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MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA
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HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION



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ETHIOPIAN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE DAILY SITUATION REPORT ETHIOPIA

(Data reported as at 16:30hrs EAT (GMT+3), 24 March 2020)

24 March 2020

ISSUE
NO

61

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Council of Ministers has passed decisions the federal government employees to work from home effective March 25, 2020 until further notification; employees who will work from home will be selected based on criteria to be set by each Ministry and communicated with their workforce
- One additional COVID-19 confirmed case confirmed. This makes the total number of confirmed cases 12 in Ethiopia.
- 26 new rumors /alerts were received. Of these, 10 of them fulfill the suspected case definition
- About 292 contacts of the confirmed cases have been identified
- Sample collection from severe pneumonia cases to test for COVID-19 is started in selected referral hospitals
- 750 travelers are under follow-up.
- A total of 160 passengers are under mandatory follow-up at Sky Light and Ghion Hotels
- 25 sprayers are provided to Eka Kotebe isolation center and three additional ambulances received from MOH

COVID-19 NATIONAL UPDATE

669,019

PASSENGERS SCREENED
ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020

12,738

PASSENGERS SCREENED
FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES

750

TRAVELERS
UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP

416

RUMORS/alerts
RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED

188

SUSPECTED CASES
DETECTED

12

TOTAL CASE
CONFIRMED

292

Contacts of the confirmed cases

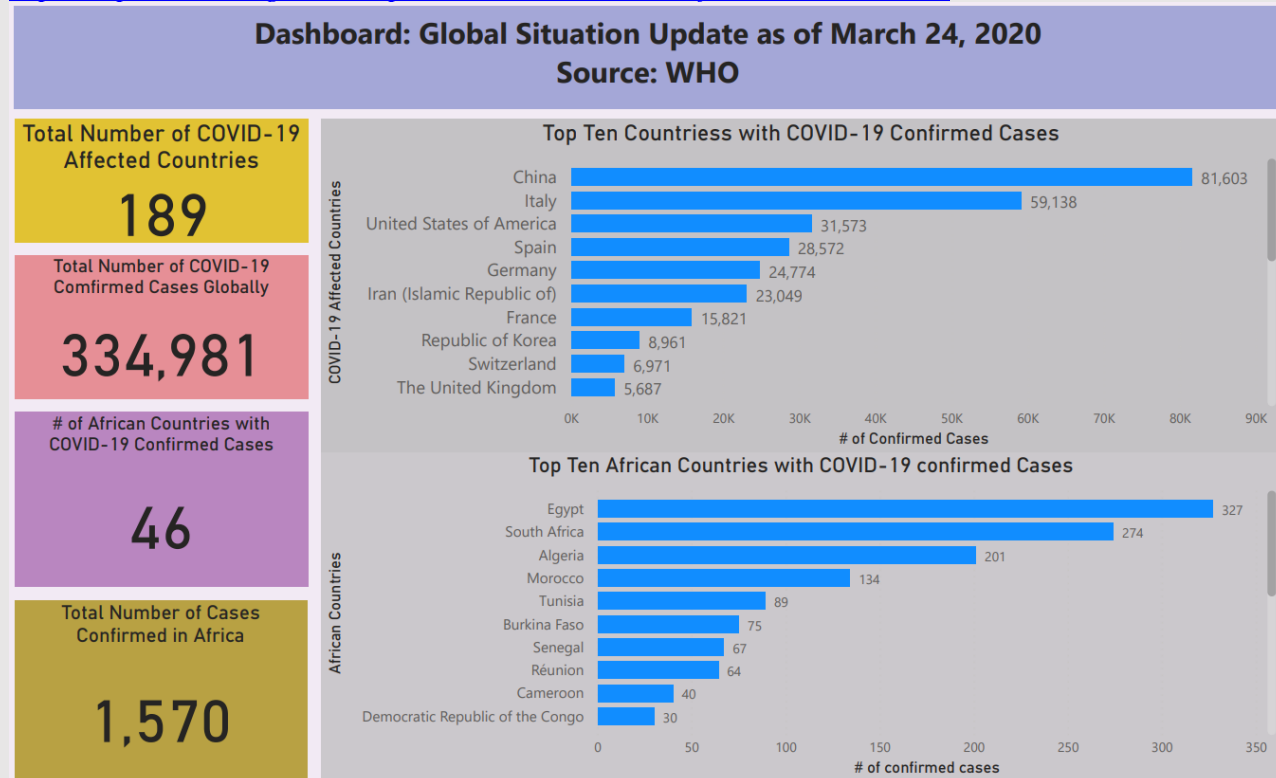
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SUSPECTED CASES IN THE
ISOLATION UNIT

COVID-19 GLOBAL UPDATE

Access link for WHO COVID-19 monitoring dashboard:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beee1b9125cd>



MAJOR COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS IN ETHIOPIA

BACKGROUND

Ethiopia activated its IMS under the national PHEOC. WHO and its partners are currently supporting in scaling up preparedness efforts and implementation of related recommendations suggested by the IHR Emergency Committee. Different layer so coordination platform revitalized and the PHEOC is working collaboratively with various agency representative, Partners, Embassies, hospitality sector, Industrial parks and others. There is strong communication and updating from other countries through IHR-NFPs. The sub-national level is well engaged in the preparedness and response efforts. Joint regular media briefing sessions are being conducted.

COORDINATION and COLLABORATION:

- The Council of Ministers has passed decisions the federal government employees to work from home effective March 25, 2020 until further notification; employees who will work from home will be selected based on criteria to be set by each Ministry and communicated with their workforce
- Team assembled to be deployed to the regions for supportive supervision and technical support of the sub-national level preparedness and response efforts
- UNFP, UNICEF, Red-cross society, IOM pledged to support supplies
- Rapid Response Team at the EPHI PHEOC decentralized to the Addis Ababa Sub-city level to improve rumors / alerts investigation and management
- DHIS2 related data collection and visualization developed and to be deployed soon
- Working documents such as case management and died body management revised and ready for distribution to health facilities and isolation center at all levels
- NDRMC activated it's EOC to coordinate multi-sectoral stakeholders at the national level and the commissioner has assumed the incident manager position

- The emergency response plan is being revised considering the worst scenario called scenario III.

EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES

- After the first case was confirmed on March 12, 2020, one additional COVID-19 a case has been confirmed overnight, making the total cases twelve (12). The patient is under medical treatment and it is in a stable condition. Fifteen people who had contacts with the patient are identified.
- All the confirmed COVID-19 cases are currently on medical care. All of them are in a stable condition.

Contact tracing and follow-up:

- So far, a total of 292 contacts are identified; 79 of these have completed the 14 days follow up; 3 contacts have gone back to Japan. A total of 260 contacts are under follow up currently
- A total of eight individuals among the close contacts of the confirmed cases became symptomatic. Of these, four tested positive, which are among the currently existing confirmed positive cases.

Rumors collection and verification from all sources

- Today, 26 new rumors/alerts received from all sources; 10 of the alerts fulfilled the case definition of suspected cases.
- So far, 416 rumors/alerts have been received and investigated. Of these, 188 rumors/alerts have fulfilled the case definition of suspected cases.
- On 24th March 2020, a total of 7,113 COVID-19 related calls are received through toll-free call centers. Of these calls, twelve rumors received.

Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries

- As of the 24th of March 2020:
 - 750 travelers are under follow-up.
 - 735 (4 new) travelers that were under follow-up departed back.
 - 1,803 travelers (31 new) have completed 14 days of follow-up and graduated from follow-up.

Laboratory performance

- Sample collection from severe pneumonia cases to test for COVID-19 is started in selected referral hospitals. About nine samples have collected from St. Peter Specialized Hospital

Quarantined passengers follow up:

- There are two hotels (Skylight and Ghion) where passengers are mandatorily quarantined: on March 24, 2020:
 - A total of 160 passengers are under mandatory quarantine and follow-up at Sky light and Ghion hotels
 - No alert case has been identified among the passengers under mandatory quarantine and follow-up
- Six additional hotels have identified for mandatory quarantine

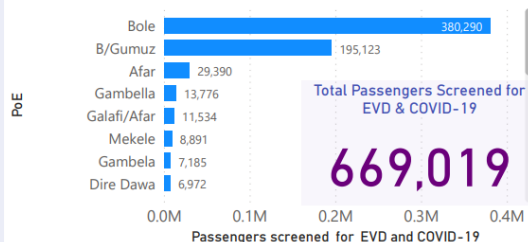
PASSENGERS SCREENING¹

- On the 23rd of March 2020; **493** travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries have been screened.

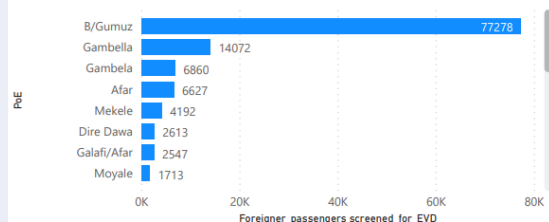
¹ The date is lagging one day back as most of the international flights are at night and the reports are compiled and count on the following date.

Total Passengers Screened for COVID-19 and EVD as of March 22, 2020

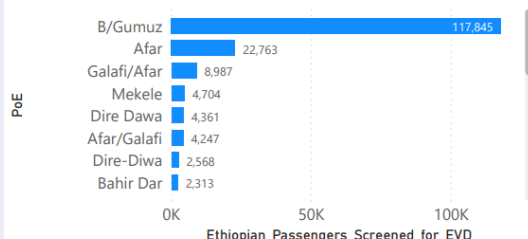
Passengers Screened for EVD and COVID-19 by PoE since 24th Jan, 2020



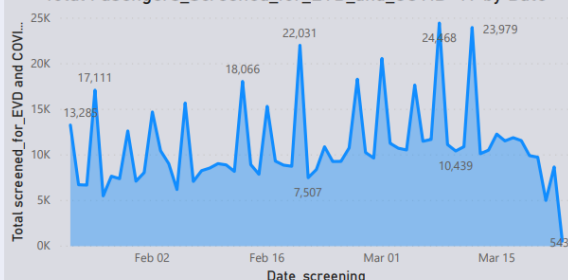
Foreigners Passengers screened for EVD by PoE since Jan 24, 2020



Ethiopian Passengers Screened for EVD by PoE since Jan 24, 2020



Total Passengers_Screened_for_EVD_and_COVID-19 by Date

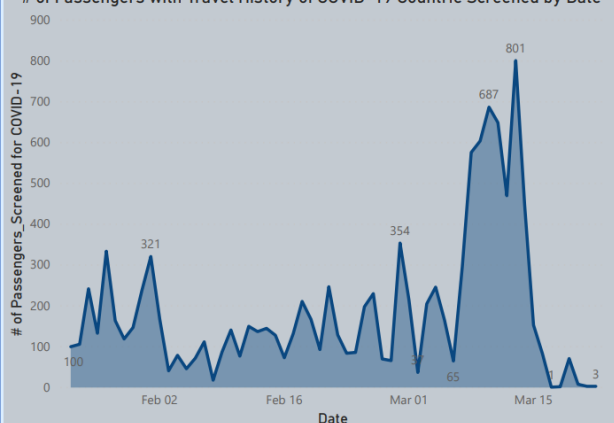


Passengers Screened with Travel History of COVID-19 Affected Countries as of March 23, 2020

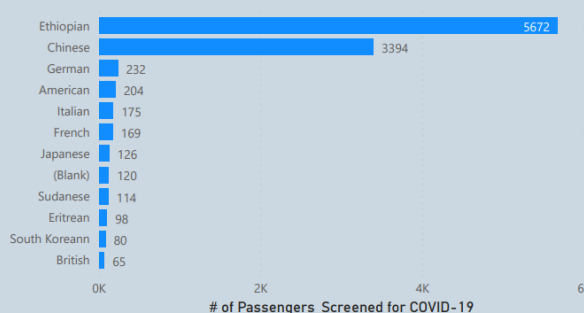
Total Passengers Screened for COVID-19 since Jan 24, 2020

12,969

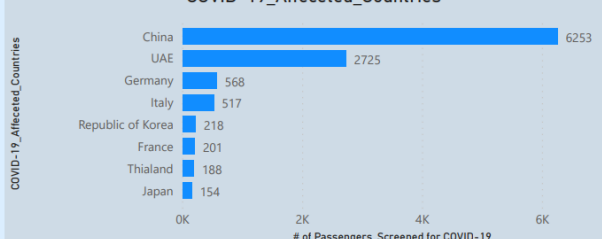
of Passengers with Travel History of COVID-19 Countries Screened by Date



Screened Passengers by Nationality



of Passengers_Screened for COVID-19 by COVID-19_Affected_Countries



OTHER POEs RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Disinfection protocol for vehicles used for the transport of quarantined passengers is prepared.
- Refugees and returnees readiness guidance document is finalized.
- Follow up of implementation of the mandatory quarantine for passengers coming from abroad is ongoing.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):

- Additional 25 sprayers are provided to Eka Kotebe isolation center
- Checklist revised for facility readiness assessment.
- Facility level indicator for follow up of quarantine, isolation and treatment centers is prepared.
- 3 suspected cases are admitted today; 6 are discharged after laboratory test became negative.

- There is a total of 5 suspected cases waiting for their laboratory result in Eka Kotebe treatment center.
- Additional hospitals identified and prepared to be used as the back-up for case management

LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Four for PM office and prison health department provided. Also, Infrareds thermometer sent to regional POEs
- Distribution of supplies donated by the Jack Ma donation for Africa countries ongoing
- Discussion held with different agents who could manufacture face masks and alcohol hand-rub locally
- Three additional ambulance vehicles received from MOH and drivers requested from other government organization

RISK COMMUNICATION:

- Community lock down guide is drafted.
- Press statement prepared and released

TRAINING AND ORIENTATION:

- Onsite orientation is given for hotel staffs in 3 different international hotels (Capital, Bon and Marriot).
- Training for federal prisons and sugar factories health professionals continued

MEDIA / WEB SCANNING:

News:

- Ethiopia Orders Federal Employees To Work From Home To Mitigate Spread Of COVID-19.(<https://www.fanabc.com/english/ethiopia-orders-federal-employees-to-work-from-home-to-mitigate-spread-of-covid-19/>)
- As the world commemorated the World Tuberculosis Day amidst Covid-19 pandemic, WHO Director-General said COVID-19 is highlighting just how vulnerable people with lung diseases and weakened immune systems can be, and Tuberculosis could make more people vulnerable to Covid-19: (<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-03-2020-new-who-recommendations-to-prevent-tuberculosis-aim-to-save-millions-of-lives>).
- The FDA (US) announced that **no at-home test kits** for coronavirus are approved. (Coronavirus (COVID-19) update: FDA alerts consumers about unauthorized fraudulent COVID-19 test kits. FDA statement March 20,2020:<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-alerts-consumers-about-unauthorized-fraudulent-covid-19-test-kits>)

Research findings:

Asymptomatic cases:

- **Blanket testing** in a completely isolated village of roughly 3000 people in northern Italy saw the number of people with covid-19 symptoms fall by over 90% within 10 days as reported by a professor of clinical immunology at the University of Florence (1).
- It is also indicated that employing large scale testing to find and isolate asymptomatic cases, particularly among health workers, was a vital strategy in containing the spread of the disease (1). But on the contrary, WHO's report in February stated that the proportion of truly asymptomatic infections is unclear but appears to be relatively rare and does not appear to be a major driver of transmission (2).

- Another report by CDC showed that almost half, 46.5%, of the infections aboard the Diamond Princess Cruise ship were asymptomatic when they were tested (3).
- Studies also showed a typical asymptomatic transmission to cohabitating family members, highlighting the importance of close contact tracing and longitudinal surveillance. (4, 5).

Pregnancy (6):

- Women who are more than 28 weeks pregnant should avoid direct contact with patients, says updated guidance from Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.
- Those who are less than 28 weeks pregnant, however, can continue to work in patient facing roles provided they use the right personal protection equipment (PPE).

Resources:

- 1- Covid-19: identifying and isolating asymptomatic people helped eliminate virus in Italian village. BMJ 2020;368:m1165 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m1165> (Published 23 March 2020)
- 2- WHO. Report of the WHO-China joint mission on coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/who-china-joint-mission-on-covid-19-final-report.pdf.
- 3- CDC says coronavirus survived in princess cruise ship cabins for up to 17 days after passengers left. Mar 23,2020 by William feuer. Health and Science. CBNC.
- 4- Presumed Asymptomatic Carrier Transmission of COVID-19, Feb-21, 2020. Yan Bai, Lingsheng Yao, Tao Wei et al. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.2565
- 5- Hu Z, Song C, Xu C, et al. clinical characteristics of 24 asymptomatic infections with COVID-19 screened among close contacts in Nanjing, China [published online ahead of print, 2020 Mar 4]. Sci China Life Sci. 2020; 10.1007/s11427-020-1661-4. doi: 10.1007/s11427-020-1661-4
- 6- Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in pregnancy: information for healthcare professionals (version 2). 13 March 2020. www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/2020-03-21-covid19-pregnancy-guidance-2118.pdf.Google Scholarrch 24

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Call-Centers
FOR MORE INFO and
ALERT NOTIFICATION on
COVID-19



The above presented Quick Reader (QR) code takes you to a portal that you can access updates and all COVID-19 related information available
(<https://www.ephi.gov.et/index.php/public-health-emergency/novel-corona-virus-update>)

DISCLAIMER

Figures presented in this situation report are pulled from official releases of the World Health Organization,
Other sources from the web, as well as report compiled by the National Incidence Response Team

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