Communication Alerts: Coronavirus Updates as of March 15th 2020

Summary of President Uhuru Kenyatta’s press briefing on COVID-19 as of March 15th 2020.

Kenya reports two more confirmed cases of COVID-19. The new cases are among the traced 27 persons believed to have had contact with the first patient. This brings to a total of three the confirmed cases in Kenya as of March 15th 2020. Patients are reported to be in a stable condition and responding well to treatment.

President’s directive on additional protocols.

1. Government suspends travel for all persons coming into Kenya from any country with reported COVID-19 Cases. This takes effect in next 48-hours for 30 days.
   ✓ Only Kenyan Citizens and foreigners with valid residence permits will be allowed to come in provided they proceed on self-quarantine or go to a government designated quarantine facility.

2. All persons that have travelled into Kenya in the last 14 days must self-quarantine.
   ✓ Any person exhibiting symptoms like cough and fever to present themselves to the nearest health facility for testing.

3. Learning suspended in all Education Institutions with immediate effect.
   ✓ Primary and Secondary Day schools to suspend operations from 16th March 2020.
   ✓ Boarding Primary and Secondary Schools to close by Wednesday, March 18th 2020. Ministry to release a circular with further instructions tomorrow, 16th March 2020.
   ✓ Universities and Tertiary Institutions to close by Friday 20th March 2020.

4. Government offices, businesses and companies encouraged to allow employees to work from home with the exception of employees working in critical or essential services.

5. Use of cashless transactions encouraged to avoid the risk of transmission through physical handling of money. Mobile operators and banks urged to reduce the cost of transactions during this period.

6. Citizens are encouraged to:
   ✓ avoid congregating including in places of worship.
   ✓ minimize attendance to social gatherings including weddings and funerals and restrict the same to immediate family members.
   ✓ call for people to avoid crowded places including shopping malls and entertainment premises.
   ✓ to minimize congestion in public transport whenever possible.
   ✓ limitation of visitors to hospitalized patients in both private and public hospitals.

7. Hospitals and shopping malls encouraged to provide soap and water/hand sanitizers and ensure regular cleaning and disinfecting of facilities.