

MEMORANDUM

FROM : VICE-CHANCELLOR (a.i)

TO : THE NUL COMMUNITY

CC: PVC

REGISTRAR

BURSAR

LIBRARIAN

DEANS AND DIRECTOR, IEMS

ALL ADMINISTRATORS

Ref: VC/ADM/1.48

KEM/kem1

Signed: 

DATE: 12 MARCH 2020



CORONA VIRUS AND NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE 2020 INTERVASITY GAMES

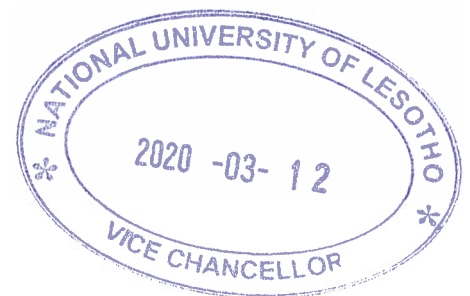
Dear all,

1. The National University of Lesotho (NUL) Management had a meeting from 14:30hrs on 10 March 2020 to consider the advisability of allowing the NUL students and staff to embark on an intervasity games' trip to the Kingdom of Eswatini. The Management noted that the world is facing a global emergency – Corona Virus (COVID 19) outbreak. World-wide millions of people are infected, thousands have died. Corona virus is now in sub-Saharan Africa, even in South Africa which is a country surrounding Lesotho.
2. The Management noted further that, according to WHO (2020), Corona Viruses are a large family of respiratory infections which may cause flue and many other respiratory infections. Not enough is known about the corona virus to draw conclusions about the disease features, its intensity in humans and so on. Scientists are working 24hours around the clock to find out more information about the virus. However, since it causes respiratory infections, individuals who have been found to have the virus exhibit the following signs and symptoms; fever, cough and difficulty in breathing.
3. Although no case has been reported in Lesotho, as University community we have to take precautions to prevent or minimise spread of infections. At this stage, as University management, we advise that WHO standard recommendations of January 2020, on hand and respiratory hygiene as well as safe food practices be followed:

- Frequently wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol based sanitizers
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze with tissue and immediately flash or throw away the tissue. Immediately wash hands after that
- If you have fever, cough and difficulty in breathing, seek medical advice immediately
- Always share previous travel history with your health care provider
- Since it is believed that the virus can be spread from animals to humans, avoid eating undercooked animal products such as meat and eggs.
- Listen to all Ministry of Health messages and where necessary, follow instructions

NB: In addition, it is advised that hand shaking needs to be minimised/ stopped to avoid spread of infection.

4. The National University of Lesotho Management further decided, after receiving a report on the stances of the SRC and the All-sports Committee on the issue whether to proceed with the trip, decided to withdraw NUL from the 2020 intervasity games forthwith and cancel NUL's trip to the Kingdom of Eswatini and participation in the games in order to protect student and staff from the pandemic.
5. This decision is also consistent with the decision by the University of Eswatini taken on 11 March 2020, to postpone the intervasity games.





UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

Private Bag No 4, Kwaluseni M201, Eswatini
Tel: (+268) 2517 0106 Fax: (+268) 2517 0005
E-Mail: vc@uniswa.sz

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

11 March, 2020

The Vice Chancellor
National University of Lesotho
P. O. Roma 180
Lesotho



Dear Sir

POSTPONEMENT OF THE 2020 INTERVARSITY GAMES

The above matter refers.

We regret to advise that due to the threat posed by the worldwide outbreak of the Covid – 19 (Coronavirus) the University of Eswatini has taken a decision to postpone the hosting of the Intersarsity Games indefinitely. Whilst we are aware that preparations for the games were at an advanced stage among the three participating Universities, advice from the Ministry of Education and Training and the World Health Organization is to the effect that large gatherings be avoided at this time with a view to curbing the spread of the deadly virus.

Any inconvenience caused by the above decision is regretted.

Yours faithfully


PROF. P.E. ZWANE
ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR

At To: The NUL Community
12/3/20