

# Coronavirus in Africa

**Stopping the Spread and the Panic with lessons learned from the Ebola epidemic**

MODERATOR/WELCOMING REMARKS

**Gordon Tapper**  
*President, United African Congress*

HONORED ADDRESS

Moving from Readiness to Response:  
*How the African Diaspora Can Help*

**H.E. Sidique Wai**  
*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,  
Republic of Sierra Leone to the United States of America*

THE CORONAVIRUS FROM THE  
PERSPECTIVE OF GOVERNMENTS

**H.E. Ambassador Taye Atske Selassie Amde**  
*Permanent Representative, Ethiopia to the United Nations*

**Dr., the Honorable Christopher Tufton**  
*Minister of Health and Wellness, Jamaica, W.I.*

**Tarek Ben Yousef**  
*Chargé d'Affaires,  
African Union Mission to the United States of America*

PANELISTS/SPEAKERS:

Overview of UAC  
involvement/commitment in the  
current crisis and lessons learned from Ebola

**Dr. Mohammed Nurhusein**  
*National Chairman of  
the United African Congress (UAC)*

Perspectives of psycho-social  
support and lessons learned from  
other Infectious diseases and disasters

**Dr. Judy Kuriansky**  
*United Nations NGO representative,  
IAAP; Professor, Dept. of Counseling and Clinical Psychology  
Columbia University Teachers College;  
Trustee, United African Congress;*

Perspectives from DRC:  
On the Ground in Africa  
comparisons of Coronavirus and Ebola

**Katson Maliro**  
*Editorial Secretary,  
Radio Victoire Horizon*

Implications for Universal Health Coverage  
and lessons learned from  
other infectious diseases

**Tamar Tcheliédze, MD, MPH**  
*Public Health Specialist  
Senior Policy Fellow, University of California-Berkeley*

Overview of the Coronavirus  
pandemic from the perspective  
of the media

**Milton Allimadi**  
*Publisher,  
Black Star News*

PLAN OF ACTION/CONCLUSION

**Thursday, April 9, 2020 | 11 AM – 12 PM EST | Modality: Zoom (BIT.LY/UACWEBINAR)**

**ORGANIZERS: UNITED AFRICAN CONGRESS,  
IAAP - THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY  
with support of the PSYCHOLOGY COALITION OF NGOS ACCREDITED AT THE UN**

# Presenters

## **Gordon M. Tapper**

is president of the United African Congress (UAC). In 2014, he collaborated with several humanitarian organizations and the Ambassadors of the three most affected countries in Africa, to host the first Ebola Forum at the United Nations. He served for over 25 years at the UN. His leadership skills and business acumen honed, Mr. Tapper ultimately attained the position Chief of Section in the Department of Administration and Management. He participated in South Africa's first 'fair and free' elections as a member of the UNOMSA mission, establishing and supervising electoral offices and peace process meetings in Kwazulu/Natal. With his leadership, the UAC's humanitarian initiatives provided physical support to victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy; the earthquake in Haiti; medical and humanitarian missions in several countries.

## **His Excellency Sidique Abou-Bakarr Wai**

His Excellency is the ambassador of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United States of America. Prior to his appointment, Ambassador Wai held several high-profile leadership responsibilities in spheres of diplomacy, public safety, public health advocacy, community relations and social empowerment in the United States. He also served as President of the United African Congress. Ambassador Wai has been recognized for his championing of numerous initiatives on behalf of the people of New York and Sierra Leone and the African diaspora in the United States.

## **H.E. Ambassador Taye Atske Selassie Amde**

is the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations. H.E. Amde served as Ambassador to Egypt and he previously occupied two senior posts in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs: State Minister for Political Affairs and Director General for American Affairs. Before these appointments, he was Consul-General for Ethiopia in Los Angeles; Minister Counselor for the Embassy in Washington, D.C. and Counselor in the Ethiopian Embassy in Stockholm.

## **Dr., the Honorable Christopher Tufton**

is Jamaica's Minister of Health and Wellness. Prior to this appointment he was the Minister of Industry, Investment & Commerce and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. He is the author of a political memoir, *State of Mind: Politics, Uncertainty, and the Search for the Jamaican Dream* (Ian Randle Publishers, 2019). Dr Tufton has also served as the Co-Executive Director of the Caribbean Policy Research Institute, a University of the West Indies Think Tank. Dr. Tufton is also a scholar and a business strategist whose area of expertise is International Business & Marketing Strategy.

## **Tarek Ben Youssef**

is the Charge d'Affaires of the African Union Mission to the United States. He joined the African Union Commission as a Senior Political Officer in October 2012. Previously, he served as Deputy Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tunisia in charge of multilateral economic cooperation. At the Embassy of Tunisia in Washington, Mr. Ben Youssef served as Deputy Chief of Missions from 2008-2011 and Counselor for Congressional affairs from 2006-2008. From 1996 – 2002, he served as Counselor in Charge of Economic and Development Coordination at the Embassy of Tunisia in Ottawa.

## **Dr. Judy Kuriansky**

is the United Nations NGO representative, International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP); Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology Columbia University Teachers College; Trustee, United African Congress; psychosocial first responder and trainer in many infectious disease epidemics – SARS in China, Ebola in West Africa; natural disasters – China, Japan, Haiti, Iran, St. Maarten, USA; author, "The Psychosocial Aspects of a Deadly Epidemic: What Ebola Has Taught Us about Holistic Healing." As a columnist of Black Star News, she has published many articles around infectious diseases. See: <http://www.blackstarnews.com/global-politics/africa/sounding-the-alarm-about-coronavirus-in-africa-by-diaspora>; and author of "*The Psychosocial Aspects of a Deadly Epidemic: What Ebola Has Taught Us about Holistic Healing.*"

**Milton Allimadi**

is the Publisher of Black Star News [www.blackstarnews.com](http://www.blackstarnews.com) and Adjunct Professor of African History at John Jay College of the City University of New York (CUNY). He also hosts a weekly radio show focused on Africa and the African Diaspora – WBAI New York 99.5 FM Radio [www.wbai.org](http://www.wbai.org). As a seasoned journalist, Mr. Allimadi, is a frequent news analyst on Voice of America’s “Straight Talk Africa,” and has appeared on the BBC, Al Jazeera, CNN, and South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) He also covers the United Nations.

**Katya Maliro**

is the Editorial Secretary of Radio Victoire Horizon in Butembo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Secretary of the Multidisciplinary Research Center of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Higher Institute of Butembo (Current University of the Assumption in Congo). He teaches courses in Radio Information Methodology, Computer Science, and Computer Graphics in the Department of Information and Communication Sciences. He also worked as the Information Officer for the World Health Organization, and later as the Risk Communication and Community Engagement focal point for the Ebola Response in Butembo.

**Dr. Mohammed Nurhussein**

is the National Chairman of the United African Congress (UAC). He is the Associate Professor of Medicine Emeritus and former Chief of Geriatrics at State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. He led the first awareness-raising Ebola forum at the UN in 2014, underscoring the need for a massive global response to the Ebola epidemic. Dr. Nurhussein sits on the Executive Board of Ethio-American Doctors Group (EADG). This organization is committed to building an internationally accredited hospital in Addis Ababa – a \$100 million project. Dr. Nurhussein is also a board member of Brooklyn for Peace; an active member of Physicians for Human Rights; Physicians for a National Health Program and various civic, professional and humanitarian organizations.

**Tamar Tcheliedze, MD, MPH**

is currently a Senior Policy Fellow at the Forum for Collaborative Research, The University of California Berkeley School of Public Health. Previously, she served as a Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations. With more than 20 years of progressive experience in global health and communicable diseases, she is recognized as a leader in her field.

**Stephanie Evans – Program Coordinator**

**Kidest Fikremariam- Technical Advisor**

**Maram Al-qassab – Technical Advisor**

