



RMC Press Statement on Promoting Public Access of Fact-based Information on Covid-19 Pandemic in Rwanda

Since the confirmation of the first case of COVID-19 in Rwanda on March 14, 2020, information that is objective, accurate and factual on the pandemic is very highly demanded by the public. In order to debunk and mitigate the myths and misinformation relating to Covid-19 pandemic through media's role, Rwanda Media Commission (RMC) in partnership with Rwanda Media network against HIV/AIDS and for health promotion (ABASIRWA), through UNESCO support is conducting the following activities;

- ✓ Public information and awareness interventions through development of short creative animated content for dissemination and use by multimedia platforms and dissemination of Kinyarwanda translated audio and visual contents shared by UNESCO on local broadcast media outlet;
- ✓ Conduct online training for journalists on professional coverage of the Covid-19 pandemic in Rwanda; and

All these efforts are meant to engage media means to sensitize the public on the importance of fact based, scientific, and verified information in responding to Covid-19 related issues and for promotion of public engagement in the fight against the pandemic in Rwanda.

The online training will aim at equipping the journalists affiliated to ABASIRWA given to their vast knowledge and interest in health reporting along with safety information, ethical and professional reporting skill sets given to their central role as frontline workers in the fight against the COVID 19 pandemic and ensuring accountability through open dialogues on the pandemic.

The media is required to play a vital role in engaging the public in implementation of various measures on behalf of the state against the pandemic.

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