In case of reply the number and the date of this letter should be quoted.

OUR CORE VALUES

- People-Centered
- Professionalism
- Team work
- Innovation
- Discipline
- Integrity



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28th February 2023.

My Ref. No.:GHS/DG/LF/25.02.23 Your Ref. No.

TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES

PRESS RELEASE <u>UPDATE ON LASSA FEVER OUTBREAK IN GHANA- 28TH FEBRUARY 2023</u>

The Ghana Health Service on the 26th of February 2023 issued a press release indicating the confirmation of two cases of Lassa Fever in Ghana.

Following the institution of control measures including contact tracing and testing, 12 additional cases who were close contacts have been coonfirmed. This brings to 14 the total number of confirmed cases for this outbreak. One death has so far been recorded. All 13 cases are alive and in stable condition and are being managed in designated health facilities. A total of 97 contacts have been identified and efforts are underway to identify more contacts.

A probable case has been reported from Central Region and contacts are being identified and monitored while we await confirmation. Psychological support is being provided for all cases and contacts.

We wish to remind the public of the following preventive measures:

- 1. Avoid contact with rodents (mice, rats, etc).
- 2. Ensure good environmental hygiene and institute measures such as storing grain and other foodstuffs in rodent-proof containers, disposing of garbage far from the home, maintaining clean households and keeping cats to prevent rodent infestation.
- 3. Avoid contact with blood and body fluids while caring for sick persons.

The Ghana Health Service wishes to remind the public of the need to report to the nearest health facility when unwell.

We want to assure the public that, we will continue to work with our partners to ensure the safety of the entire population.

Thank you.

SIGNED DR PATRICK KUMA-ABOAGYE DIRECTOR GENERAL