rights. We urge all trade unions on the continent to be vigilant in the defence, protection and promotion of Workers and Trade Union rights in this challenging period.

Governments and employers should engage trade unions through social dialogue and negotiations on better ways in fighting against the pandemic and resolving all work-related issues without violation of workers’ rights. Equally important, all social partners should be committed for the implementation of the 14th African Regional Meeting Recommendations - The Abidjan Declaration on Advancing Social Justice: Shaping the future of work.

The COVID 19 pandemic has also reminded us that all human beings are equal. It is against this backdrop that all workers organisations should be proactive in pushing governments to re-assess our developmental plans by reviewing our Health Care policies and operations. For equipping of hospitals, training of medical personnel, making health sector effective and competitive, thereby reducing brain drain and promoting brain gain. Social Infrastructural development must also be tackled by developing our Energy Sector, Water and other basic infrastructure to make life more comfortable for all.

We also call on African Governments to mobilize all the needed resources and put them at the disposal in the fight against the COVID 19 and get all the stakeholders involved to combat it. They must collaborate effectively, share their experiences of tackling the virus, mobilize experts – both local and from the diaspora – and strengthen their coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other stakeholders.

OATUU also urges African governments as a matter of urgency to call for unconditional and immediate debt relief/cancellation from bilateral, multilateral and commercial creditors in order to improve their fiscal position in fighting this pandemic.

In conclusion, OATUU urges the whole world to unite in the fight against the pandemic, because in unity lies our strength. We entreat all the Global Health actors, private sectors to collaborate so as to accelerate the development, production of drugs and vaccine to combat the Corona Virus disease.

As we celebrate this year’s May Day in a unique and challenging period, we wish you a Happy May Day with the hope that very soon, the world and Africa will be free from the CPVID 19 pandemic.