

11th March 2020



THE LSE AFRICA SUMMIT 2020 HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD

Due to the escalating impact and increased risks posed by COVID-19 (also known as the coronavirus), it is with deep sadness and heavy hearts that we have made the decision to put on hold the 2020 edition of the LSE Africa Summit.

This means that the event will not be taking place on March 28th and 29th at the LSE as originally planned. Instead, we will postpone the event and should the situation improve, put it on at a more opportune time.

For the LSE Africa Summit Team, the safety and security of our participants is paramount. Given that we are in a situation of great danger and uncertainty, we cannot in good faith bring 400+ people from around the UK as well as the African continent together to discuss the future of the continent while putting their health, as well as that of their families and communities, at risk.

We do not come to this conclusion lightly. Even as we put the event on hold, we will be planning for future possibilities and engagements, and announcing those as soon as they are finalized. As it stands, we are currently working to make sure that all our participants, speakers, sponsors, partners and vendors are notified, and we ask that you bear with us as we do so.

Now more than ever, it is important that we stay true to the founding mission of the LSE Africa Summit, which is to provide a unique platform for the sharing of ideas and development of relationships that can be translated into meaningful action. The Summit prides itself on being rooted in present realities, and it takes into account the dynamism and contextual framework on the continent and thus, promotes solutions with an African perspective.

In the spirit of Ubuntu, we all have to act and do our part to help tackle the spread of COVID-19, and we believe that given our present circumstances, this is the just thing to do.

What does this mean for ticket holders?

If you purchased a ticket, you will receive a refund to your original method of payment. We would like to thank you for believing in what we were putting together and wanting to join us, and we are sad that this won't be the case in March. We ask that you bear with us as we go through this process, as it may take 2 – 3 weeks. We assure each and every ticket holder that they will receive their money back.

What does this mean for speakers and moderators?

If you were to speak on or moderate the panels at the 2020 LSE Africa Summit, we will be in touch with all of you regarding your panel, and discuss future possibilities of

collaboration in further detail. We are saddened that we will not be able to have you at the LSE in March as originally planned, but there are multiple opportunities for future collaboration.

What does this mean for sponsors and partners?

If you sponsored or partnered with us to make the 2020 LSE Africa Summit a reality, we would like to share our deepest gratitude. We would not have been able to put this event together without your support, and we are saddened that we won't get to see the fruit of our collaboration in March. However, we believe that this is but a bump on the road to future collaborations. We will be in touch to discuss in detail what the way forward regarding this year's sponsorship will be.

While we will try to respond to individual queries as soon as possible, we ask that you be patient as we navigate the large amounts of communication we will receive in the coming days.

We thank you once again from the bottom of our hearts for your support, and we ask that you continue to dream and build the future of our great continent. Amandla.

The 2020 LSE Africa Summit Team