

## **NATIONAL SECRETARY'S PROGRESS REPORT 2020 AGM**

### **PREAMBLE**

National Chairman, NEC members, delegates, ladies and gentlemen. It is with pleasure and humbleness that I welcome you all to this year's annual general meeting, in this special year dedicated for the first time ever to Nurses and Midwives, COVID-19 notwithstanding.

Honorable members, 2020 has been a unique year for all of us in the health circles. A year with its own fair share of unique challenges and also, plenty of opportunities. As an association, our plans, activities and strategic operations have been altered, hastened, delayed or halted owing to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. However, a lot has also been achieved in this "new normal", where as a profession, we may have been forced to change or shift activities and engagements here and there, all the same, we never wavered in our endeavors and we are on course. Therefore, allow me to share with you progress report of where we are at as an association this far. But before that, let me take a moment to call for a moment of silence in remembrance of our fallen colleagues who may have succumbed due to COVID-19 or other reasons this year.

### **MEETINGS**

As per our calendar of events, and in the wake of the new way of doing things occasioned by COVID-19 pandemic, we have held several virtual NEC meetings, committee meetings and several Governing Council Meetings. The Governing Council meetings have passed several documents that are key in strengthening operations and managerial systems of our association, which we shall be tabling in this AGM for ratification. Employment policy, Accounts policy, Child protection policy, whistle blower policy and -----

### **EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

KPNA has organized and participated in various activities and events in the last one year. Some have been ongoing from earlier engagements while others are altogether new. Through engagements with our collaborators, we have been involved in the following

#### **1) RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

This has been a year we earmarked for a lot of activities as it was specially dedicated to Nurses and Midwives, that is until COVID-19 brought competition. Our response as an association was swift and prompt because we understand that prevention is a key strategy.

- Together with our partner, Pwani Oil Products Ltd, we stepped in to curb spread of COVID-19 by providing hand washing facilities and medicated soap. Products were shared in the following regions;
  - ✓ Nairobi
  - ✓ Garisa
  - ✓ Kisumu
  - ✓ Kwale
  - ✓ Mombasa
  - ✓ Nakuru

It is our hope we understand that we have engaged with Pwani oil products Ltd through an MOU, to carry out activities beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

- We are sitting at the HRH COVID-19 response work stream representing Nurses. this committee developed the COVID-19 HRH guidelines
- We held a joint Press conference with KHF early on at the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic, where we represented the voice of Nurses regarding the pandemic.
- WE have given two position statements on the current situation regarding the Pandemic, and four pressers decrying the deplorable situation at the health care facilities and how it affects our members. We have made numerous calls to action regarding consistent provision of quality PPEs, ensure that Nurses and Midwives have appropriate IPC training and COVID-19 specific guidance and training, ensuring protection and financial compensation for Nurses, ensuring a safe and effective deployment of Nurses and Midwives across board and a call to capitalize on Nursing leadership involvement in policy and decision making.

## **2) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

As a professional association, we have raised to the occasion and adopted to the new normal of doing things. In our true definition of progress, we sought to embrace technology as a way of keeping our members updated professionally through weekly webinars which have been consistent and relevant.

- KPNA participated in the launch of AMREF's JIBU – e learning platform. This is a free of charge learning opportunity that's open to all health care workers and we are encouraged to register in order to access numerous courses on line.
- We have since applied for and received credentials to be a CPD provider body.
- We have also subscribed to a premium level zoom platform which has enabled us not only run the office, but also keep in touch with our members throughout the year.
- Together with other professional associations, we have ongoing webinars under the "Nurse / Midwife umbrella.
- KPNA also is in collaboration with the Kenya Diabetes study group and Nursing Council of Kenya to offer a short course on Diabetes for Nurses which runs till December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. It is a CPD accredited course and certificates will be awarded after successful completion of the course. We are all encouraged to register.

we are encouraged to visit our KPNA website where all presentations and other educative content is uploaded for our continuous learning.

## **3) NURSES SCOPE OF PRACTICE.**

In March of 2020, KPNA attended a stakeholders meeting to review the draft general Scope of Practice and we have been in the TWG working on the scope. currently, a final draft has been through stakeholders' validation forum and is now at the Nursing Council, awaiting board approval. Thanks to all of us who gave their input whenever requested, it was very helpful contribution.

**4) REIMBURSEMENT:** As Leadership, we have strived to ensure that we give reimbursement to branches as stipulated in our constitution. Those branches that have had their subscriptions received at the national office accounts have had their reimbursements done.

## **5) PARTNERSHIPS:**

- **KPNA** early on in the year, set to open up and reach out to collaborators in order to position members strategically in leadership. We signed an MOU with the Certified Institute of

Administrators with a hope to capacity build our members through trainings. This however, hasn't taken off as envisioned owing to COVID-19 pandemic. `

- **Johnson and Johnson:** KPNA is in joint collaboration other bodies through Aga Khan University have an MOU to implement a grant to improve Nursing and Midwifery through human resource capacity building, regulatory strengthening, nursing policy and guidelines strengthening plus Nursing & Midwifery associations strengthening, where our mandate will be recruitment of Nurses and Midwives to KPNA.
- **Communications Expert:** Owing to the need for the association to be technologically engaged, KPNA has contracted pace code digital a communications firm to support our branding as KPNA. This year's Hybrid Annual Scientific conference has been evidence of the need for expertise in this field. So, as an association, we are set to occupy the digital and professional communications space going forward.
- **UNFPA – FGM project:** Evidenced data reveal that FGM practice is currently being fueled by medicalization of this practice according to the Anti FGM board. Nurses and midwives have been said to be among health care workers who carryout FGM. Therefore, as an association, we are in communication with the Anti FGM board seeking to forge an MOU on joining hands to end this vice by the targeted 2022 in the 22 hot spot practicing counties. As Nurses, we have a role.
- Since the beginning of our engagement with KOGS, we have now established an MOU which we shall be appending our signatures to before the end of the year. This opens up more opportunity for us as stewards of reproductive health. We shall keep you informed and engaged as activities roll out.
- **Quality Healthcare Kenyan Awards:** KPNA is a partner in these prestigious national award which due to COVID-19 outbreak was postponed to next year 2021. The award has 17 flagship categories, 3 of which are people's choice and 14 general categories that are open to individuals and organizations in the health sector. The awards are set to take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2021. The call for nomination is open, and all of us should purpose to take part so as to front as many Nurses and midwives plus our institutions that deserve recognition.
- **Bella Risu Foundation:** Our CSR partner, this year has supported 3 missions.
  - Makueni
  - Garisa
  - Kisumu
  
- **CHReaD membership:** KPNA together with other members of this coalition, has had several meetings and advocacy events this year. For example, response during the budgeting process for the financial year 2020/ 2021, where we jointly signed a memorandum to the National assembly making a call to increased budgetary allocation for Health research and development. KPNA is the only Nursing body representing the fraternity in this coalition.
  
- **KHF MEMBERSHIP:** As a partner member of this federation, KPNA has this year provided opportunity for our members' capacity building in a TOT course on Infection prevention. From the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of this week, Five KPNA members from; Kilifi County, Garisa County, Nakuru County, Muranga County and Bungoma County.

- COVID-19 has taught us many lessons and one major one is the vulnerability we have been exposed to as Health care workers. I thank God that KPNA has had very visionary leadership in the past for having committed to engaging members for a cooperative insurance cover under BRITAM. Several Counties did take up the opportunity and are well taken care of in case of professional indemnity and bereavement, the cover offers benevolence. We urge all branches to uptake these as its meant for members.

**5) INVESTMENT:** The journey to owning our own office space is still on course, though having been slowed down, we currently have an address we can relocate to, situated along N'gong road at VESTA GARDENS. This is a long term investment that has taken up a lot of our financial input and commitment, however, it is for a good cause whose time is now.

As KPNA Leadership, we see a very promising future for our engagements and opportunities for growth as we pursue progress in the profession. We are poised to looking beyond COVID-19 pandemic as we take lessons learned to prepare for the next pandemic. We are cognizant of the fact that there is a lot we had planned for this year which went on hold. Therefore, moving forward, we shall endeavor to catch up on lost time due to COVID-19, operationalize the envisioned KPNA Faculties, prioritize a constitution amendment process as per member's request, even as we await the outcome of the push for a HSC which will put us back to one payroll. We stay aligned to our vision in order to keep progressing in Vibrancy, Visibility and Viability.

Thank you once again, for attending this AGM and wish you well as we steer KPNA to excellence, remember to keep safe, look out for each other and may God bless us all.