



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Health



Rwanda Health Communication Centre

PRESS RELEASE

Ministry of Health holds high level strategic advisory committee meeting on Ebola

Kigali, Tuesday, 23 July, 2019 – The Ministry of Health, held a high level strategic advisory committee with the aim to update partners and mobilize support on Ebola preparedness implementation plan.

The meeting was attended by members of diplomatic corps, UN agencies, and various organizations. Addressing the attendees, Dr. Diane Gashumba, the Minister of Health expressed gratitude towards partners involvement in Rwanda Ebola prevention and preparedness.

“We are happy to see how much partners are involved in implementing Ebola contingency plans. It is important that we are focusing efforts on enhancing Rwanda’s capacity to effectively prevent and control a potential outbreak rather than deal with a response” said Dr. Gashumba.

The Rwanda capacity in controlling Ebola includes robust community awareness and mobilization efforts, simulations exercises, an Ebola Treatment Centre. The establishment of an Ebola related workforce includes about 3,000 vaccinated healthcare providers and other frontliners. To date, Rwanda has trained over 23,957 people including Doctors, Nurses, hospital staff, Community Health Workers, religious leaders, Red Cross Volunteers and security organs.

Dr. Kasonde Mwinga, WHO country representative, commended Rwanda’s commitment and efforts throughout the preparedness phase, *“we recognize the Government of Rwanda for its leadership, continuous efforts and effective presence on the field. The cost of preparedness is far less expensive than dealing with an actual Ebola outbreak”* said Dr. Mwinga.

Participants of the meeting committed to timely share accurate information to optimize collaboration. They also pledged financial and technical support toward phase III of the ongoing National Ebola Preparedness and Contingency Plan.

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