Certificate of Appreciation

To whom it may concern,

We would like to recognize the outstanding contribution, effort, and dedication of Nhlanhla Mkombo to our team as a volunteer research assistant for the CoronaNet Research Project. Nhlanhla Mkombo has been active with our project since 2020-09-14 and, in that time, coded and updated policy information for Zimbabwe. Without the support of our dedicated RAs, such as Nhlanhla Mkombo, we would not be able to sustain our pace of policy documentation which, to date, counts over 70 thousand policies from virtually every country in the world.

The CoronaNet Research Project is working to gather comprehensive and global data on government responses to the COVID-19 crisis. This work includes gathering information about which governments are responding to the coronavirus, toward whom policies are targeted (e.g. other countries), the types of policies enacted (e.g. travel restrictions, banning exports of masks) and their timing and duration. For more information, see www.coronanet-project.org.

Nhlanhla Mkombo has been a country expert for Zimbabwe. This role involves researching and creating a comprehensive overview of government policies enacted in Zimbabwe as well as collecting and entering new and updated policy information related to COVID-19. Becoming a country expert requires passing a series of trainings on how to code data in the CoronaNet database, which uses a custom Qualtrics survey instrument, keeping up with policy coding on a weekly basis, and attending weekly country- or regional coordination meetings as well as project-wide meetings.

In addition to being a country expert, Nhlanhla Mkombo took on the following additional roles within CoronaNet:

- Data validation: This role involves re-coding data previously collected by other RAs in order to verify and ensure coding consistency. This role, which is only open to experienced and high-performing RAs at CoronaNet, requires extensive additional training in the project's collection procedures, high attention to detail, and ability to work well in a team setting.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our thanks to Nhlanhla Mkombo for supporting these important and time-sensitive collection efforts and for being part of the CoronaNet community.

Luca Messerschmidt, Principal Investigator

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