

CONSENT DECLARATION

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic and had made recommendations on containment measures to prevent further spread. The Government of Malawi imposed COVID-19 preventive restrictions on public gatherings in line with WHO recommendations. The Institute complied with the Government's directive and postponed the administration of examinations in May/June 2020 to August/September 2020.
- 1.2 The Institute has undertaken to proceed with the administration of the August/September 2020 examinations to willing candidates. In this regard, the Institute called on those students who wished to shift their candidature to the next examination sitting (December 2020) to notify the Institute by 4:30pm on 17th August 2020. This implies that all candidates who did not exercise this option for whatever reason, would take examinations in the scheduled period of August/September 2020.

2 Notice of risk and mitigation measures

- 2.1 The Institute acknowledges that the examinations would be administered at a time when COVID-19 has no known cure other than following preventive guidelines issued by the Malawi Government and the WHO. The Institute therefore cannot assure candidates that the examination environment will be absolutely free of COVID-19 threat.
- 2.2 The Institute has taken all precautionary measures to significantly minimize the risk of infection to any of the parties involved during the examination period. To this extent, the Institute underwent rigorous inspection by the Presidential Task force on COVID-19 to ensure that all necessary precautions are in place, without compromising on any aspect.
- 2.3 During the period of examinations, the Institute will engage the Ministry of Health, through District Health Offices (DHO) to ensure that all preventive measures are adhered to in all the four examination centres of Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe and Mzuzu.
- 2.4 The Institute will ensure that the necessary protective materials are available at all the centres at all times.

3 Candidate's responsibility

- 3.1 The Government gazetted the Public Health (CORONA VIRUS AND COVID-19) Prevention, Containment and Management Rules, 2020 on 7th August 2020. Section 3 of the rules made it mandatory for every person to:
- 3.1.1 Wear protective face mask when in a public area;
 - 3.1.2 Keep a social distance of at least one metre from other persons;
 - 3.1.3 Sanitize/wash hands frequently
 - 3.1.4 When coughing or sneezing, cover nose and mouth with handkerchief or tissue paper or sneeze into a flexed elbow;
 - 3.1.5 Refrain from touching face, mouth, nose and eyes; and
 - 3.1.6 Avoid handshakes.

3.2 It is therefore, expected of every candidate and all personnel to strictly observe the preventive rules to minimize the risk of infection.

4 Disclaimer

The Institute will not be liable for any subsequent COVID-19 related conditions which may arise during or post-examination period. It is primarily an individual's responsibility to ensure a safe environment for all. It is therefore understood that by taking the examinations, the candidate fully recognizes the existence of risk of COVID-19 infection and willingly undertakes to write the examinations.

5 Consent

I,.....Student registration No..... hereby consent to write my scheduled examinations with full knowledge of existing risk of COVID-19 and declare that I wholly bear such risk and will not hold the Institute liable for any subsequent COVID-19 related conditions as may arise. Signed on this day of2020.

In the witness of In the official capacity
asthis dayof
.....2020.
