

# PRIME MINISTER DR. RUHAKANA RUGUNDA RECEIVES XSABO'S DONATION OF UGX 50 MILLION TO UGANDA'S NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON COVID-19

## PRESS RELEASE

KAMPALA, 16 APRIL 2020

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Aware of the limited fiscal capacity that gives countries like Uganda little scope for the kind of financial assistance and stimulus packages for the economy that richer nations are rolling out, The Xsabo Foundation, the corporate social responsibility arm of The Xsabo Group, today donated UGX 50,000,000.00 (in words: Fifty Million Uganda Shillings) to the *National Task Force on COVID-19*.

In a letter to President Yoweri K. Museveni, Dr. David Aloba, Chairman of The Xsabo Foundation, noted that the global coronavirus pandemic is an unfolding health crisis with far reaching economic ramifications and therefore demands the kind of bold action that the Government of the Republic of Uganda has taken under Mr. Museveni's leadership.

The donation was handed over to The Rt. Hon. Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda and Chairman of the *National Task Force on COVID-19*, in the presence of Hon. Mary Karooro Okurut, Minister (General Duties) in the Office of the Prime Minister and Head of the Fundraising Effort, *National Task Force on COVID-19*, by Frances Ruth Atala, a Director of The Xsabo Foundation. Also present were several cabinet ministers.

Earlier, The Xsabo Foundation had already made the following **separate additional donations in support of the anti-coronavirus fight at the local level** in Uganda:

- ❖ UGX 5,000,000.00 (in words: **Five Million Uganda Shillings**) to the *District Task Force on COVID-19* of **Gomba District**, where the Pilot Solar Power Plant (20MW) of The Xsabo Group is located;
- ❖ UGX 4,000,000.00 (in words: **Four Million Uganda Shillings**) to the *District Task Force on COVID-19* of **Mubende District**, home to Xsabo Nkonge Solarline (20MW), the next solar power plant of The Xsabo Group whose construction is planned to begin on 30 September 2020 and commissioning on 30 April 2021;
- ❖ UGX 4,000,000.00 (in words: **Four Million Uganda Shillings**) to the *District Task Force on COVID-19* of **Otuke District** where The Xsabo Group plans to launch its first off-grid hybrid solar power plant in the second half of the year; and

- ❖ Donation of **hands-free washing facilities** to the **National Referral Hospital Kiruddu (Kampala)** which the Hospital Director says have gone a long way in helping staff, patients and caretakers wash their hands regularly at various points in the hospital.

With more than 2 million cases recorded worldwide and at least 137,066 deaths, COVID-19 has turned out to be a global human tragedy in which no country or community is exempt.

In oil-exporting countries, COVID-related challenges are compounded by the collapse of the oil price.

On their part, rich countries in Europe and North America have announced unprecedented amounts of money amounting to hundreds of billions of Euros and US Dollars to support their population and economies.

In Uganda and Africa at large, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted millions of people's livelihoods, with disproportionate impact on poor households and small and informal businesses.

Dr. Aloba, who is himself locked down in Germany, assured President Museveni and through him the Government and the people of Uganda of solid support from The Xsabo Group as Government continues to take decisive action to save lives and protect households, businesses and the national economy from the fallout of this global pandemic.

The Xsabo Foundation, 16 April 2020

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**The Xsabo Foundation** is the corporate social responsibility arm of The Xsabo Group.

In this connection, The Xsabo Foundation is sponsor of youth income generation activities, including a coffee factory for the youth, and an annual regional youth football and netball as well as cycling tournament.

The Xsabo Foundation is also sponsor of a mobile medical youth camp which has to-date provided treatment free-of-charge to over 30,000 disadvantaged and needy people in rural areas.

In addition to the above, The Xsabo Foundation is empowering girls and women groups to produce self-made 100% bio-degradable sanitary pads out of banana and other vegetable fibres ("Fancy Pads"). In Uganda, this is already enabling hundreds and poised to enable thousands of girls to stop missing school during their menstrual period.

Finally, The Xsabo Foundation is currently sponsoring students at universities and other institutions of higher learning in Germany, Hungary and Uganda.