



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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February 6, 2020

The Chief Executive Officer
Pharmacy & Poisons Board
NAIROBI

RE: SUSPENSION OF EXPORTATION OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPES)

On 31st December 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was informed of a cluster of cases of Pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, Peoples' Republic of China. This was subsequently confirmed as an outbreak of a new type of coronavirus, 2019 novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) by the National Health Commission, Peoples' Republic of China and the WHO. As of 5th February 2020, 24554 confirmed cases and 491 deaths had been reported globally out of which 24363 cases and 491 deaths have been reported in China. One hundred and ninety – one (191) confirmed cases including one (1) death have been reported outside of China in twenty-four (24) countries. ✓

There exist serious risks for the current 2019-nCoV outbreak spreading into the country since there are extensive commercial links between Kenya and China and there is substantial traffic of traders with Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) being an interconnecting hub for East and Central Africa. ✓

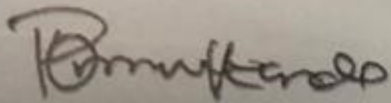
Among the requirements for the country to strengthen preparedness is the availability of personal protective equipment including N95 and surgical face masks. ✓

Owing to increased global demand and resulting shortage for the said equipment, it is imperative that the country has sufficient stocks. ✓



The purpose of this letter therefore is to inform you to direct the in-country manufacturers to suspend exportation of these critical commodity until the current outbreak is successfully contained.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dr. Patrick Amoth

AG. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR HEALTH

Copy to: Cabinet Secretary
Chief Administrative Secretary
Principal Secretary