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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), 18 March 2020)

18 March 2020

ISSUE
NO

55

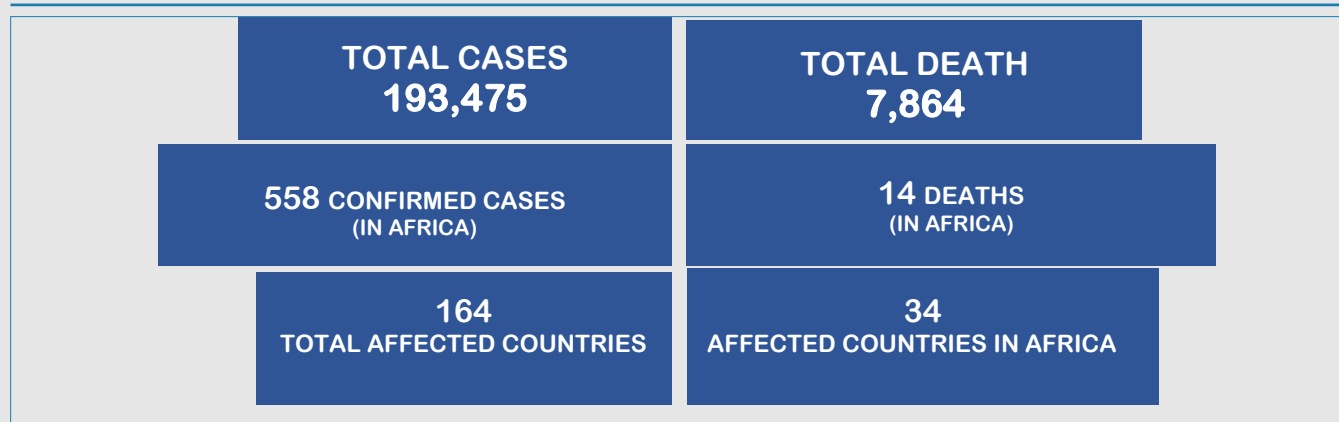
HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of six COVID-19 confirmed cases in Ethiopia. All of them are on medical care. Those who have been in contact with the case are being traced.
- Surge staffs mobilized from the MOH and working in the PHEOC fulltime
- Discussion held with Ethiopian Sugar Corporation regarding alcohol hand rub production
- Hospital readiness status assessed in Addis Ababa
- Today, 17 rumors were received. Of these, 5 fulfilled the suspected case definition
- A total of 217 individuals who has contacts with the confirmed cases identified and are being under follow-up.
- 12,000 posters distributed

COVID-19 NATIONAL UPDATE

623,517 PASSENGERS SCREENED ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020	9,947 PASSENGERS SCREENED FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES	1266 TRAVELERS UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP	219 RUMORS/alerts RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED
102 SUSPECTED CASES DETECTED	Suspected cases Tested negative	06 TOTAL CASE CONFIRMED	18 SUSPECTED CASES IN THE ISOLATION UNIT

COVID-19 GLOBAL UPDATE



Access link for WHO COVID-19 monitoring dashboard:

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

Top ten affected countries globally:

S.No	Country name	Confirmed cases	Death	Case fatality rate
1	China	81,151	3,242	3.99%
2	Italy	31,506	2,503	7.94%
3	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	16,169	988	6.11%
4	Spain	11,178	491	4.39%
5	Republic of Korea	8,413	84	0.99%
6	France	7,652	175	2.29%
7	Germany	7,156	13	0.18%
8	USA	4,345	79	1.82%
9	Switzerland	2,650	19	0.72%
10	The United Kingdom	1,954	60	3.07%

Situation in Africa:

S. N ^o	Country	Total confirmed cases	Death	Case fatality rate
1	Egypt	196	6	3.06%
2	South Africa	85	0	0
3	Algeria	60	5	8.33%
4	Morocco	49	2	4.08%
5	Senegal	31	0	0
6	Tunisia	24	0	0
7	Re Union	12	0	0
8	Ethiopia ¹	8	0	0
9	Burkina Faso	20	0	0
10	Cameroon	10	0	0
11	Cote d Ivoire	6	0	0
12	Democratic Republic of Congo	7	0	0
13	Ghana	7	0	0

¹ Source of data: Federal Ministry of Health and Ethiopian Public Health Institute (Not reported by WHO)

14	Nigeria	3	0	0
15	Namibia	2	0	0
16	Seychelles	4	0	0
17	Gabon	3	0	0
18	Guinea	1	0	0
19	Kenya	4	0	0
20	Sudan	2	1	
21	Togo	1	0	0
22	Equatorial Guinea	3	0	0
23	Eswatini	1	0	0
24	Mauritania	1	0	0
25	Central African Republic	1	0	0
26	Congo	1	0	0
27	Rwanda	8	0	0
28	Mayotte	1	0	0
29	Somalia	1	0	0
30	Benin	1	0	0
31	Liberia	2	0	0
32	United Republic of Tanzania	1	0	0
33	Djibouti	1	0	0
34	Gambia	1	0	0
Total		558	14	2.51%

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

CHINA
VERY HIGH

REGIONAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH

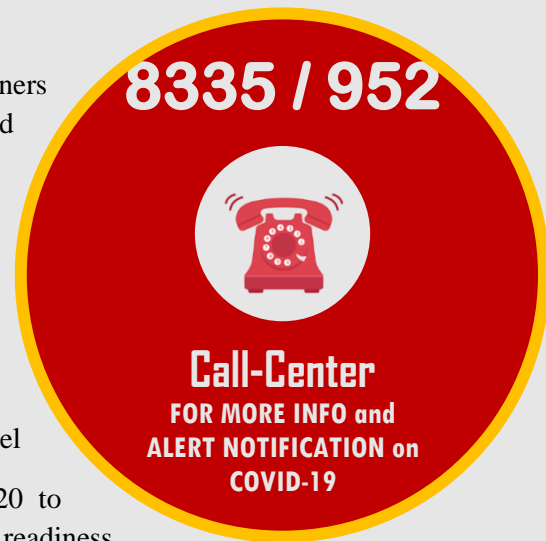
GLOBAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH



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
- H.E. Prime Minister of Ethiopia declared closure of schools and public gatherings for the next two weeks on March 16, 2020.

COORDINATION and COLLABORATION

- Assigning the surge staffs mobilized from the MOH into different pillars based on human resource need conducted.
- There was discussion with Ethiopian Sugar Corporation regarding alcohol hand rub production.
- Joint IMS core staffs and partners representatives daily briefing ongoing on daily basis
- Facilities readiness assessment is conducted in Addis Ababa hospitals.
- Activities are underway to strengthen COVID-19 screening activities in the refugee coordination office

EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES

- As of March 18, 2020; a total of six COVID-19 cases were confirmed and they are currently on medical care in the pre-designated isolation facilities.
- So far, a total of 217 individuals who have contacts with the confirmed cases were identified.

Rumors collection and verification (via call centers and other sources)

- As of March 18, 2020; a total of 219 rumors/alerts have been received and investigated. Of these, 102 have fulfilled the suspected case definition. Today, 17 rumors/alerts received, five of which fulfilled the suspected case definition and 9 under investigation.
- On 18th March 2020, a total of 2531 calls have received through toll-free line. Four of the rumors received on today were via call center.
- In light with increasing demands for information and rumor notification the call center expanded and alternative call center (952) is being utilized to receive COVID-19 rumors and respond to queries
- No COVID-19 alerts received from regions.

Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries

- As of the 18th of March 2020:
 - 1,266 travelers are under follow-up. Of these 351 passengers were newly enrolled on today.
 - 616 travelers (nine new) that were under follow-up departed back.
 - 1,495 travelers (184 new) have completed 14 days of follow-up and graduated from follow-up.

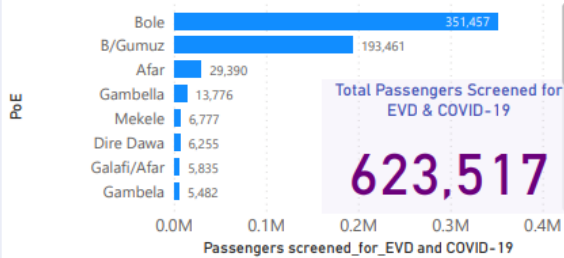
PASSENGERS SCREENING²

- On the 17th of March 2020; **521** travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries have been screened (see the dashboard below for the total passenger screened).

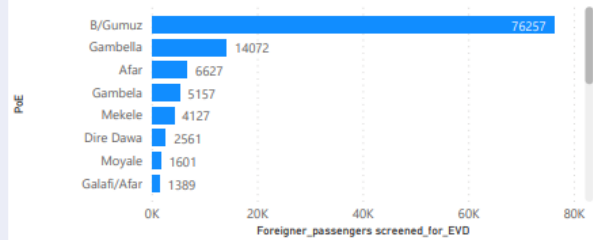
² The date is lagging one day back as most of the international flights are at night and the reports are compiled and count on the following date.

Total Passengers Screened for COVID-19 and EVD as of March 17, 2020

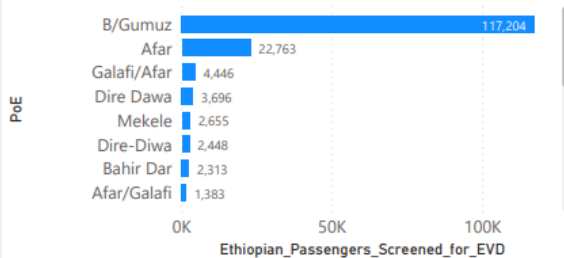
Passengers Screened for EVD and COVID-19 by PoE since 24th Jan, 2020



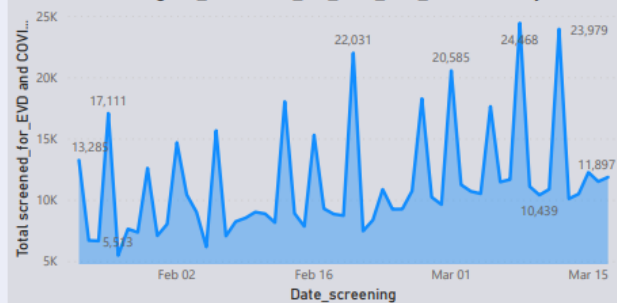
Foreigners Passengers screened for EVD by PoE since Jan 24, 2020



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



Total Passengers_Screened_for_EVD_and_COVID-19 by Date

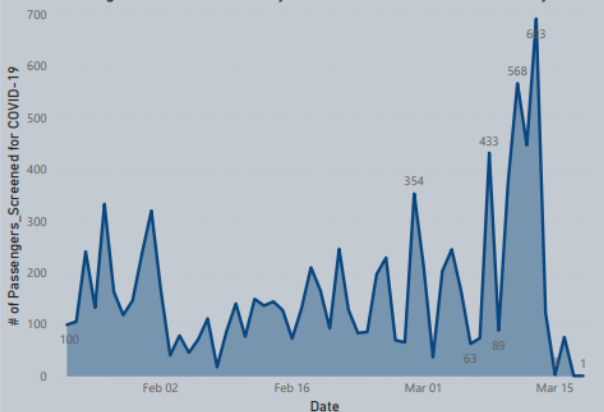


Passengers Screened with Travel History of COVID-19 Affected Countries as of March 17, 2020

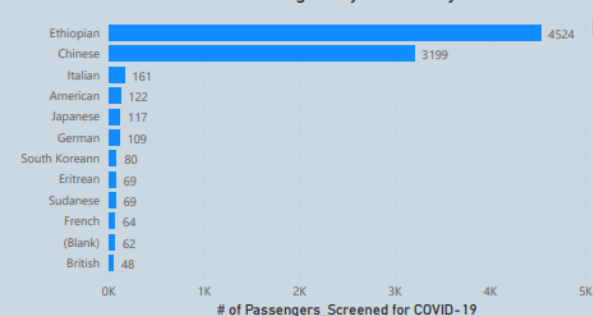
Total Passengers Screened for COVID-19 since Jan 24, 2020

9,758

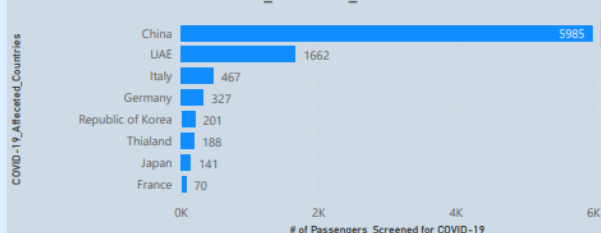
of Passengers with Travel History of COVID-19 Countries Screened by Date



Screened Passengers by Nationality



of Passengers_Screened for COVID-19 by COVID-19_Affected_Countries



OTHER POEs RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Activities are started to initiate additional health screening sites at Ethio-Eritrean border.
- Follow-up and supervision to Basha Wolde quarantine center
- Additional health screening teams among newly recruited health professionals are deployed to BIA

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):

- A total of 6 confirmed and 18 suspected cases are in the isolation centers
- Orientation regarding Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) was provided for immigration and Nordic Clinic.

LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Assigning the surge staffs mobilized from the MOH into different sections based on human resource need of the PHEOC conducted.

- Isolation center refilled with medical supplies
- Five additional standby ambulance mobilized

RISK COMMUNICATION:

- 50,000 banners printed
- 12,000 posters distributed
- Social media spot developed
- Sticker message for cars, laptops, sanitizer and hand washing drafted

MEDIA / WEB SCANNING:

- The first human trial of a vaccine to protect against pandemic coronavirus has started in the US. Four patients received the shot at the Kaiser Permanente research facility in Seattle, Washington. (source: Coronavirus: US volunteers test first vaccine By Michelle Roberts Health editor, BBC News online 17 March 2020)
- **WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice Myth busters (6):**
 - From the evidence so far, the COVID-19 virus can be transmitted in ALL AREAS, including areas with hot and humid weather
 - Hand dryers are not effective in killing the 2019-nCoV. To protect yourself against the new coronavirus, you should frequently clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.
 - Thermal scanners are effective in detecting people who have developed a fever (i.e. have a higher than normal body temperature) because of infection with the new coronavirus
 - Vaccines against pneumonia, such as pneumococcal vaccine and Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib) vaccine, do not provide protection against the new coronavirus.
 - Garlic is a healthy food that may have some antimicrobial properties. However, there is no evidence from the current outbreak that eating garlic has protected people from coronavirus
 - People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.
 - To date, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). However, those infected with the virus should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive optimized supportive care.
- **Key community mitigation strategies (7. Covid-19 and community mitigation strategies in a pandemic BMJ 2020; 368 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m1066> (Published 17 March 2020):**
 - Cancellation or suspension of events with super spreader potential
 - Use of social distancing measures to reduce direct and close contact between people in the community
 - Travel restrictions, including reduced flights and public transport and route restrictions without compromising essential services
 - Voluntary home quarantine of members of household contacts
 - Changes to funeral services to minimize crowd size and exposure to body fluids of the diseased
 - Clear communication from national and international health authorities to ensure verified information and avoid fake news, rumours, and panic

8335 / 952



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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