil society organizations, national and international NGOs to look into same direction, to combine efforts and to reflect on a strategy for effective and appropriate control. Some challenges require innovation in thinking and rejection of the 'wait-and-see' attitudes where more than one person think that the appropriate answers should come from elsewhere. Dr Patient Wimba, member of the SYNIGL - RAMIS Consortium and Director of the University Clinics of Bukavu and now specializing in epidemiology, risk management and health disasters; believes that time has come, depending on the context, to think about effective local solutions and mobilize the public to take ownership of them: Given our context, at a given time, confinement/containment will become, in the eyes of population, a heavy burden to bear and therefore will be difficult to be completely observed. The widespread use of masks will in fact simulate in terms of an effective alternative in response to such a situation.

These masks are currently missing even in the countries where we hoped to be providers. It is therefore necessary to produce them locally. In South Kivu, the SYNIGL-RAMIS Consortium, with limited means, has engaged in local production them and so far more than 1,500 masks coupled with awareness-raising messages to our local population have been produced. We hereby strongly recommend that the production of these masks, which undoubtedly remains effectiveness, should be encouraged and that people use them while traveling, in meeting and or at-risk visits. "



In fact, a team, member of the Consortium, made of a female biologist, three (3) medical doctors, a pharmacist and two lawyers has designed, produced and distributes (thanks to self-fund) protective masks judged effective and respectful of standards. The distribution of these masks is each time accompanied by awareness-raising messages to users. The team is convinced of the effectiveness of the action against coronavirus and is gradually setting up a program for the distribution of hygiene, information and community mobilization kits including both coaching sessions for members of the health profession.

In response to our context, the consortium believes:

We also call on the entire population of South Kivu and all of the DRC to be very careful and not to listen to disinformation and messages that manipulate minds, expose people to stresses

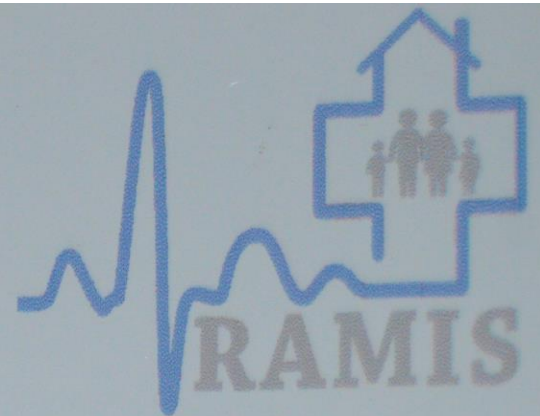


and anxiety which make them more vulnerable, reducing their ability to resist infection. It is necessary to scrupulously observe, without preconditions, hygiene measures, elementary gestures of prevention and protection (wash your hands frequently with soap or ash, disinfect each time your hands, mobiles, handbags, doors ( houses, offices), car doors etc, do not eat raw things, always wash and iron clothes before putting them on, disinfect bedding, eat a lot of fruits and vegetables, exercise, relaxing the mind and avoiding stress, avoid going out without extreme necessity, take special care of the elderly and children, use of protective masks.

The SYNIGL-RAMIS consortium produces individual masks which are washable and re-usable.



UJIKINGE  
UNIKINGE  
TUKINGANE



NA KORONA VIRUS – 19

OSHA MIKONO MBELE YA KUJIVIKA MASQUE

KADIRI PICA YAONESHA NYUMA

TU TE PROTEGES

TU ME PROTEGES

PROTEGEONS – NOUS DE COVID-19

LAVEZ LES MAINS AVANT DE PLACEZ VOTRE MASQUE

REFEREZ-VOUS A L'IMAGE AU VERSO

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