



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON**  
**CORONAVIRUS**  
**UPDATE OF CORONAVIRUS IN THE COUNTRY AND**  
**RESPONSE MEASURES AS AT 4<sup>TH</sup> April, 2020**

Fellow Kenyans,

This afternoon we have a very short briefing as we seek to update Kenyans on the current status of Coronavirus in the country.

First and foremost, on behalf of the Government, the Ministry of Health and myself, I would like to send condolences to the family and friends, of the Late Captain Daudi Kimuyu Kibati of Kenya Airways, who is being laid to rest this afternoon in his rural home in Kitui.

As you all know, Captain Kibati was the pilot that flew the last Kenya Airways flight from New York to Nairobi on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020, before the Government ban on international flights took effect, as one of the key measures aimed at containing the spread of Coronavirus disease.

Captain Kibati, together with his colleagues in the Kenya Airways flight, took a major risk to go and evacuate Kenyans from America. He managed to evacuate many Kenyans and non-Kenyans from the USA back into the country only for him to succumb to the same disease. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

As we informed you yesterday, we are now able to locally manufacture personal protective equipment (PPEs), and therefore assure all health workers in the country that they are now secure going forward.

I wish to inform you that the Government has operationalized Kenyatta University Teaching Hospital and has received 20 patients related with the Coronavirus disease for treatment and quarantine.

We are urging any person visiting a supermarket or any open air market to wear a protective mask immediately to prevent transmission of the virus.

I wish to make a special appeal to a segment of our society – the youth. The youth being the largest component of our society, they are largely mobile, have the energy and have organized themselves into groups and saccoes.

Glaring statistics show that the youth are the ones contracting the disease and then pass it on to the elderly people.

They should take certain measures some of which include not travelling upcountry, because by going there you might kill your parents or grandparents who are elderly.

I am aware that within our various community situations, there are many organized social and economic youth groups which include transport Saccos such as Matatu and Boda Boda Saccos, Sports organizations, Business and other commercial enterprise groups.

They need to use those networks because the youth are the ones who also take food to the market, and if they organized themselves in a similar fashion in fighting against the Coronavirus, we can reach a new impetus by ensuring the youth are at the centre of the fight.

We are not saying it will be easy, it will get rough as the old adage saying, when the going gets tough the tough get going. This is not a journey you can walk alone.

It is the responsibility of the youth to secure the nation. God in his wisdom has decided to place the youth at this

particular time, so that they can take responsibility of this disease.

There is a generation that fought for independence and did it's part, there are those who fought for the economy and the constitution. I appeal to you, it is now your turn as others have done, to protect this country.

If you don't, you will suffer the most. There will be no jobs and a collapsed economy. It is you who will bury us in large numbers. However, the path ahead is clear, you have to be part of the solution.

The youth can organize themselves into groups and assist the security agencies to ensure people maintain social distance, among other measures we have announced in the fight against this disease.

Fellow Kenyans, in the last 24 hours we have managed to test **372** samples, out of which **four (4)** have tested positive for the Coronavirus disease. The four are **three (3)** Kenyans and **one (1)** Pakistani National.

In terms of gender **three (3)** are Male and **one (1)** is female. Two of them travelled from Malawi and Pakistan respectively, while the other two contracted it locally. Their ages range between 34 years for the youngest and 44 years for the oldest.

Out of the 2,050 individuals who have been in mandatory quarantine, 1,866 people have so far been tested and we are remaining with 184 individuals.

Contact tracing for those who have tested positive for the virus is ongoing, and to date 1,781 contacts have been monitored. We have managed to discharge 1,109 from our follow-up program after the expiry of 14 days. Currently, we are monitoring 672 people in our follow-up program.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have had cases of people testing positive in our quarantine facilities. This is likely to pose a risk of more transmissions especially for those who have

been sharing the same facilities with the ones who have tested positive.

In a bid to further contain any transmissions arising from those in mandatory quarantine, we have instructed our medical teams to extend the quarantine period for a further 14 days for the respective individuals in those facilities that have such cases.

I know the move will be inconveniencing and we regret it but it is meant to secure Kenyans. However those in quarantine facilities the whole idea is to keep social distance.

On gatherings, I have noticed a relaxed attitude not to follow the government directive. However according to measures we have announced in line with the Public Health Act, no gatherings are allowed. We have also received information that there are about 600 people who want to come and meet here in Nairobi. That will not happen.

People must adhere to the measures we have given out which include curfew and handwashing among others. We are grateful to those who are taking them seriously, but those defying will only have themselves to blame.

I thank you.

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