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# STATEMENT BY THE SNAT ON THE ESCALATING COVID-19 CONFIRMED CASES

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Today (10-06-2021), the SNAT came across an article published by the two [2] country's dailies regarding the number of teachers and pupils who have tested positive to the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst as a country, just like the rest of the world, living under the new normal, it is crystal clear that the third wave is now showing its ugly face. It remains our duty as the SNAT to continuously caution our members and the general Swazi populace about the impacts of the pandemic to humanity.

### 2. CRUX OF THE UPDATE

A. The SNAT hereby cautions its members, pupils, parents and the general populace against lowering our guard against Covid-19. The rising Covid-19 statistics in neighbouring countries shall surely have a direct influence on the statics, locally. Since we have started recording double digits of the cases, it clearly means that the third wave is now upon us as a Nation. The SNAT reminds all her members and the larger society about the importance of following all the national Covid-19 Regulations. B. The Government of Swaziland needs to ensure that all Covid-19 materials and equipment are adequately supplied to schools and tertiary institutions. It is a pity that some schools have been operating yet there was not full compliance to Covid-19 regulations and Standard Operating Procedures [SOPs] by these schools, particularly those in rural areas.

C. Just like we did mention before the re-opening of schools, March 29, 2021, the SNAT continues to call upon the Government to prioritize the vaccination of teachers and the elderly. It is unfortunate that the country has dismally failed to roll out a massive vaccination plan. The arrival of the 14 000 doses will not assist in putting up a good fight against the pandemic which is actually spreading like wild fire.

D. The SNAT in partnership with the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) has rolled out a psycho-social programme for teachers and learners. As the SNAT, we have taken it upon ourselves to prepare our members and our pupils psychologically as the Nation is moving towards tougher times. One of the important tools to fight against Covid-19 is to thoroughly prepare the nation for the war against the invisible enemy [Covid-19]. The lessons that we got from the second wave underscore the need for high psychological strength.

## 3. CONCLUSION

As the SNAT, we will continue to pile up pressure on the Government towards full compliance to both the World Health Organisation (WHO) and National Covid-19 Protocols. The health and safety of the citizens should be the priority of any Government.



#COVID-19IsReal



### #WashYourHands



#WearYourMask

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