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STATEMENT ON KOA ACTIVITIES DURING THE CORONA PANDEMIC

Dear Members,

It is my sincere hope that you are keeping well in these trying times. It is also my belief that you are protecting yourselves by following all the recommendations even as you provide care to your patients. The council of the association continues to work to ensure the business of the association continues to run despite the unique challenges we face.

While the physical office remains closed for safety reasons, the administrator is available via telephone and electronic mail to resolve any issues. Individual members of council are also available as has always been the case in the past. The council continues to curate information relevant to our members in these challenging times and we will continuously post these on our website.

As we maintain physical distancing and as health care resources are harnessed for the pandemic most institutions have stopped or reduced elective cases. In this regard, the association will not organize free surgical camps for the time being. The situation will be reassessed as we see the evolution of the pandemic.

Chairman: Dr. James Kigera Vice Chairman: Dr. Peter Kilonzo Secretary: Dr. Peris Waithiru Treasurer: Dr. Soren Otieno

Education and the welfare of our members is our raison d'être; while the council appreciates that this mandate will be a challenge to deliver, we must do our very best to achieve that. Majority of our educational activities have involved physically meeting and being in one room. Since this is not possible at the moment, the Honorary Secretary will soon be announcing a program for Continuous Medical Education (CME) delivered via electronic means. We hope all members will embrace this different but not so new method of achieving continuous education. We also hope our partners in the pharmaceutical industry will continue to support us in this initiative as they have always done in the past. Once this has taken off, we will get back to you on ways of continuing the program of courses for the rest of the year.

The highlight of our calendar is usually the annual meeting in June. As you may well be aware, all meetings and gatherings have been banned and most hotels closed at this time. While the council remains optimistic that we will have our annual meeting this year, it is looking very unlikely that we will meet at our previously announced dates in June. Experiences from other countries have shown that the situation changes quite rapidly. It is therefore too early to determine when we may be able to meet. The council continues to engage with all our partners and will continuously update you of all the developments as we look forward to meeting in our Annual Scientific Meeting.

Sincerely

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Dr. James Kigera Honorary Chairman Kenya Orthopaedic Association

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