

Communication from The Presidency

No. Twenty-Six (26)

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic

Tuesday, 14th April 2020

Juba, South Sudan

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic held its 24rd Meeting on the afternoon of Tuesday 14th 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 over all, One Hundred and Fifty (150) samples have been tested since the outbreak was declared. Of these, One Hundred and Forty-Six (146) returned negative while four (4) samples were confirmed positive.

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Two tests are currently running; nine more samples from Torit and three other samples from Juba and Yambio will be tested on Wednesday 15th April 2020. Results will be made public as appropriate. **South Sudan has four confirmed cases.**

The High-Level Taskforce welcomes donation of a COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory by the Government of the United Arab Emirates to the government of the Republic of South Sudan. **The Taskforce** directs the Ministries of Health and of the Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to facilitate delivery of the equipment.

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

The High-Level Taskforce resolves to:

- 1- **Grant** Special Permission to deploy four (4) new staff to support Samaritan's Purse COVID-19 Response Plans, including training and monitoring of Health Professionals in the Juba Area and Maban. Samaritan's Purse must provide certified evidence of a COVID-19 free status for each of the four staff, who shall strictly observe isolation protocols for at least 14-days prior to engaging in their duties in South Sudan.

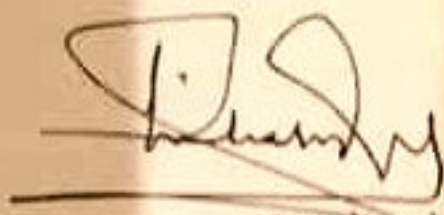
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2-**Grant** Special Permission for the Ceasefire Monitoring and Verification Mechanisms for South Sudan (CTSAMVM) to undertake their domestic flights in accordance with the rules and regulations already in operation.

3-**Grants** Special Permission for the MSF-Holland to fly into South Sudan Cargo planes to drop medical items to Juba, which shall be considered on a case by case basis weekly, week one starting from 20th – 26th April 2020. **The High-level Taskforce** reiterates that Flight Block Clearance remains suspended until further notice.

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



14/4/2020

H. E. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD
First Vice President

Deputy Chairman of the High-Level Taskforce on

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

