



Sousse, Tunisia, July 23,2021

Letter of recommendation

To whom it may Concern,

The Virus Outbreak Data Network - Africa is providing the expertise to strengthen the primary health-care system in (country, Africa) in view of the COVID-19 pandemic which hits Africa hard. A lack of data made the crisis invisible on the continent. The pandemic is hitting the people of our continent. The situation has created increased awareness of the urgency of improvement on generating digital health data. This will help us to respond effectively to the crisis and to other health challenges.

VODAN-Africa provides us with a System for Health Information that complements existing systems. It builds on systems we already have in place.

The strength of the System of Health Information facilitated by VODAN-Africa is that it is fully compliant with our domestic regulatory frameworks and adheres to the highest standards of international personal data protection.

Whilst recognizing data sovereignty and ownership of data, the possibility of the studying of the data is advanced by the new concept of data-visiting under conditions of permission granted to the researcher.

I recommend the VODAN-Africa research group without reservation,

Sincerely,

Pr. Lotfi Belkacem
President of the University of Sousse, Tunisia