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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), 28 March 2020)

28 March 2020

ISSUE  
NO

65

## HIGHLIGHTS

- So far, there are 16 confirmed COVID-19 cases detected in Ethiopia.
- One of the COVID-19 confirmed cases has recovered.
- 41 new rumors /alerts were received. Of these, 21 of them fulfill the suspected case definition
- About 481 contacts of the confirmed cases have been identified
- Team deployed to Afar, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella and SNNPR regions
- Leadership meeting led by the MOH ministers and EPHI leadership held and discussed on how to intensify the preparedness and response efforts

## COVID-19 NATIONAL UPDATE

PASSENGERS SCREENED

ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020

PASSENGERS SCREENED  
FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES

969

TRAVELERS  
UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP

499

RUMORS/Alerts  
RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED

246

SUSPECTED CASES  
DETECTED

16

TOTAL CASE  
CONFIRMED

1

TOTAL RECOVERED

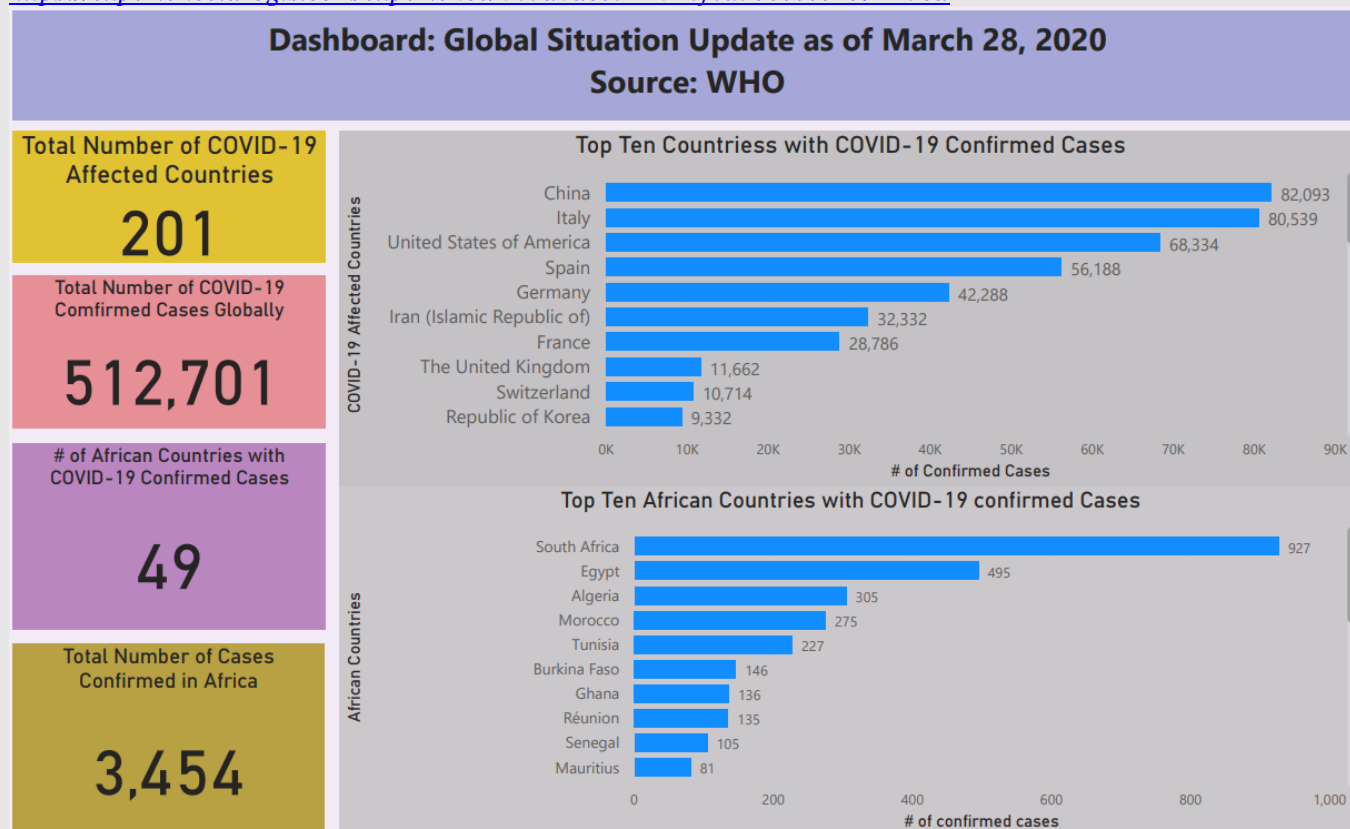
481

Contacts of the confirmed cases

# 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:

- Daily morning briefing of the IMS core staffs and agency representatives is being conducted on daily basis.
- Leadership meeting led by the MOH ministers and EPHI leadership, in which MOH and EPHI COVID-19 preparedness and response coordinator participated, conducted to evaluate the preparedness and response activities and provide direction

### EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

#### Confirmed COVID-19 cases:

- One of the COVID-19 confirmed cases has recovered.
- So far, there are 16 confirmed COVID-19 cases detected in Ethiopia.
- All the cases are on medical care in stable condition while two cases were transferred to Japan in collaboration with Japan Embassy.

### **Contact tracing and follow-up:**

- So far, a total of 481 (55 new) contacts of confirmed cases have been identified. Of these, 152 (19 new) have completed the 14 days follow-up, while 325 contacts are still on follow-up.
- Among the contacts, eleven (one new) contacts were developed COVID-19 compatible symptoms. Of these, six (one new) contacts tested negative and one pending, while four of the symptomatic contacts were tested positive, which are among the currently existing confirmed positive cases.
- There have been no contacts lost follow-up.

### **Rumors collection and verification from all sources**

- Today, 41 new rumors/alerts received (23 via call center). Of these, 21 of the alerts fulfilled the case definition of suspected cases.
- So far, 499 rumors/alerts have been received and investigated. Of these, 246 rumors/alerts have fulfilled the case definition of suspected cases.
- On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020, a total of 6,928 calls received and responded via toll-free call centers.

### **Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries**

- As of the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2020:
  - 969 travelers are under follow-up.
  - 781 (10 new) travelers that were under follow-up departed back.
  - 2,450 travelers (360 new) have completed 14 days of follow-up and graduated from follow-up.

### **Quarantined passengers follow up:**

- Currently a total of 879 passengers (55 new) is under the quarantine in hotels, health facilities, schools and other quarantine centers.
- Four alert cases are identified from passengers under quarantine.

## **PASSENGERS SCREENING**

- Follow up of the mandatory quarantine implementation for passengers coming from abroad via BIA in ongoing.
- Health screening of passengers coming from other COVID-19 affected countries is also ongoing.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):**

- One of the COVID-19 confirmed cases has recovered from the disease.
- 13 suspected cases are admitted today; 22 initially suspected cases are discharged after laboratory test became negative.

## **LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:**

- 20 additional ambulances requested from MOH.
- COVID-19 commodities procurement order is sent to the Ethiopian Pharmaceuticals Supply Agency (EPSA)

## **RISK COMMUNICATION:**

- Public transportation guide is prepared.
- Checklist developed for community perception assessment.
- Messages for social media are developed and shared.

## TRAINING AND ORIENTATION:

- Orientation is given for teams deployed to regions for supportive supervision of regional COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts.

## MEDIA / WEB SCANNING:

### Presentation of corona virus patients

- A retrospective study which found six child patients of COVID-19 (median age of 3 years) from 366 hospitalized children showed clinical, laboratory and radiology manifestations of children (1).
- Common clinical characteristics included
  - High fever ( $>39^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (in all six patients),
  - Cough (in all six), and
  - Vomiting (in four).
- Laboratory investigations showed lower levels of
  - Lymphocytes ,
  - White cells, and
  - Neutrophils.
- Chest CT scans showed
  - Typical viral pneumonia patterns.
- This study showed that Covid-19 occurred in children, causing moderate-to-severe respiratory illness (1).
- In another study ground-glass opacity was the most common radiologic finding on chest computed tomography (CT) (56.4%) during admission. Higher percentage of radiographic or CT abnormality was found in patients with severe disease (2).
- Lymphocytopenia was present in 83.2% of the patients on admission (2).

### Control strategies

- An analysis by the Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team highlights that introducing social distancing, testing and isolating infected people would cut worldwide deaths to 1.9 million, if carried out when each country's fatality rate is 0.2 per 100,000 people per week (3).
- Implementing these measures only when the death rate reaches 1.6 per 100,000 people per week leads to 10.5 million lives lost globally, it finds (3).
- Another projection shows that there are benefits to sustaining physical distancing measures until April in terms of delaying and reducing the height of the peak, median epidemic size at end-2020, and affording health-care systems more time to expand and respond (4).
- This projection also show that physical distancing measures were most effective if the staggered return to work was at the beginning of April; which reduce the median number of infections by more than 92% and 24% in mid-2020 and end-2020, respectively (4).
- The projection suggests that premature and sudden lifting of interventions could lead to an earlier secondary peak, which could be flattened by relaxing the interventions gradually (4).

### References

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2. Clinical Characteristics of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in China. Wei-jie Guan, Zheng-yi Ni, Yu Hu, Wen-hua Liang, Chun-quan Ou, Jian-xing He, Lei Liu, Hong Shan, Chun-liang Lei, David S.C. Hui, Bin Du, Lan-juan Li, M.D., et al. February 28, 2020 DOI: [10.1056/NEJMoa2002032](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2002032)
3. Virus could have killed 40 million without global response. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00154-w>
4. The effect of control strategies to reduce social mixing on outcomes of the COVID-19 epidemic in Wuhan, China: a modelling study. Kiesha Prem, Yang Liu, Timothy W Russell, Adam J Kucharski, Rosalind M Eggo, Nicholas Davies, et al. March 25, 2020 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667\(20\)30073-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667(20)30073-6)

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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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