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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 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE DAILY SITUATION REPORT ETHIOPIA

(Data reported as at 16:30hrs EAT (GMT+3), 15 March 2020)

15 March 2020

ISSUE
NO

52-
ERRATUM

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Three** additional cases confirmed for COVID-19 among the close contact of the first confirmed case. They are currently on medical care in the pre-designated health facility. Those who have been in contact with the case are being traced and quarantined.
- Discussion held with regions to enhance risk communication community engagement (RCCE) and panic management activities
- Statement on measures for COVID-19 transmission prevention is developed.
- The 8335 toll-free line upgraded to digitalized call center

COVID-19 NATIONAL UPDATE

587,788

PASSENGERS SCREENED
ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020

8,543

PASSENGERS SCREENED
FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES

1030

TRAVELERS
UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP

RUMORS/Alerts
RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED

SUSPECTED CASES
DETECTED

SUSPECTED CASES
TESTED -ve

04
TOTAL CASE
CONFIRMED

SUSPECTED CASES IN THE
ISOLATION UNIT

TOTAL CASES
153, 527

TOTAL DEATH
5, 733

251 CONFIRMED CASES
(IN AFRICA)

7 DEATHS
(IN AFRICA)

144
TOTAL AFFECTED COUNTRIES

72,479 CASES and 2,529 DEATHS
(OUTSIDE CHINA)

Access link for WHO COVID-19 monitoring dashboard:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeee1b9125cd>

Situation in Africa			
S. N ^o	Country	Total confirmed cases	Death
1	Egypt	93	2
2	South Africa	38	0
3	Algeria	37	3
4	Senegal	21	0
5	Morocco	18	1
6	Tunisia	16	0
7	Burkina Faso	3	0
8	Cameroon	3	0
9	Cote d'Ivoire	3	0
10	Democratic Republic of Congo	2	0
11	Ghana	2	0
12	Nigeria	2	0
13	Namibia	2	0
14	Ethiopia	1	0
15	Gabon	1	0
16	Guinea	1	0
17	Kenya	1	0
18	Sudan	1	1
19	Togo	1	0
20	Equatorial Guinea	1	0
21	Eswatini	1	0
22	Mauritania	1	0
23	Central African Republic	1	0
24	Congo	1	0

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION's RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

CHINA
VERY HIGH

REGIONAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH

GLOBAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation

153,527

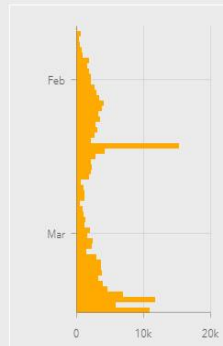
confirmed cases

5,733

deaths

144

countries, areas or territories with cases



Cases by date of report

Last updated: 3/15/2020 10:00 CET



Countries, areas or territories with cases

China :81048 cases
Italy :21157 cases
Iran (Islamic Republic of) :12729 cases
Republic of Korea :8162 cases
Spain :5753 cases
France :4469 cases
Germany :3795 cases
United States of America :1678 cases
Switzerland :1359 cases
United Kingdom :1144 cases
Netherlands :959 cases
Sweden :924 cases
Norway :907 cases
Denmark :827 cases
Austria :800 cases
Japan :780 cases

Countries, territories

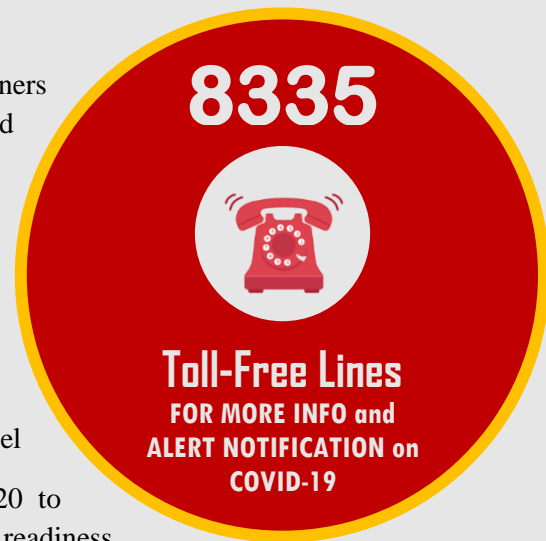
*Confirmed cases reported between 13 and 19 February 2020 include both laboratory-confirmed and clinically diagnosed (only applicable to Hubei province);

World Health Organization, Esri | WHO
Data source: WHO National Health Commission of the

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. The following is a summary of the major public health actions conducted in ETHIOPIA up until now, as part of the COVID-19 preparedness and readiness efforts.
 - Alerting stakeholders and regular and national and global situation updating
 - Revitalizing coordination platform at national and subnational level
 - The National PHEOC IMS was activated on 27 January 2020 to optimize the national level coordination of the preparedness and readiness efforts,
 - Since its activation, the national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitality sector, Industrial parks and others.
 - Regular media briefing sessions are being conducted, twice a week, by the Director General of EPHI and as needed by State Minister of MoH and jointly.
 - 24/7 Toll-free lines (8335) was established to provide information to and receive alert from; the public
 - Country preparedness assessment was conducted and emergency preparedness and response plan were developed
 - Designated isolation and quarantine centers are identified and equipping is ongoing
 - Protocols/guidelines are customized and developed
 - 24/7 rapid response team established
 - Trainings and orientations are ongoing
 - Strict PoE screening and vigilant follow-up procedures being implemented on incoming travelers at International Airports, Ethio-Djibouti Railway and land-crossing entries.
 - Key partners and stakeholders are identified and engaged in the preparedness efforts
 - Joint visit of Prime Minister Office, Africa CDC, WHO Country Office, Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau, Ministry of Health and EPHI was conducted to strengthen PoE preparedness and isolation and case management
 - MoH officials led by the State Minister, Dr Lia Tadesse, visited the operations of the national PHEOC and provided guidance on 04 February 2020.
 - With support from WHO; Ethiopia now has a capacity of processing confirmatory testing for COVID-19 at its strengthened National Influenza Laboratory based in EPHI (starting from 08 February 2020).
 - Minister Social Affairs standing committee of the House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) visited the National PHEOC on 17 FEB 2020; and received briefing on center's activities achieved and being conducted to prevent COVID-19 delivered by EPHI's Director General, Dr. Ebba Abate.
 - Health partners and donors' groups and China Embassy visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center and briefed on the activities to prevent the COVID-19



- Discussion and briefing provided by the EPHI DG to the Medical Corps Representatives
- Strong communication network established and receiving updates from other countries through National IHR-FPs.
- Discussion was held with Resolve to Save Lives team, led by the Vice President of the project, and HOPE Project Coordinator on how to support COVID-19 preparedness efforts
- H. E. Deputy Prime Minister, State Minister of Ministry Peace and MOH State Minister visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center at EPHI, Eka Kotobe Isolation Center and Bole International Airport screening activities and briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness activities on 7th March 2020

COORDINATION and COLLABORATION

- Daily follow-up meeting led jointly by the MOH state minister and EPHI DG being conducted on daily basis
- IMS core staffs daily briefing ongoing regularly in the morning and evening

EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE PROGRESS REPORT

- Ethiopia reported its first confirmed COVID-19 case on March 13, 2020. The patient is currently on medical care in an isolated room at the pre-designated isolation facility. Those who have been in contact with this case are being traced and quarantined.
- On March 15, 2020, three additional cases confirmed among the close contacts of the first confirmed case

Rumors collection and verification (through 8335 toll-free number and other sources)

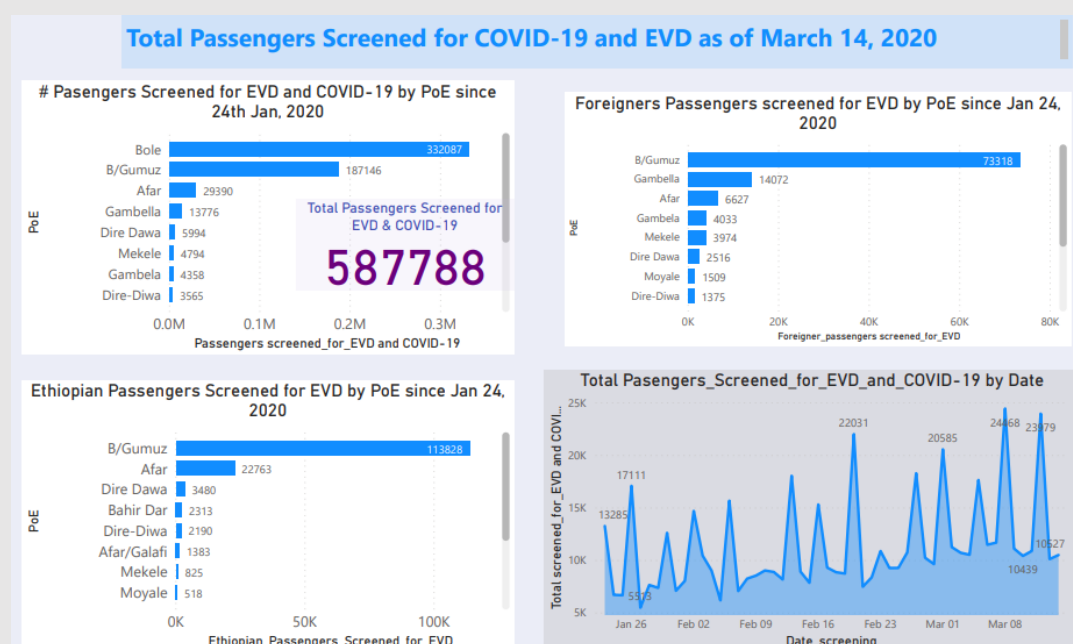
- The 8335 toll-free line upgraded to digitalized call center, which increase reachability for rumor reporting and information provision for the community.

Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries

-

PASSENGERS SCREENING¹

- On the 14th of March 2020; **694** travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries have been screened (see the dashboard below for the total passenger 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.

OTHER POEs RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Hand washing facility availed at the temporarily isolation unit in BIA.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):

- Statement on the measures to be implemented to control COVID-19 outbreak is drafted.
- 8 suspected cases are admitted to isolation center, 4 cases which tested negative are discharged today.
- Community awareness creation regarding mask utilization conducted via Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation.



LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Multi-disciplinary health professional, comprising Physicians, laboratory technicians, public health officers and Field Epidemiology Training Program Residents, are mobilized for the Rapid Response Team and call center operation.

RISK COMMUNICATION:

- Message and guide elaborating COVID-19 prevention and control developed.
- Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities of Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, and Addis Ababa regions assessed and discussion held to enhance risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities.

RECOMMENDATION AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC:

Face masks are not recommended for every individuals. Face masks shall be used only by those who have cough, sneezing or any other respiratory illnesses OR by those who treat, live and/or have close contact with those who have cough, sneezing or any other respiratory illnesses. Thus all the individuals should be abstained from buying unnecessary face masks which may create inappropriate shortage of the medical supplies and unnecessary money expenditure besides creating individual induced inflation.

For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal. Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease.



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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