

16/4/2020

## Communication from The Presidency

No. Twenty-Eight (28)

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, 16th April 2020

Juba, South Sudan

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic held its 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting on the afternoon of Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020 under the Chairmanship of H. E. Dr Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, the First Vice President and Deputy Chairman of the High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic.

The High-Level Taskforce was briefed on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation in South Sudan, the Region and the Globe by the Honourable Minister for Health.

The Honourable Minister informed the Taskforce that 26 samples collected from contacts have been delivered to the Public Health Laboratory this morning and the tests are currently running.

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This brings the total number of samples tested to 190. Plans are in progress to achieve a minimum of 500 samples tested per week. South Sudan has four (4) confirmed cases.

The High-Level Taskforce directs the Ministry of Health to take necessary actions to divide Juba into 5 zones, and in each zone, the selected clinics be instructed to collect samples up to maximum 100 cases per week per a zone (based on case definition). This is in order to achieve its minimum testing capacity of at least 500 samples per week. This is going to give assurance that there are no active COVID-19 cases in the community or otherwise.

The High-Level Taskforce commends the Management of Trinity Energy LTD for contributing towards the Fight against COVID-19 as follows;

## 1- Medium Term Pledges;

a-Three (3) ventilators,

b-Testing Kits at cost of USD 304,500 (Only Three Hundred and Four Thousand Five Hundred United States Dollars); and

c-Replenishing supplies for the existing testing facility.

2-Short Term Pledges;

a-Contribution towards payment of incentives for sixty-five (65) health workers at the Emergency Operation Centre,

- b-Procurement of basic supplies to the Centre at a cost of SSP14.8 Million,
- c-Supplying fuel for generators at the Dr John Garang Infectious Disease Centre, staff vehicles and ambulances to the tune of SSP4.8 Million,
- d-Reduction of fuel prices at all Trinity Service Stations, and
- e-Running Awareness campaigns through three (30 major newspapers, and one Radio Station for a period of three (3) weeks.

The High-Level Taskforce thanks the Tristar Transport LTD for donating and delivering the items below to the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management to support Humanitarian Action Plan during the Period of COVID-19 Pandemic;

- 1-Maize, 20 Metric Tons,
- 2-Beans, 15 Metric Tons,
- 3-Sorghum, 10 Metric Tons,
- 4-Cooking Oil 6,000 litres; and
- 5-Salt, 200 Kilograms.

The High-Level Taskforce further commends the Federation of Business and Professional Women of South Sudan for their contribution to the efforts of the government in fighting COVID-19 with the following items;

1-Fifteen (15 pcs) Handwashing containers,

2- Fifteen (15 pcs) Handwashing containers' Stands, and

3-Twenty (20) Cartons/boxes of Washing Soap each contains 25 pieces.

On Requests for Special Permission to entre or leave the country,

The High-Level Taskforce resolves as follows;

- 1-Grant Special Landing Permission for the Sudanese Embassy to land at Juba International Airport Aircraft AN-12 with Registration No. S9DAF, to deliver 350 boxes of military uniforms for the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF) who are currently undergoing training in Eighteen (18) Training Centres, on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The two passengers onboard the Aircraft must produce a certified evidence of COVID-19 free status, and must submit to a mandatory 14-day-quarantine prior to engaging in their duties in South Sudan
- 2-Grant Special exit Permission to a UNHAS Plane 5Y-CGC (UNO 074H) and Special Entry Permission for 5Y-CGY (UNO 074H) on Friday 17th April 2020. The incoming Pilot must produce a certified evidence of COVID-19 Status and submit to a mandatory 14-day-quarantine in Juba.
- 3-Grant Special Permission for a UNMISS Chartered Plane Flight to Tonj on a Peace Mission. All passengers must produce a certified evidence of a COVID-19 free status prior to boarding the plane.

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- 4-Grant Special Permission to evacuate a critically ill (pre-existing medical condition) foreign national from Renk to Juba.
- 5-Grant Special Exit Permission and Entry for Aircraft No. 5Y-NLD and Aircraft No-5Y-MAG respectively. The incoming Pilot must produce a certified evidence of COVID-19 Status and submit to a mandatory 14-day-quarantine in Juba.
- 6-Grant Special Permission for Shipment of Aircraft windshield from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020.
- 7-Grant Special Permission to evacuate students to their Homes in Ruweng Administrative Area. All students must be tested and produce a certified evidence of COVID-19 free status prior to Travel.
- 8-Grant Special Permission for Tor Aviation to fly a Cargo Plane transporting five (5) Government Vehicles to Yida, Ruweng Administrative Area.
- 9-Grant Special Permission for Tor Aviation to fly a cargo plane transporting spare parts to Paloc.
- 10- Grant Special Permission to SPOC, GPOC and SPOC to fly staff to the filed on regular basis. Each company must provide the list of its staff at least a week prior to travel. All passengers must be tested and provide a certified evidence of a COVID-19 free status prior to travel.

- 11- Grant Special Permission to a private family to travel to Nimule and evacuate their critically ill father to Juba.
- 12- All the passengers must be tested and produce a certified evidence of COVID-19 free status prior to travelling to Nimule.
- 13- Grant Special Permission for a Cargo plane Gulfstream type with tail number N588 AT delivering goods to the United States Embassy to land and exit at Juba International Airport on 19th April 2020.
- 14- Grant Special Permission for Danish Refugee Council to fly into the country a humanitarian cargo plane to Juba in two rotations from 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The High-Level Taskforce on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Pandemic remains seized of the situation.

16/4/2020 Tille President

H. E. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD First Vice President Deputy Chairman of the High-Level Taskforce on

Coronavirus (COVID-19)