



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON
CORONAVIRUS**

RESOLUTIONS OF VIRTUAL MEETING HELD

ON APRIL 2ND 2021

Good afternoon members of the press and welcome to our daily briefing on the status of Coronavirus in the country.

Fellow Kenyans,

Today we held a meeting of the National Emergency Response Committee during which a number of issues were discussed and agreed upon. I now wish to read out the resolutions of the meeting.

1. Following recommendations of the Inter Governmental Committee on Health, the National Emergency Response Committee calls on all agencies charged with the responsibility of enforcing the ongoing containment measures to be more vigilant in their efforts and humanely ensure no laxity in the observance of Covid-19 mitigation measures.
2. All people resident in Kenya are urged to continue observing all the laid down protocols, including the recent curfew and restriction of movement in the disease infected zone counties. The committee has noted that the measures are already bearing fruit and it's expected that the situation could improve sooner rather than later.
3. To ensure we get a better account of Covid-19 situation in the country, there is a need to increase our testing capacity. In this regard, the Committee noted the deployment of additional 17 PCR machines to the

counties and looks forward to more samples taken and tested.

4. The Government is making all efforts to acquire more vaccines through either the COVAX Facility, Africa CDC Platform, or bilateral arrangements.
5. The committee noted that participation of the private sector in the vaccination exercise threatens the gains made in the fight against Covid-19 and puts the country at international risk should counterfeit commodities find their way into the Kenyan market.

To ensure transparency and accountability in the vaccination exercise, and to protect the integrity of the country, the Government is effective today closing the window of private sector importation, distribution and administration of vaccines until such a time when it is confident that there is greater transparency and accountability in the entire process in the interest of public health safety.

Consequently, there will be no licensing of private players in the importation of vaccines and any such license given will be and is hereby cancelled. Any person advertising or vaccinating people for a fee will therefore be in contravention of the Public Health Act and will be liable for prosecution. The only agent for vaccination in Kenya will remain the Government of the Republic of Kenya until further notice.

The Government assures those who have already taken their first dose of vaccines outside the Government deployment plan by this date will receive their second dose when due.

6. All County Governments are required to prepare adequately for vaccine deployment and especially on the use of the IT platform, Chanjo.ke, for data management, increased transparency and accountability. Additionally, all counties are encouraged

to step up their vaccination efforts to ensure more of the targeted groups are vaccinated.

7. Vaccine deployment is scheduled to run in a phased approach with every phase targeting specific groups of our society. This is an appeal to Kenyans and others resident in the country, please ensure you get the vaccine during the phase in which the group you belong to is targeted. If you are not in the targeted category in the ongoing phase, do not turn up but instead await your turn.

It's important to note that the decisions for group targeting were informed by an assessment of vulnerabilities and potential for infection, hospitalization and even death. The idea is to make sure those at the greatest risk are prioritized as vaccines become available.

Further, counties are encouraged not to withhold vaccines from targeted groups with the excuse of holding for the second dose. The second Astrazeneca dose is to be

administered between 8 and 12 weeks from the first dose and its our expectation that the second consignment will be in time for the second dose and roll out of phase two according to our deployment plan.

8. The Committee has taken notice of information that some countries wish to put our country on the red list. NERC recommends that the Ministry of foreign affairs takes up the matters and where necessary, a reciprocal arrangement be adopted.
9. There will be a need for up scaling of communication both on Covid-19 and deployment of vaccines to ensure the public is better informed.

I thank You



Sen. Mutahi Kagwe, EGH
Cabinet Secretary.