

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH



PRESS RELEASE ON THE DECLARATION OF END OF MARBURG OUTBREAK IN
KAGERA REGION, TANZANIA

BUKOBA, 02nd JUNE, 2023

Dear Citizens and International Community

On 16th March, 2023, the Ministry of Health released preliminary press on the presence of unknown disease that was later confirmed to be Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) outbreak declared officially on March 21, 2023. MVD has potential to spread fast, causing serious consequences including loss of life, social and economic effects if not controlled timely.

Dear Citizens and International Community

Since declaration of the outbreak, the Government in collaboration with various stakeholders jointly continued to take stringent measures to curb the disease as we have been regularly informing the public. On 19th April 2023, the last patient with MVD was declared cured after several laboratory confirmation.

Dear Citizens and International Community

I take this opportunity to gladly inform Tanzania as well as the International Community that, 31st May 2023 marks 42 days since the last patient was confirmed free of Marburg Viral Disease. This translates into successful attainment of criteria for declaration of end of this outbreak. **Thus, today Friday, the 02nd June 2023, I officially DECLARE THE END of Marburg Viral Disease outbreak in Kagera Region.**

Dear Citizens and International Community

I would like to register my special gratitude to all health professionals in the country at all levels of the response especially, frontline health care workers for their round-the-clock dedication during the outbreak. Also, I am indebted to leaders from Ministry of Health, Presidents' Office - Regional and Local Administration, Prime Minister's Office and all other sectoral ministries, citizens, journalists, private sector and various stakeholders for their outstanding efforts towards the control and thus these achievements. I would like to appreciate all National and International Partners, a special mention to WHO, UNICEF, US- CDC and Africa CDC; Non-Governmental Organizations and Religious Organizations for their invaluable contributions.

Lastly, I continue to emphasize that we should remain vigilant at all times as well as timely reporting to health authorities in case of any rumor of unusual illness or deaths in the community. The end of this outbreak should be the beginning of preparedness for any future outbreak. The Government will continue to take timely and appropriate measures to ensure welfare of Tanzanians as well as the international community.

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Ummu A. Mwalimu'.

Issued by: Ummu A. Mwalimu (Mb)

Minister for Health

02 June. 2023