COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS BULLETIN

ETHIOPIA

ALERTS RECEIVED
46

TOTAL SUSPECTED CASES DETECTED
16

TOTAL SUSPECTED CASES TESTED
15

TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES
0

NO OF NEW SUSPECTED CASE IN ISOLATION UNIT
1

14 FEBRUARY 2020

ETHIOPIA COUNTRY OFFICE
WHO ETHIOPIA supported national IMS and development of national COVID-19 preparedness and response plan developed

WHO AFRO deploys 9 technical experts in the areas of Epidemiology and Surveillance, Point of Entry, Infection Prevention and Control, Risk Communication and Logistics to support the country’s readiness for COVID-19

WHO will intensify and continue its support to the ongoing preparedness and readiness efforts to ensure ETHIOPIA is ready for COVID-19

Dr Boureima HAMA SAMBO
WHO Representative to ETHIOPIA
“... with support from WHO, we now have the capacity to test COVID-19 in house and that gives us prompt results for our samples ... and indeed a big relief.”

Dr LIA Tadesse
State Minister - Ministry of Health, ETHIOPIA

WHO provided laboratory reagents to the National Influenza Reference Laboratory at EPHI for COVID-19 confirmatory test

ETHIOPIA now has capacity for COVID-19 confirmatory test
With support from WHO, Point of Entry (PoE) screening established at Addis Ababa Bole and Dire Dawa international airports, as well as Dewele train station (at ETHIO - DJIBOUTI border).

Ethiopian Airlines is flying to five cities in China (not Wuhan, the epicenter of the current outbreak) and operates about 35 flights per week.
60 Rapid Response Teams (RRT) members trained to serve as first-line responders to any suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19

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COVID-19 preparedness and response plan developed (for THREE months).

PoE screening established at AA Bole and Dire Dawa international airports + Dewele train station (at ETHIO-DJIBOUTI border).

RRT TRAINED and READY

8335 HOTLINE FOR MORE INFO AND ALERT NOTIFICATION ON COVID-19

Cascading RRT training underway at sub-national level

RRT is composed of a team of professionals from Epidemiology/Surveillance, Laboratory, Case Management, IPC, and Risk Communication/Community Engagement.

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Technical guidance provided for the preparation of ISOLATION (treatment) CENTERS at St. Peter Hospital, Bole Chefa, Aka Kotebe, and Arat Kilo HC for optimized care and treatment of COVID-19 patients.

PPE supplies donated for pre-positioning at isolation centers and major hospitals.

8335 HOTLINE
FOR MORE INFO AND ALERT NOTIFICATION ON COVID-19
Regular media briefing happening twice-a-week; by the State Minister of MoH and the Director General of EPHI

With WHO support, Sensitization sessions facilitated for media practitioners to let them deliver accurate information on COVID-19 and counter misinformation

Orientation sessions about COVID-19 provided to Ethiopian Airlines cabin crew members

IEC materials and key messages on COVID-19 including translation in local languages prepared to create awareness in communities and among health workers
WHO and Africa CDC are collaborating to tackle ETHIOPIA’s existing and emerging health security challenges including COVID-19 preparedness and readiness.

WHO also provided guidance on screening of participants for the recently concluded 33rd AU Summit both at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport and AU compound.
WHO and US-CDC are collaboratively working on efforts to support the Government of ETHIOPIA (GoE) to enhance and strengthen the nation’s COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts.

WHO ETHIOPIA has taken a lead role in partner coordination so as to harness comparative advantage of each partner and enhance efficiency and effective preparedness and response to COVID-19.

The Director of Africa CDC and WR ETHIOPIA reaffirm collaboration on health security challenges.
CONTACTS

Dr Boureima HAMA SAMBO
WHO Representative
ETHIOPIA

Dr Emmanuel Onuche MUSA
Incident Manager
COVID-19 readiness
musaem@who.int

Dr Aggrey Kaijuka BATEGEREZA
WHE Team Lead
WCO ETHIOPIA
bategerezaa@who.int