REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS DISEASE-19(COVID-19) AS AT 13th FEBRUARY 2020

We wish to update Kenyans that as of 11th February 2020, 43103 confirmed cases and 1018 deaths had been reported globally out of which 42708 cases and 1017 deaths have been reported from China. Three hundred and ninety-five (395) cases including one (1) death have been reported outside of China in twenty-four (24) countries.

The Government of Kenya commends the Government of the Peoples' Republic of China for the efforts it has undertaken to contain the outbreak of the Coronavirus disease-19 in China and in particular, in keeping safe and healthy Kenyan students caught up at the epicenter of the epidemic.

The Ministry of Health would like to assure the public that the Government of Kenya working with other agencies continues to strengthen the country's capacity to mitigate consequences of any potential importation of Coronavirus.

To date, we wish to inform the public that Kenya has **NOT** had any confirmed case of COVID-19. The Ministry continues to maintain a heightened surveillance system at all points of entry, health facilities and communities across the country. So far, the Ministry through its surveillance system, has been able to pick seven (7) suspected cases who have all tested negative for the disease. Since the last press conference on Friday 7th February 2020, there have been no new suspected cases. In addition, we have investigated two (2) alerts this morning that turned out false.

Further, the Government has put in place the following interventions:

i. **Governance:** Ongoing whole government and multi-agency approach, at two levels (policy and technical). Ministries, departments and agencies have been brought on board to deal with the threat of COVID-19.

ii. **Diagnostic Capacity**: The Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Health has the necessary capacity for in – country testing.

iii. **Screening:** Ongoing mandatory screening in all points of entry including Mombasa sea port to minimize the risk of importation of the virus from affected countries. A total of **99706** travellers have been screened across various points of entry since 20th January 2020 to 10th February 2020.

iv. **Human Resources: 400** health workers in both public and private health facilities and at points of entry have been sensitised on how to deal with suspected cases. Additional health workers have been deployed at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA).

v. **Isolation/ Quarantine Facilities:** The isolation facility at Kenyatta National Hospital continues to be used to isolate suspected cases while they undergo investigation. The National Government has taken over a new ward with capacity of 120 beds at Mbagathi District Hospital to increase isolation capacity. Further, all the points of entry have isolation/holding facilities and prepositioned personal protective equipment.

Finally, we appeal to the members of the public to remain vigilant and follow 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.**

Stay safe and report any suspected cases to the Ministry of Health through hotline numbers: **0800721316, 0732353535, 0729471414**. We shall continue to provide regular updates.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

13th February 2020