COVID-19 RESPONSE BULLETIN

ETHIOPIA

04 APRIL 2020

ALERTS RECEIVED
692

SUSPECTED CASES DETECTED
362

CONFIRMED CASES
38

RECOVERED CASES
04

NUMBER OF DEATH
0
LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

Members of the public are being mobilized by the government to donate to the national COVID-19 resource mobilization Initiative set up by the Prime Minister. Cash, food and other supplies are being donated by the public, including the private sector.

In just five days since the COVID-19 National Resource Mobilisation Committee has been set up, we have been a witness to the generosity of the Ethiopian people. So far 150mil Birr has been mobilised locally, not including in-kind support of medical supplies.

Regional states established COVID-19 command posts and started taking serious measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 cases in their respective jurisdiction.

“Washing our hands frequently and maintaining social distancing is a critical part of COVID-19 prevention and containment efforts. As the virus has a tendency to remain for days on different materials, hand hygiene is key. Heed the message and protect yourselves.”

Dr ABiy Ahmed
Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA

“Let’s all play our part to raise public awareness on how individuals play a crucial role in preventing COVID-19 for themselves, their families and their community.”

Dr Lia Tadesse
Minister of Health, Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA
The National PHEOC restructured its IMT into 12 teams and assigned a new Incident Manager (IM). Aschalew Abayneh is the newly appointed IM.

WHO provided technical support for the development of the National COVID-19 Response Plan Scenario 3 (worst case scenario with community transmission) planning and budgeting.

Supported the development of COVID-19 guide for vulnerable populations.
WHO is supported the expansion of COVID-19 lab testing capacity

The daily lab testing capacity in EPHI labs has been increased by 100%.

The Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) and the National Animal Health Diagnosis and Investigation Center (NAHDIC) are now equipped with RT PCR machines with a capacity of testing 400 samples per day.

WHO facilitated Lab training on sample collection and transportation.
As of 29 March 2020, ETHIOPIAN airlines further suspended flights to more than 80 international destinations due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

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

WHO continues to monitor health screening of travelers at the points of entry and quarantine procedures in 20 designated hotels and institutions.

WHO trained Getfam Hotel staff to care for UN staff and families who have been quarantined.

As of 29 March 2020, ETHIOPIAN airlines further suspended flights to more than 80 international destinations due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

WHO continues to monitor health screening of travelers at the points of entry and quarantine procedures in 20 designated hotels and institutions.
WHO developed electronic data collection contact tracing tool powered by Open Data Kit (ODK)

WHO donated 100 smart phones fully configured with GPS facilities to EPHI for use by contact tracers

MoH and EPHI launched DHIS-2 based comprehensive and fully digitized database platform for the purposes of COVID-19 suspected case reporting, lab result tracking, contact tracing, and case management
WHO provided technical support to setup a pre-triage tent at Eka Kotebe Isolation | Treatment center

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

WHO donated hand washing facilities to stakeholders and partners (right)
WCO ETHIOPIA conducted all staff meeting to update on the status of COVID-19 including discussion on the challenges of staff working from home.

WHO regional teams are representatives of my office at the regions and expected to reflect the same work that is being done at the national level. I therefore strongly advise you to work closely with the RHBs and PHEMs to prepare and respond to COVID-19; in your respective regions.

Dr Boureima HAMA SAMBO
WHO Representative to ETHIOPIA

WHO Addis Ababa-based drivers were oriented on COVID-19 protective measures.

Similar sessions are planned for field-based drivers in all regions.
WHO is leading the coordination of a ONE UN response in Ethiopia. WHO hosts a daily WebEx IMT meeting with Cluster Lead Agencies (CLA) and Senior program officers participate the COVID-19 IMT daily brief.

WHO supported the development of a One-UN plan in support of the Government of ETHIOPIA’s COVID-19 Scenario 3 (community transmission) response.
WHO Representative presented PPE and other supplies donated by WHO to the State Minister of Health. 1,000 PPE sets, specimen collection materials and infrared temperature gun thermometers were provided.

Finally, refocus the whole of government on suppressing and controlling COVID-19.

WHO calls on all countries that have introduced lockdown measures to use this time to attack the virus... considering they have created a second window of opportunity.

SIX actions that we recommend:

- Expand, train and deploy your healthcare and public health workforce.
- Implement a system to find every suspected case at community level.
- Develop a clear plan and process to quarantine contacts, and ramp up production capacity and availability of testing.
- Identify, adapt and equip facilities you will use to treat and isolate patients.
- Develop a clear plan and process to quarantine contacts, and identify, adapt and equip facilities you will use to treat and isolate patients.

WHO’s aim is to reach as many people as possible with reliable health information through innovative digital technology... this partnership with Rakuten Viber gives WHO the potential to reach over 1 billion people in their own local languages, directly through their mobile phones. Information is powerful and can help save lives during this pandemic like COVID-19!

WHO and Rakuten Viber team up to fight COVID-19 misinformation with interactive chatbot

3 MARCH 2020

The chatbot is freely available in English, Russian and Arabic for now and more than 20 languages to be added soon. Follow the link below to join the WHO Viber service.

https://vb.me/82e535

Dr TEDROS Adhanom
Director-General
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Ethiopian Defence Forces (EDF) distributed COVID-19 related pamphlets and brochures in Addis Ababa by helicopter. EDF also mobilized its march band to educate the public on COVID-19 preventive measures through musical road-show.

As part of the fight against COVID-19, the major religious bodies announced that followers should pray from home & only a limited number of priests and imams should conduct prayers inside churches and mosques, respectively.

Dr LIA, Minister of Health, on the roads of Addis Ababa delivering behavioral change messages to the public on COVID-19.
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GLOBAL AND CONTINENTAL UPDATE
UPDATE AS OF 04 APRIL 2020

TOTAL CASES
1,131,713
TOTAL DEATH
59,884
TOTAL RECOVERED
233,591

TOTAL CASES
7,741
TOTAL DEATH
313
TOTAL RECOVERED
640

GLOBAL

AFRICA

208
AFFECTED COUNTRIES, AREAS or TERRITORIES
RISK ASSESSMENT
VERY HIGH

50
AFFECTED COUNTRIES, AREAS or TERRITORIES
RISK ASSESSMENT
VERY HIGH
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