The Government continues to sustain its preparedness to combat the threat of COVID-19 and wishes to assure members of the public that everything is being done to ensure that there is no importation of the virus into the country.

Kenya now has in-country capacity at National Influenza Centre and KEMRI laboratories to test suspected cases of COVID-19. To date, there has been NO confirmed case in the country. However, continuous surveillance, monitoring and screening has been heightened at all points of entry, all health facilities and communities.

Members of the public are urged to remain vigilant as the risk is still high and are advised to continue taking the following precautionary measures:

i. Maintain basic hand and respiratory hygiene, and safe food practices.

ii. Avoid close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.

iii. 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 go to the nearest health facility for assessment and prompt management.

iv. We are advising Kenyans against non-essential travel to affected countries.
Suspected cases can be reported to the Ministry of Health through hotline numbers: 0800721316, 0732353535, 0729471414.

Information from the World Health Organization (WHO) indicate that as at 13th February 2019, 46,997 confirmed cases have been reported globally with majority being from mainland China. Further information in this regard can be obtained via https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports

The Ministry will keep updating the public on the situation and provide appropriate guidance.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

14th February 2020