



Republic of South Sudan (RSS)

The First Vice President

Date: 3/4/2020

Communication from the Presidency No. Thirteen (13)

The High Level Task-Force on COVID-19 Pandemic

Friday, 3rd April 2020

Juba, South Sudan

The High Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic held its 12th Meeting on the afternoon of Friday 3rd 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 Taskforce considered the following items on the Agenda:

1-Overview of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation in South Sudan, the Region and the Globe.

The High Level Taskforce listened to an overview from the Honourable Minister for Health on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Situation in South Sudan, the Region and the Globe.

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The Minister informed **the Taskforce** that the Country will receive one mobile laboratory from the East African Community (EAC) in the coming days to support the collective efforts of the region in fighting the Pandemic. The Minister also informed **the Taskforce** that the Country has 32 gene X-pert machines which can be calibrated to detect and test Coronavirus (COVID-19). In this regard, the **Taskforce** appeals to the partners and benevolent Philanthropists assist the Ministry of Health in operationalising this technology.

The High Level Taskforce noted with concern the exponential increase of cases in the countries around us, hence heightening the risk of importing the disease into the country.

The High Level Taskforce, appeals to the International and donor community to assist the country with mobile diagnostic facilities and a field hospital to enhance testing and diagnostic capacity; and care for the sick.

The High Level Taskforce, further re-iterates that security organs must put in place strict border control measures in order to curtail illegal migration into the country.

The High Level Taskforce resolves to establish **State Taskforces and Steering Committees** to boost efforts of the government in fighting the COVID-19 at the state and local government levels.

The High Level Taskforce directs the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation Authority to allocate suitable

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site at the Juba International Airport for the operations of the ANIW Company contracted by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to spray planes landing at the Airport as part of COVID-19 risk mitigation.

On the Special Permission for the Korean Contingent to commence their Routine Rotation;

The High Level Taskforce resolves to delay the rotation of the Korean Contingent for three (3) extra weeks starting on Monday 6th through 30th April 2020 in order to extend the quarantine period to 8 weeks prior to arrival in South Sudan.

The High Level Taskforce informs the public that the government has not ordered, and does not intend to impose total lockdown of the country at this stage; and urges the public not to panic.

The High Level Taskforce, reassures the public that the government is doing all what it could to mitigate social impact of the measures instituted to prevent importation and spread of COVID-19 in the Country.

The High Level Taskforce urges members of the public to adhere and observe the government's directives on social distancing; stay home, wash your hands with soap and water, never shake hands or hug.


The High Level Taskforce welcomes the use of drone by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security in collaboration with other relevant government institutions

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in tracking down the movement of the desert locust and monitoring other agricultural activities. **The Taskforce** urges the members of the public not panic as the drone shall only be used to spray the locust to protect their produce.

The High Level Taskforce on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic remains seized of the situation


3/4/2020



H. E. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD

First Vice President

Deputy Chairman of the High Level Taskforce on
Coronavirus (COVID 19)