

## NATIONAL COMMAND CENTRE

Press Release

April, 2, 2020

The National Emergency Command Centre (NECC) is the hub of behavioural on behavioural change on COVID 19, its monitoring and control following its launch by the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Monyane Moleleki, who described the pandemic as a national disaster.

The NECC is chaired by Chief Thesele Maseribane, the Minister of Communications Science and Technology, who is the focal point of all issues surrounding COVID-19.

The NECC is run by officers from different sectors and agencies of government, nongovernmental government Organisations and United Nations agencies who are grouped in their areas of professions. The groups are divided into five clusters namely Logistics, Communication, Health and Social, Analysis and Security.

The NECC is coordinated by Disaster Management Authority (DMA) and the Secretariat.

The Logistics cluster has, in the past two weeks of operation received and distributed COVID-19 donations from Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation, Matekane Group of Companies, Global Fund, Epic Printers, Maluti Mountain Brewery and a collaboration of DJ's, Toll Free number from Vodacom and Econet.

The distribution is done with assistance of personnel from Ministry of Health, who verify specifications, quality, quantity and priority areas.

The donation consists of test kits, masks, face shields, personal protective equipment, sanitisers, gloves, Jik, and Information Educational Communication materials.

The Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation donations was distributed to National Drug Service Organisation (NDSO) in Mafeteng also assisted in the distribution.

Other donations were distributed to Isolation centres in all districts and Border posts which are operational. Others are Lesotho Correctional Services, Lesotho Mounted Police Service and Lesotho Defence Force.

Donations that have been distributed to Christian Health Association of (CHAL), Lesotho Red Cross, Non-Governmental Organisations included masks, gloves, sanitisers .and personal protective equipment.

The distribution is done using a fleet earmarked for COVID-19 which is located at the Moshoeshoe II. The cluster has been allocated sixty four (64) vehicles drawn from different government ministries with the help of Principal Secretaries.

The planning and implementation of issues surrounding COVID-19 is done at the NECC which will be soon connected to Command Centres in the district.

The public is encouraged to be vigilant and maintain safety protocols to minimise the spread of the virus that is, wash hands with soap and running water, observe coughing and sneezing etiquette and follow quarantine measures.

Meanwhile, there are no allowances earmarked for people deployed at the NECC who have been using their cellular phones airtime, personal laptops in order to ease communication.

For further details contact: Mr Ramakhula Ramakhula

Contacts: 6302 2457/ 2231 3474/2231 4134

abeloangramakhula@gmail.com or info.covid19@gov.ls