<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Alerts Received</strong></th>
<th>421</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suspected Cases Detected</strong></td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confirmed Cases</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recovered Cases</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Death</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVID-19 RESPONSE BULLETIN**

**ETHIOPIA**

27 March 2020
COVID-19 is a crisis unlike any in the 75-year history of the UN. World leaders must come together and offer an urgent and coordinated global response. More than ever before, we need solidarity, hope and the political will to see this through together.

“COVID-19 is taking so much from us... but it’s also giving us something special — the opportunity to come together as one humanity — to work together, to learn together, to grow together...”

Dr Tedros Adhanom
Director-General,
World Health Organization

25 MARCH 2020

The UN launched a USD2 billion global humanitarian response plan to fund the fight against COVID-19 pandemic in the world’s most FRAGILE COUNTRIES.

The Secretary-General also called for an immediate global ceasefire in all corners of the world.

“Solving this problem requires political commitment and political coordination at the global level...”

Dr António Guterres
Secretary-General,
UNITED NATIONS
... COVID-19 is not related to any country or nationality. It is a test against all humanity. We should fight it together and defeat it. I call upon all my fellow Ethiopians to adhere to measures introduced and join hands with the world to fight this global challenge.

Considering the current status of COVID19, the government of Ethiopia has put new measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 outbreak, including approval of allocating 5 Billion Birr (USD 150 M) for the fight against the Corona Outbreak.

The Security sector is to enforce measures directed by the COVID-19 Ministerial Committee to prohibit mass gatherings and maintain social distancing.

The government has directed the closure of ground crossing points. All travelers entering Ethiopia through Addis Ababa Bole International Airport have to undergo mandatory quarantine for 14 days at the traveler’s expense (starting 23 March 2020). The 14 days quarantine does not apply to transit travelers.

The Federal government workers have been directed to work from home with effect from 25 MARCH 2020. Each Ministry was mandated to determine critical staff.

The Minister of Health, Dr Lia Tadesse, accompanied by 2 State Ministers of Health (Dr Dereje Duguma and Wro Sahrela Abdullahi) visited the National PHEOC today to assess the progress with COVID-19 response and discuss immediate priority actions with the team. WHO team actively participated in the meeting.

WHO provided technical guidance for the update of the national COVID-19 contingency Plan focusing on community transmission (worst case scenario) and for revising performance monitoring indicators by pillar.
Support provided for the training of more regional laboratory professionals from regional states

WHO is also supporting on COVID-19 laboratory expansion assessment

696 number of samples from suspected cases were tested at the National Influenza Reference Laboratory. 12 tested positive
Key messages of COVID-19 are now displayed at the Addis Ababa Bole International Airport to provide information to travelers on protective measures they could undertake and where to seek help.

WHO provided technical support to develop a protocol for mandatory quarantine of travelers entering ETHIOPIA.

20 MARCH 2020

Ethiopian airline announced that it has suspended flights to 30 countries due to COVID-19 outbreak, including 19 African countries.

The government has decided to put all travelers (except transit) arriving in ETHIOPIA on a 14-day mandatory quarantine in designated hotels (one of those is skylight hotel of Ethiopian Group, below) and quarantine facilities.

WHO continues to monitor health screening of travelers at the airport.
WHO facilitated the training of 40 contact tracers, including hands-on training on the use of Open Data Kit (ODK) enabled electronic tools for data collection. A total of 105 contact tracers were recently trained.

WHO continued provision of technical guidance for contact tracing including contacts mapping and data management.

WHO participated in supervisory support visit to the Addis Ababa Health Bureau to strengthen RRT and contact tracing teams.
WHO is committed strengthening the capacity of health workers in ETHIOPIA to provide optimized care for COVID-19 patients while adequately protecting themselves from the disease.

Dr Boureima HAMA SAMBO
WHO Representative to ETHIOPIA

Technical support continued at Eka Kotebe Isolation | Treatment Centre. WHO logistics team continued working with government counterpart and supporting Eka Kotebe isolation facility, mainly on managing inventory of supplies.

WHO supported review, with facility line managers, of the first draft plan for the expansion of Eka Kotebe Treatment Center.

WHO providing technical support to IPC pillar to develop SOP for management of the dead.
The Jack Ma donation of medical supplies arrived in Addis Ababa; as part of the “Reverse COVID-19 from Africa” initiative launched together with Abiy Ahmed, PM of ETHIOPIA.

It is a relief initiative to support African countries with diagnostics, and infection prevention control commodities to help fight the ongoing coronavirus pandemic across the continent.

ETHIOPIA received 20,000 test kits, 100,000 medical masks, and 1,000 protective suits and face shields from the donation.

Donation includes 1.1 million testing kits, 6 million masks, and 60,000 protective suits to be distributed throughout Africa. 20,000 test kits, 100,000 medical masks, and 1,000 protective suits and face shields to each of the 54 member states of the African Union.
WHO coordinating UNCT’s One-UN plan to support the government of ETHIOPIA in the response to COVID-19
Eat a healthy and nutritious diet, which helps your immune system to function properly.

Limit your alcohol consumption, and avoid sugary drinks.

Don’t smoke. Smoking can increase your risk of developing severe disease if you become infected with COVID-19.

Exercise. WHO recommends 30 minutes of physical activity a day for adults, and one hour a day for children.

Look after your mental health. It’s normal to feel stressed, confused and scared during a crisis. Talking to people you know and trust can help.

Supporting other people in your community can help you as much as it does them. Check in on neighbors, family and friends. Compassion is a medicine.

Listen to music, read a book or play a game.

Try not to read or watch too much news if it makes you anxious. Get your information from reliable sources once or twice a day.

Taken from DG’s opening remark during the COVID-19 media briefing conducted on 20 March 2020.
Provided COVID-19 orientation for 50 theatre artists


19 MARCH 2020

The state-owned Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) has donated 10 million Birr (USD 300,000), joining the national effort in fighting the outbreak of COVID-19.

CBE also promised to continue supporting the National COVID-19 Response Operation.

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21 MARCH 2020

ETHIO TELECOM introduced a TOLL-FREE number for the public to be able to get access to more information on COVID-19. It is currently providing service in 4 local languages:
1 = for AMHARIC,
2 = for AFAN OROMO,
3 = for TIGRIGNA,
4 = for SOMALIGNA

Additional TOLL-FREE telephone numbers made operational by the REGIONAL STATES for accessing COVID-19 related info.
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