NOVEL CORONA VIRUS – 2019 (COVID-19)

UPDATES ON UGANDA'S PREPAREDNESS AGAINST COVID-19
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

BACKGROUND

- Coronaviruses belong to the family Coronaviridae
- They are zoonotic, causing mild to severe disease in humans similar to a common cold.
- Some recently emerging respiratory viruses:
 - 2002: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV)
 - 2009: H1N1 influenza
 - 2012: Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)
 - 2019: Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV now COVID-19)

BACKGROUND

- 30TH China reports strange flue like disease to WHO. 7th January 2020: WHO announce outbreak of a novel Corona Virus disease (COVID-19) in China.
- 29th January 2020: MoH National Task Force (NTF) activates COVID-19 Incident Management System to coordinate the implementation of various preparedness activities.
- 30th January 2020: COVID-19 declared a PHEIC
- As of 11th March 2020 (at 1800hrs) the case count was:
 - Total countries affected 99 (including 10 in Africa)
 - Total confirmed cases (global) 125,048
 - Total Deaths 4,613 (3.6%)
 - Total Recovered 66,239 (54.5%)
- More cases have continuously been recorded in 10 countries in Africa; Egypt (59), Algeria (20), South Africa (7), Nigeria (2), Morocco (2), Senegal (4), Tunisia (2), Cameroon (2), Togo (1) and DRC (1). B.Faso, Kenya

STRATEGY AGAINST COVID-19



Put in place or set up enhanced measures to prevent the importation of COVID-19 into Uganda

UGANDA SITUATION AS OF 12/03/2020

- Uganda has no confirmed case of COVID-19
- Cumulative 1,632 high-risk travelers identified for follow up.
 - 1,071 Chinese
 - 244 Ugandans
 - 43 Italians
 - 34 South Korean
 - 240 other nationals
- 606 completed 14-days quarantine, 986 still under follow up
- 26 persons tested since 29/01/2020 for COVID-19. All tested negative.

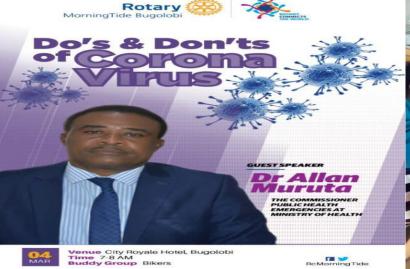
WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR

- All NTF sub committees activated for preparedness
 - Added a new sub committee on ICT
- Treatment centres set up in Naguru, Entebbe RRHs and Mulago NRH
- Weekly press briefings and travel advisories
- Issued guidelines for prevention of COVID-19 transmission, Mass gatherings and self isolation
- Prepositioned stocks of logistics as Medical Counter Measures
- Daily Situation Reports on the Country preparedness
- Partnership with CAA and security









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CATEGORISATION

- Weekly monitoring of global COVID-19 to inform the country risk assessment and risk categorisation based on three criteria
 - Number of total (cumulative) cases: The higher the number of cumulative cases, the higher the chances of exportation of COVID-19cases.
 - No. cases in last 24 hours: Measures in-country COVID-19 active transmission
 - Exponential increase in cases in last 7 days: Indicates community transmission, using %age increase in number of cases in the last 7 days.
 (Countries with more than 100 cumulative cases and/or more than 10 new cases of COVID-19 in the last 24 hours

CATEGORISATION

- Category 1: Persons with h/o travel from Italy, San Marino, Iran, South Korea, France, China, Germany, Spain, Belgium, USA, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Austria and Malaysia are subjected to 14 days self-isolation or institutional quarantine at their own cost.
- Category 2: Travelers from Finland, Philippines, Indonesia and Pakistan are observed closely for 14 days (phone based)
- Category 3: Other countries these undergo the routine screening upon arrival and are advised to observe precautionary measures to prevent infection and report if not feeling well.

This analysis is reviewed weekly and travel advisory updated the every Wednesday

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR...2

- Oriented NRRT on COVID-19 surveillance
- Formulated RRTs for the different NTF pillars
- Mass media campaigns on various media forums
- Enhanced surveillance
 - PoEs activated to conduct mandatory entry screening of travellers
 - Mass gatherings surveillance
 - Daily follow up of high risk travelers
 - Alert management: Toll free line (0800100066) activated for reporting, verification and investigation of alerts

NEXT STEPS

- Activate district and regional RRTs
- Update the readiness of RRHs as alternative treatment centres
- Aggressive sensitisation of the masses
- Mobilise more funding and human resources
- Conduct CBDS to support surveillance and follow up
- Expand partnerships for COVID-19 preparedness

THE DOs

- Wash your hands with soap and water or use a sanitizer regularly
- Cover your nose and mouth with handkerchief coughing or sneezing.
- Dispose of used tissue immediately in a dustbin or burn it.
- Use a washed and ironed handkerchief
- Frequently clean and disinfect touched surfaces such as door knobs, handles, furniture, bedside tables, bed frames with disinfectant
- Clean and disinfect bathroom and toilet surfaces at least once a day.
- Stay at home for the entire duration of the quarantine (14days).
- If you develop symptoms of acute respiratory infection like fever, cough, sore throat and difficulty in breathing, call for immediate help on 0800100066



- Avoid hand-shaking and hugging at all times.
- Stay away from pets, as there is a chance that humans can pass the disease to them
- Avoid sparing toothbrushes, utensils, dishes, drinks, towels, clothes or bed linen with anybody in your home.
- Avoid close contact with people who are visibly sick with flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, sneeze)
- Avoid public gatherings. Attend only if you must But observe safety measures
- Do not to public places if you have flu-like symptoms like offices and public gatherings. Remain at home
 to avoid infecting others.
- You do not need to wear medical masks if you do not have respiratory symptoms such as cough, sneezing or running nose.
- Don't take self-medication such as antibiotics
- Do NOT spit in public. Find a secluded place like toilets or pit latrines in which to spit.
- Avoid travel if you have flu-like symptoms. Delay travel to countries that currently have many patients with COVID-19. If you MUST travel, please follow the protective measures.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING