



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON
CORONAVIRUS
UPDATE OF CORONAVIRUS IN THE COUNTRY AND
RESPONSE MEASURES AS AT 1st April, 2020**

Fellow Kenyans,

Welcome to the daily updates on the current status of Coronavirus disease outbreak in Kenya.

On March 13, 2020, His Excellency the President announced the first patient who had tested positive for Coronavirus disease in the country.

Many did not believe that the disease had finally found its way into the country. However, as the days went by and more cases were being announced it finally dawned on Kenyans that truly the disease is here with us.

However, like we have always told you over and over again, we can be able to defeat this disease if we abide by the measures the Government has advised.

Today His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta spoke with the 26-year-old Ivy Brenda Cheronno who was our first patient to test positive for the Coronavirus after she was discharged from Mbagathi Hospital via teleconference from Statehouse here in my office. She was accompanied by Brian Orindi, patient number three who contracted the disease from her.

I am sure majority of Kenyans managed to watch the live proceedings which I believe have now given Kenyans a ray of hope in the fight against this disease. The recovery of Cheronno and Brian should be a testimony that Kenyans must now understand that contracting the disease is not a license to death.

The second contact who also contracted the disease from Cheronno was discharged two weeks ago. This brings to three the number of people who have now fully recovered from the virus. This is not an April Fool's joke, my friends.

However, we still have a lot of work to do. There are many Kenyans who are still infected and more are still getting infected as result of coming into contact with those who have tested positive for the virus. We must not relent in fight against the virus by observing the preventive measures that we have been communicating to you.

The Government is dealing with the fight against the disease through a multi-agency approach. We are alive to the fact that there are people who may want to pour cold water on the united approach with a view to grinding the machine to a halt.

However, this is in not advisable because this fight against the disease requires a united effort because this is not the end, in fact, the journey has just started. There is need therefore to educate, unify rather than divide. The disease does not discriminate between the rich and the poor.

In the last twenty four hours, we have managed to test a total of **three hundred and eighty (380)** samples from suspected cases of COVID-19 have been analyzed in four Laboratories namely: National Influenza center, KEMRI, CDC, and Aga Khan Hospital laboratories.

Out of these, we have received confirmation of Twenty-two **(22)** people who have tested positive for the Coronavirus disease. Eighteen **(18)** of the confirmed cases are Kenyan nationals while four **(4)** are foreign nationals (2 each from Pakistan and Cameroon). The Distribution of these cases by Counties is as follows: They are spread out in the Counties like this:

- i. Mombasa: 7

- ii. Kiambu : 2
- iii. Kakamega: 1
- iv. Kilifi :1
- v. Machakos: 1
- vi. Muranga : 1
- vii. Nyamira: 1
- viii. Nairobi : 1

In terms of gender, there are **13** males and **9** females. Out of the confirmed cases, all except one (**1**) were detected in quarantine facilities. The ages of the confirmed cases range from 23 to 71 years.

This now brings the total number of confirmed COVID -19 cases in Kenya to eighty-one (**81**). Tracing of close contacts of the eighty-one (**81**) confirmed cases is ongoing. So far, the total number of close contacts that we have so far been monitoring stands at **1675**. Out of this number, **706** have been discharged from contact follow up process after completing the 14 days follow up period.

Currently, our teams are monitoring **969** close contacts of confirmed cases.

I thank you.

**HON. MUTAHI KAGWE, EGH,
CABINET SECRETARY.**