



Press Statement
From Lockdown to Lockdown
30 June 2021

Fellow Ugandans,

As I write this, one cannot help wondering whether lockdown 3 is inevitable!

In 2020, Government locked down the Country to buy time, borrow money, learn more about and slow the spread of Covid 19. At least, this is what we were told.

While we were hiding from the virus, loans were borrowed, budgets passed, and donations received and there after misused/ stolen. As a Country we demand accountability for both the time and money.

So far, the proof we have is that this Government did nothing and learnt nothing. Money went into the campaigns and individual businesses and as a result, the medical workers continue to plead for Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and risk allowances! What a shame!



Government seems to take issue with private facilities charging Ugandans exorbitant fees for services. But one wonders: Is there any Ugandan who would run to these profit-making hospitals if Kabale, Masaka, Soroti, Jinja, Mbale, Mbarara, and Mulago could meet our needs? The Government of Uganda has persistently refused to commit to the funding levels required under the Abuja Declaration.

It is sickening to hear this Government led by H.E Yoweri Museveni Tibuhaburwa, using excuses and comparisons that Covid defied even the best medical systems in the world. How can this be the Government's primary focus? What is it to us as Ugandans? You should have fixed our situation. Covid is not a condemnation section of some prison facility. If our facilities were good enough cancer, asthma, hypertension, or other underlying conditions would have been under control. Perhaps the deaths would also be low.

To date the regime continues to ferry their sick to Nairobi and other countries. Why can't you stay and trust in the very systems you have destroyed?



Instead of regime apologists burying their heads in the sand, berating private hospitals, they must recognise that the vacuum was created by the very Government they serve. Threatening bus owners after the Head of State carelessly closed schools is not a solution. By every standard, we had fewer cases before this Government collected all the children in the bus parks for three days and nights. Children carried to their homes Covid 19 and a number of grandmothers and parents, country-wide, have died from the infection.

In 2020, Government of Uganda received Ugx 5.8 Trillion, including Ugx 1.9 Trillion from IMF, Ugx 1.2 Trillion from World Bank, Ugx 1.3 Billion from Stanbic Bank, and Ugx 17.2 Billion from the European Union, in loans. We demand an immediate audit of donations, loans, supplementary budgets, and grants toward Covid 19.

We also call on Government of Uganda to make every effort to provide, support, and empower VHT with the necessary Vitamins to be delivered to the people. Empower Health Centre 3s to serve the people.



We urge Government of Uganda to review budgets or monies for classified expenditure and defence forces etc. and put the People First.

Fellow Ugandans, we at the Alliance for National Transformation (ANT) propose an open dialogue on the management of Covid. We are ready to advise Government. The current Government is fatigued and needs help in order to help us. This business of sending us into our houses to hide from the Covid virus only to come out and find the same state of affairs cannot be the solution. Currently people have to bribe their way through roadblocks manned by angry and hungry police in order to find a meal for the children. This is not unacceptable and sustainable.

For many Ugandans who shun politics, I leave you with this reflection: Politics is about the Management of society, helping and leading people through and out of the challenges they face, and this includes the management of Covid.

May God preserve you. May God bless Uganda.