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Ivory Coast records first coronavirus death: minister

News Desk

Agence France-Presse

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A man puts hand sanitizer on woman's hand before she gets on a bus, after Ivorian authorities announced to suspend travel between cities due to the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, March 24, 2020.Ivory Coast's health minister announced the country's first confirmed coronavirus death during a daily briefing Sunday on the outbreak there. (REUTERS/Luc Gnago)

Ivory Coast's health minister announced the country's first confirmed coronavirus death during a daily briefing Sunday on the outbreak there.

Eugene Aka Aouele gave no details on the victim's age or sex, but said the diagnosis had been made "post-mortem".

Aouele also announced another 25 cases of the virus had been recorded, bringing the official total in the country to 165.

President Alassane Ouattara declared a state of emergency last Monday to tackle the outbreak, imposing a curfew between 9:00 pm and 5:00 am, and shutting the country's borders.

He also banned movement in and out of the economic capital Abidjan, and closed bars, restaurants and schools.

Neighboring Burkina Faso has recorded 222 cases of the virus and 12 deaths.