

NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON CORONAVIRUS UPDATE OF CORONAVIRUS IN THE COUNTRY AND RESPONSE MEASURES AS AT 30th MARCH, 2020

Fellow Kenyans,

Welcome to the daily updates on the current status of Coronavirus disease outbreak in Kenya.

Yesterday we embarked on mass testing for the 2050 people who are currently in mandatory quarantine in various hotels and designated Government facilities.

In the last twenty-four hours, we have tested 172 samples. Out of this number, a total of Eighty Four (84) samples from quarantined guests have been analyzed.

We have received confirmation of one (1) persons who have tested **positive** for the Coronavirus disease.

Apart from those in mandatory quarantine, we have also tested an additional **88** samples of close contacts of the **42** confirmed cases.

Out of this number, we have received confirmation of **seven** (7) patients who have tested positive for Coronavirus disease. This now brings the total number of confirmed cases in the last 24 hours to **eight** (8) In total the number of confirmed positive cases now stands at **50** in the country.

Tracing of contacts for the **50** confirmed cases is ongoing. The total number of close contacts that we have so far been monitoring stands at **1474**. Out of this number, **231** have been discharged after completing the mandatory 14 day follow up period. Currently, our teams are monitoring **1211** close contacts.

The seven new cases are spread out in various counties in the country. **Kitui** now has one case. **Nairobi** County has six new cases and **Mombasa** has one. This now puts Nairobi County at 37 cases of those who have so far tested positive, followed by **Kilifi** at six, **Mombasa** at four, while **Kajiado** and **Kwale** at one each. Out of the 43 positive cases, 26 are male while 18 are female.

To date we have tested **1005** persons for the Coronavirus disease.

From the above data, it is evident that the virus is being spread through community transmission. This now calls for a lot of personal responsibility among Kenyans in this fight against the disease.

Community transmission means the disease is no longer being imported from outside but it is here with us. We are

now spreading it amongst ourselves. We must now raise our level of alert and intervention measures.

To this end, we need to take a number of measures with the most immediate being in the Boda boda transport industry. In order to protect our youth who are in this industry, all Boda boda riders will from now henceforth be required to only carry one passenger so as to maintain some level of distance.

Secondly, the Boda boda rider and the passenger must wear masks for protection. We shall be spreading out masks in all our counties shortly for use by the boda boda riders. We expect boda boda association leaders to oversee this process and ensure its implementation. The police will enforce the same.

Following the imposition of the curfew in our country, we are now urging the employers to release their employees at 4 p.m. from their workstations. This will enable people

to be able to make travel arrangements to their houses before 7 p.m. which is the curfew time.

The Government is also encouraging people who stay in Nairobi, against travelling upcountry during this period. Statistics have shown that majority of our elderly people live upcountry, and that they are likely to get exposed, as it happened in Italy by this kind of movements. I urge in the strongest terms possible those in Nairobi to stay in Nairobi and keep your social distance.

Finally, I want to clarify with regard to flights in the country. As we indicated to you earlier, cargo flights are not restricted to fly into the country.

This is to ensure that our economy is cushioned from the hard realities we are facing because of this disease. Most of them are bringing in medicines among other items for use in the country. The cargo flights are not carrying any passengers.

There are planes landing to evacuate foreign nationals which do not come with any passengers.

There was a meeting between ourselves and the Council of Governors, and there are measures that will be announced by the Ministry of Interior and National Coordination together with the Governors in a joint communique on what we have agreed upon.

I thank you all.

HON. MUTAHI KAGWE, EGH, CABINET SECRETARY.