The Ministry of Health is continuously strengthening prevention measures to ensure that there is no importation of COVID-19 into the country.

Through the Multi-agency Taskforce the Government has put in place key public health interventions to ensure that the country is ready to effectively respond to any imported outbreak. The interventions include:

i. Enhanced surveillance at all points of entry, health facilities, communities;
ii. Diagnostic capacity established at National Influenza Centre laboratory and other network of laboratories including Kenya Medical Research Institute laboratories
iii. Established coordination committees at both policy and technical levels. The committees meets regularly
iv. Ongoing training of health care staff on prevention, early detection, management of suspected/confirmed cases

As of 24th February 2020, Kenya has investigated fifteen (15) alerts and all have tested NEGATIVE for COVID-19. Two of the cases were investigated over the weekend in Kisumu and Bomet Counties respectively. Both cases did not meet WHO case definition for a suspected case.

We appeal to the members of the public to remain vigilant as the risk is still high and continue taking the precautionary measures by maintaining basic hand and respiratory hygiene, and safe food practices and avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.
In addition, anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as fever, coughing, difficulty in breathing and sneezing with a history of recent travel to China is advised to visit the nearest health facility for assessment and prompt management.

We are also advising Kenyans against non-essential travel to affected countries. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) as at 24\textsuperscript{th} February 2020, 79\,331 confirmed cases have been reported globally. Further information in this regard can be obtained via https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports

Suspected cases in Kenya can be reported to the Ministry of Health through hotline numbers: 0800721316, 0732353535, 0729471414.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

25\textsuperscript{th} February 2020