



NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE
ON CORONAVIRUS
UPDATE OF CORONAVIRUS IN THE COUNTRY
AND RESPONSE MEASURES, AS AT 27th May 2020
Day: 76
Brief No: 70

Fellow Kenyans,

Welcome to our daily Coronavirus update and response measures.

Several weeks ago, I informed you that we shall embark on targeted mass testing in some of the areas we consider as hotspots. This was important because it would help us to determine the extent of infection within our communities. The areas targeted include Nairobi, Mombasa, Kajjado, Kwale and Migori Counties among others. The outcome of the activity demonstrates that the virus has spread extensively in our communities.

Fellow Kenyans,

Today, I come to you with somber news. Our figures today are staggering. Out of the **3,077** samples tested, we have **123** positive cases. For the first time, we have hit a triple digit. This is the highest number of positive cases we have ever recorded in a single day since we reported the first case on March 13, 2020.

Nairobi is once again leading with a total infected with 85 people, followed by Mombasa with 24 while, Kiambu has 4. Other counties are; Kajiado with (3) and Kisumu 2 cases. Garissa, Kitui, Kilifi, Busia and Uasin Gishu Counties have a case each.

The spread of the cases by sub-counties is as follows; the cases in Nairobi; Mathare thirty-three (**33**), Kibra, fourteen (**14**), Embakasi West (**12**), Embakasi Central (**4**), Westlands (**4**), Makadara (**3**), Ruaraka (**3**), Kamkunji (**3**), Starehe (**2**), Dagoretti North (**2**),

Roysambu (1), Langata (1), Embakasi North (1) and Embakasi South (1).

In Mombasa, the cases are in; Mvita (9), Changamwe (4), Kisauni (4), Jomvu (3), Likoni (3), Nyali (1).

In Kiambu, the cases are; one (1) each in Kabete, Kikuyu, Ruiru and Juja. Cases in Kajiado are; 2 cases in Namanga and one case in Kitengela, while the two cases in Kisumu are from quarantine facility. The two cases are imports from Nairobi of persons who travelled to Kisumu for a burial.

According to age distribution, the youngest is 1-year-old, while the oldest is 76 years. By gender, seventy-eight **(78)** are males, and forty-five **(45)** are females. We are glad to inform you that we have discharged three **(3)** more patients, bringing the number of recoveries to 408. The cumulative figure of those who are positive stands at 1,471 from a total of 67,341 samples tested.

Today, we have 590 Covid-19 positive patients admitted in 35 various hospitals across the country. Out of these, 7 are in critical condition, with 4 on ventilatory support and 3 on supplemental oxygen.

On a sad note we have lost three (3) more patients to the virus, bringing the number of fatalities to 55. May their souls rest in eternal peace. These three deaths, all had underlying comorbidities (one had diabetes, second hand diabetes and hypertension and last one had cancer of the breast).

The figures which we have shared illustrate the rapid rate of transmission in the informal settlements in Nairobi. This means that there is a raging number of infections in these areas. We either live in these places, have a relative that resides in there, or know someone else that does. What does this mean? **It means, hu ugonjwa uko mtaani na hakuna mmoja wetu ambaye yuko salama. Awe ni mama mboga au tajiri, and therefore no one should have a false sense of**

security about their immunity to COVID-19.

If the numbers in Eastlands are rising, it means the same is occurring elsewhere, and therefore, my appeal to all is that when, for instance, we conduct testing in an estate near yours, kindly volunteer yourself for testing. Knowing your status is important not only for yourself, but importantly, for the protection of others.

I would like to make an appeal to the public transportation owners, drivers and riders. As you can see, some of the highest infections come from areas where public transport is the primary means of transportation.

We have noticed that many have reverted to the old ways of travel, disregarding the social distancing rules and not obeying the masking guidelines. Please, let me remind you of the need to protect yourself. You don't know who you're sitting next to! The increase in community infections is simply because of an increase in community

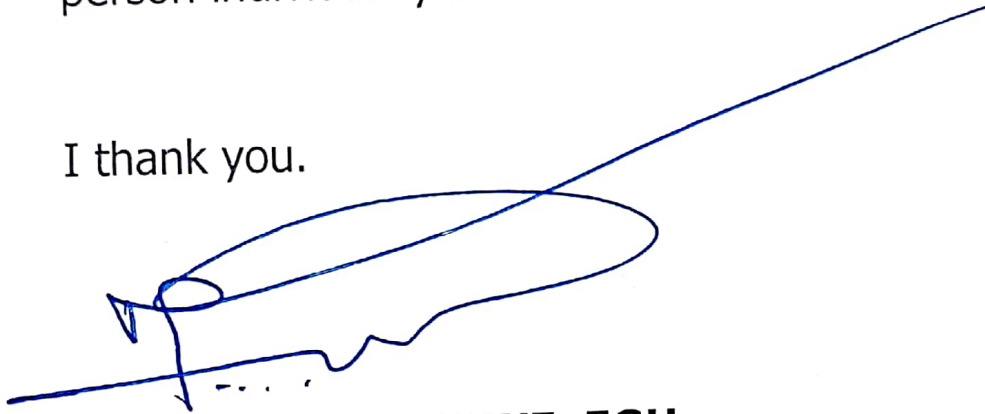
contact.

Despite all this, there is hope for Kenya. Even with this spike, we must give thanks that from an overall perspective, these infections are relatively low as compared to others and particularly when it comes to the numbers of those who have succumbed to the disease. And we need to keep it this way. We need not lose focus on our need for vigilance. That said, it is important to remind you, that of all the diseases that exist or have existed, none and I mean none has ever been as lonely as COVID-19. If this disease gets serious, and we are lucky that so far it has not, you will die alone.

We will be visiting new counties on a weekly basis as a means of evaluating our national preparedness levels, because collectively, counties have a greater capacity to attend to the sick. Their preparedness is key because we don't want to get to a point where we find ourselves unable to cope with an overwhelming number of critically ill patients. Should this trend be the case and we are overwhelmed, we will only have the two options we've

seen globally, cooperate and survive, or ignore the directives and suffer. This choice must be made by each person individually and communities collectively.

I thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, sweeping loop followed by a series of smaller, connected strokes that trail off to the right.

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