



NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE
ON CORONAVIRUS
UPDATE OF CORONAVIRUS IN THE COUNTRY
AND RESPONSE MEASURES, AS AT 31st May 2020

Day: 80

Brief No: 74

Good afternoon and welcome to our daily COVID-19 Update.

Fellow Kenyans,

Yesterday, I informed you about how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted on our lives and livelihoods. This has been a concern, and the Government is committed to ensuring that socio-economic lives of our people are protected.

As you are aware, the Government has rolled out various interventions to cushion the vulnerable members

of our society, in the short term, and to revamp the economy, in the long term. Such interventions include the weekly stipend of Kshs. 1,000, to those adversely affected by this pandemic. To date, the Government has disbursed over Kshs. 1bn in support of this initiative.

This program is complemented by the Kazi Mtaani program, which has employed over 26,000 youth to help enhance standards of hygiene, within our urban centres. The Government has paid out over Kshs. 350 million to the youth already enrolled in this program. Plans are underway to expand it to recruit over 200,000 youth spread across the whole country. Further, the Government continues to fund the Inua Jamii social protection program, which targets to cushion the elderly and other vulnerable people in our society. In the current FY, the Government has injected over Kshs. 26 billion into this program which has benefitted over 1 million members of our society.

These programs, are all part of an elaborate Government strategy to protect our people and to

revamp the economy. As you are already aware, recently, His Excellency the President unveiled an 8-point economic stimulus package, valued at Kshs. 53.7 billion, to aid in boosting the recovery of the economy. These are all efforts targeted at mitigating the impact of the pandemic.

However, all these initiatives are predicated on how our coronavirus infection curve behaves. If the curve rises exponentially, it will certainly undermine whatever initiatives that the Government has put in place to revamp the economy.

Fellow Kenyans, I want to remind all of us, that the behavior of the infection curve is totally dependent on our behavior as a people. Each of us has a role to play. Adopting responsible social behaviors to break the transmission chain of the virus is of vital importance. We must therefore, continue to strictly observe the containment measures and obey the advisories issued by the Government.

Let me remind you that health is the central problem that we must deal with. If we can fix it, all the others will very quickly reset themselves. Fixing it requires that we deal with the spread of infections, which is the key plank in combating this pandemic.

As pertains to our Covid-19 statistics, 74 people have tested positive for the virus from **1,574** samples that were tested in the last 24 hours.

The total number of positive cases now stands at **1,962**, while the aggregate number of samples tested so far is **78,536**.

This number of positive cases is still high, and we must be concerned as a Nation. The daily rise demands that we reflect on our attitude and behavior towards the containment measures.

The distribution of the positive cases by county is as follows; Nairobi **35**, Mombasa **23**, Busia six **(6)**, Kiambu two **(2)**, Kwale two **(2)**, Kajiado two **(2)**, Uasin Gishu

two **(2)**, Kilifi one **(1)**, Laikipia one **(1)** and Taita Taveta one **(1)**.

Laikipia becomes the latest County to record a case, bringing the tally of counties affected so far to **34**.

The distribution of cases by sub-counties is; Nairobi the **35** cases are from; Langata nineteen **(19)**, Embakasi East and Embakasi Central three **(3)** cases each, Dagoretti North, Westlands, Embakasi South, two **(2)** cases each, Kasarani, Kamukunji, Makadara, and Starehe, one **(1)** case each.

In Mombasa, the **23** cases are from Mvita, eleven **(11)**, Kisauni, four **(4)**, Likoni, and Nyali three **(3)** cases each, and Jomvu and Changamwe one **(1)** case each.

In Busia, the six **(6)** cases are from Alupe mandatory quarantine, five **(5)** and Malaba point of entry, one **(1)**.

In Kiambu, the two **(2)** cases are from Ruiru **(1)** and Limuru **(1)**; while in Kwale, the two **(2)** cases are from Msambweni **(1)** and Lungalunga point of entry **(1)**. In

Kajiado, the two **(2)** cases are from Kajiado North **(1)** and Kajiado Central **(1)**. In Uasin Gishu, the one case is from Turbo. In Kilifi, the **one** case is from Kilifi quarantine facility; while the **one** case in Laikipia, is from Laikipia East and lastly, the Taita Taveta case is from Taveta quarantine facility.

Out of the 74 positive cases; fifty-five **(55)** are males and nineteen **(19)** are females, while age ranges from 3 years for the youngest and 79 years for the oldest.

We are equally happy to report that today, we have discharged another fourteen **(14)** patients from various hospitals, bringing our total tally of recoveries to **474**. Our gratitude goes to our health workers, who are working day and night to ensure our people are well managed.

On a sad note, we have lost another patient from Kayole to the disease, bringing our total number of fatalities to **64**. Our condolences go to the family and friends of the deceased.

Lastly, let me remind you that today is World **NO** Tobacco Day. This is a day that is celebrated worldwide on 31 May of each year. This year's theme is the protection of younger generations, focusing on "Protecting youth from industry manipulation and preventing them from tobacco and nicotine use."

Nicotine is highly addictive and tobacco use is a major risk factor for Non-Communicable Diseases, such as cardiovascular, respiratory diseases, some types of cancers, and many other debilitating health conditions. In addition, smokers are more vulnerable to severe forms of Covid-19 disease. Every year, more than 8 million people die from tobacco use.

Preventing young people from becoming addicted to tobacco and related products is therefore key to a smoke-free future.

Lastly, in these challenging times, we must all play our part to ensure that we achieve tobacco free generation, in order to avert deaths from non-communicable diseases. Let me remind you that there is a ban on tobacco advertisement, promotion and sponsorship by the tobacco control Act of 2007, and further remind the enforcement agencies that this ban must be enforced.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**FOR SEN. MUTAHI KAGWE, EGH,
CABINET SECRETARY.**