

1. Kenya

**INFECTED:** 208

**DEAD:** 9

**RECOVERED:** 40

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- 21-day ban on travel in and out of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kwale and Kilifi.
- 100% tax relief for persons earning a gross monthly income of up to KES. 24,000/=.
- Reduction of Pay As You Earn (PAYE) on individual income from the current 30% to 25%.
- Reduction of Corporate tax from the current 30% to 25%.
- Reduction of Turn Over Tax from the current 3% to 1% for all MSMEs.
- Reduction of VAT from the current 6% to 14%
- Lowering of CBK Mean Rate from the current 8.25% to 7.25%;
- Lowering of the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) from the current 5.25% to 4.25% to provide additional liquidity of 35 Billion to also cushion non-performing loans:
- CBK to provide flexibility to banks in respect of loan classifications.
- Temporary suspension of listing of non-performing loan accounts with the CRB effective from 1 April 2020.
- All ministries should cause payment of verified pending bills in the sum of KES. 13 Billion within three (3) weeks so that pending creditors are paid by the Government.
- KRA to refund VAT claims or offset withholding VAT in the sum of KES. 10 Billion within three (3) weeks to increase cash flows for businesses.
- Voluntary reduction of salaries by Government officials as follows:  
The President and Vice President – 80% reduction;  
Cabinet Secretaries – 30% reduction; and  
Principal secretaries – 20% reduction
- KES. 10 billion to be released for purposes of payment to the elderly, orphans and vulnerable people to cushion the effect of the pandemic to these groups.
- KES. 1 billion from universal health fund to be directed strictly at the recruitment of health workers who will assist with the pandemic.
- State and public officials of Job Group S with pre-existing conditions or the aged are to either take leave or work from home effective immediately.
- Organise calendar of the Cabinet and committees to foster enhanced responses on the Pandemic.
- Management of Ferry Services to be moved from the Kenya Ferry Services and to be vested in the National Police Service, the National Government and the Kenya Navy to ensure that persons using the Ferry follow proper procedures.
- Curfew to be imposed from 27 March 2020 from 7 p.m. to 5.00 a.m. except for persons within medical and critical essential services.

- Gazetting of Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19) Rules, 2020

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The measures as set out under the presidential directive.

Waiver of late repayment charges over covid-19 by mobile lending apps.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

The government has earmarked Ksh40 billion (0.4 percent of GDP) in funds for additional health expenditure, including enhanced surveillance, laboratory services, isolation units, equipment, supplies, and communication; social protection and cash transfers; food relief; and funds for expediting payments of existing obligations to maintain cash flow for businesses during the crisis.

2. United Republic of Tanzania

**INFECTED:** 49

**DEAD:** 3

**RECOVERED:** 7

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:** N/A

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:** N/A

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

Preventive measures such as general hygienic practices including the use of face masks, handwashing and use of sanitisers in public places and increased enforcement of social distancing, stay-at-home and work-from-home policies

3. Uganda

**INFECTED:** 54

**DEAD:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 8

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Suspension of public transport for 14 days.
- Private vehicles should not carry more than 3 passengers including the driver.
- Markets to only be used for sale of foodstuffs. Trading of non-foodstuffs is suspended immediately.
- Government ministries, agencies and departments to work out plans where only essential staff report for duty in the offices. Non-essential staff to work from home.
- Supermarkets to consider doing deliveries using for example bodabodas.

- Surrender of government vehicles at district level to enable health monitoring teams in the countryside have access to transport.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The Bank of Uganda has announced seven key measures as stimulus measures to safeguard Uganda’s economy from the prevailing impact of coronavirus on the economy:

- Ensure that financial institutions supervised by the BoU continue to operate effectively.
- Ensure that contingency plans by financial institutions guarantee the safety of customers and staff.
- Intervene in the foreign exchange market to smoothen out excess volatility arising from the global financial markets.
- Put in a place a mechanism to minimize the likelihood of sound business going into insolvency due to lack of credit
- Provide exceptional liquidity assistance for a period of up to one year to financial institutions supervised by BoU that may require it
- Waive the limitation on the restructuring of credit facilities at financial institutions that may be at risk of going into distress due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Continue to engage Mobile Network Operations (MNOs) and commercial banks to further reduce fees on mobile money transactions and other digital payment charges in order to limit the use of cash and bank branch visit. Increase daily transaction and wallet size limits for mobile money transactions.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:** N/A

4. Rwanda

**INFECTED:** 127

**DEAD:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 42

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Citizens practicing social distancing by banning of gatherings at places of worship, schools, weddings, and sports events.
- The suspension of all commercial flights to and from Rwanda for thirty days and indefinite suspension of domestic travel between cities and districts.

- The closing of all non-essential businesses.
- The encouraging of citizens and legal residents to use mobile money and online banking whenever possible to limit the transfer of paper money.
- A two-week country-wide lockdown, which began midnight of March 21. Non-essential movements outside the home are not permitted.
- Implementing of fixed prices on foodstuffs.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The National Bank of Rwanda (BNR) has issued a raft of measures:

- Setting up of a USD 54 Million facility to keep banks open and hopefully encourage them to lend.
- Reduction of the reserve requirement ratio for commercial banks from 5% down to 4%.
- Allowing commercial banks to restructure loans of existing borrowers facing temporary cash flow challenges arising from the pandemic.
- Introduction of zero charges on all mobile money transfers and transfer of money from bank accounts to mobile money accounts.
- Increase of the mobile money transfer limit.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

Establishing of handwashing stations and ThermoScan thermometer checks for every person entering the country

5. Somalia

**INFECTED:** 60

**DEAD:** 2

**RECOVERED:** 2

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Suspension of International Flights for 15 days
- Closure of schools and universities for 15 days.
- Banishment of public gatherings

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

Setting aside 5 Million Dollars to combat the disease

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

Construction of isolation facilities to ensure all persons with suspected COVID-19 cases are quarantined.

## 6. Ethiopia

**INFECTED:** 82**DEAD:** 3**RECOVERED:** 14**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Release of more than 4,000 inmates convicted of petty crimes.
- Foreigners charged with involvement in smuggling and drug trafficking will be released and deported to their countries of origin.
- Closure of schools and suspension of all public gatherings and sporting events for 15 days.
- Ethiopian Airlines suspended flights to at least 30 high risk countries.
- Anyone entering the country to mandatorily quarantine for at least 15 days.
- Night clubs to remain closed until further notice.
- Civil Servants to work from home.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Tax exemption for the import of materials and equipment to be used in the prevention and containment of COVID-19.
- National Bank of Ethiopia to avail Birr 15 billion liquidity for private banks to enable them to provide debt relief and additional loans to their customers in need.
- Banks to avail foreign currency for importers primarily importing goods and input materials for the prevention of COVID-19.
- Commercial Bank of Ethiopia to increase the amount of money individuals can transfer through mobile banking, to limit in-person cash handling

- Removal of the minimum price set by the National Bank of Ethiopia on the horticulture sector for flower exports
- The Ministry of Revenue to expedite VAT returns to support companies with cash flows
- The Ministry of Trade and Industry to continue strengthening the measures it is undertaking to control price increments and supply shortages of consumer goods

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- Set up a 24hr emergency center to work on #COVID19 preparedness
- Screening of travelers entering the country through land and air
- Follow-up of suspected cases by phone
- Operation of 8335 phone line for alerts of suspected cases and information
- Setup of quarantine centers
- Setup of Yeka Kotebe hospital as the primary hospital to take care of suspected cases and positive confirmations with capacity to attend to 600 patients
- Development of other medical institutions as backup centers
- Collection of required input materials for prevention and response, like masks etc
- Strengthening communication and relaying adequately and timely information to the public to raise awareness.

7. Djibouti

**INFECTED:** 363

**DEAD:** 2

**RECOVERED:** 53

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- General Lockdown except for essential services.
- All passenger movement (aircraft/railway/boat), including humanitarian flights are suspended since 18 March but Cargo movements continue.
- Closure of schools, mosques, sport events and bars.

- The Ministry of Education is working on a radio televised education curriculum in case closure of schools is extended.
- Closure of public and private entities for one week (staff at home with full pay)

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The Central Bank of Djibouti has stepped up its financial sector surveillance

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:** N/A

8. Eritrea

**INFECTED:** 34

**DEAD:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 0

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Limit non-essential movement and avoid public transportation unless for emergencies.
- Prohibition of public gatherings, sports and cultural events that assemble a crowd of more than 10 people.
- Closure of cinemas and nightclubs and mandated social distancing in commercial units and centers.
- Stringent legal measures will be taken on all individuals and commercial enterprises that engage in hoarding and speculative price hikes.
- All institutions of learning from Kindergarten to Colleges will be closed.
- All public transport vehicles – buses, minibuses and taxis – to stop services.
- Suspension of commercial flights to and from Eritrea.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

No measures announced yet.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- Continuous sensitization campaigns will be disseminated through the various local media outlets in order to provide timely and full information to the general public.
- Urging all nationals and foreigners who may have plans to travel to, and from Eritrea, to postpone their plans on their own volition.

- Visitors who originate directly from, or who have transited through, China, Italy, South Korea and Iran to undergo a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

## 9. Egypt

**INFECTED:** 2190

**DEAD:** 164

**RECOVERED:** 589

### **PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Nationwide curfew from 7pm till 6am.
- suspension of all government services except for healthcare and civil services (birth and death certificates and marriage certificates).
- 2-week closure of all shopping malls, gyms, restaurants, but delivery services to continue during non-curfew hours.
- All shops except for supermarkets and bakeries and pharmacies to remain closed throughout the weekend.
- Halting of public transport during non-curfew hours
- Punishment for flouting the curfew is 254 dollars or jail terms and is determined on a case by case basis.
- Schools and universities closed until mid-April.
- Suspension of international flights to and from Egypt.

### **STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Introduction of Stimulus policies in a USD 6.4 billion package ( EGP 100 Billion, 2% of Egypt's GDP) to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19. As part of the EGP 100 billion stimulus, EGP 50 billion has been announced for the tourism sector,
- The moratorium on the tax law on agricultural land has been extended for 2 years.
- Increase of annual periodic bonus by 14 % and allowing pensioners to add five previous raises to their pay
- Lowering of energy costs for the entire industrial sector
- Step up of subsidy payouts for exporters



- The stamp duty on transactions and tax on dividends have been reduced & Capital gains tax has been postponed until further notice.
- Reduction of the policy rate by 300 bps by the Central Bank.
- Reduction of the preferential interest rate on loans to SMEs, industry, tourism and housing for low-income and middle-class families from 10 percent to 8 percent.
- The limit for electronic payments via mobile phones has been raised to EGP 30,000 per day and EGP 100,000 per month for individuals, and to EGP 40,000 per day and EGP 200,000 per week for corporations.
- Introduction of a new debt relief initiative for individuals at risk of default that will waive marginal interest on debt under EGP 1 million if customers make a 50 percent payment.
- Regulations issued last year requiring banks to obtain detailed information of borrowers have now been relaxed.
- The Central Bank has launched an EGP 20 billion stock-purchase program.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

Creation of hotline for purposes of reporting suspected corona virus cases

10. Sudan

**INFECTED:** 29

**DEAD:** 4

**RECOVERED:** 4

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of border with Chad
- A curfew starting 24 March from 8pm to 6am until further notice.
- Ban of bus travel between states starting 26 March with the exception of humanitarian, commercial and technical shipments.
- Closure of international and domestic airports until 23 April with the exception of humanitarian and cargo shipments.

- All schools, universities, religious institutes, universities, colleges and higher institutes have been closed for one month, starting from 14 March. Basic certification exams in all states to be postponed until further notice.
- All festivals, camps and sports events to be cancelled and public gatherings such as weddings are banned until further notice.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

No measures announced yet

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- The Federal Ministry of Health has announced a national COVID-19 response plan with a budget of US\$76 million
- Preparation of isolation areas to monitor suspected cases

11. Central African Republic

**INFECTED: 11**

**DEAD: 0**

**RECOVERED: 0**

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Anyone coming from a country with local-transmission of COVID-19 is banned from entering (exceptions: Central African citizens, diplomats, and NGOs).
- Schools and universities are closed.
- Gatherings of more than 15 (including religious services) are banned; weddings and funerals are limited to close family members.
- The airport is closed (except for commercial, humanitarian, medevac, and technical stops).
- Self-quarantine of 21 days (increased from 14 days) is mandatory for any person entering CAR from a location with local transmission of COVID-19.
- Quarantined individuals are banned from leaving their domicile.
- Movements are restricted outside of Bangui (exceptions for MINUSCA and humanitarians).

- No handshakes or kissing as greetings, instead use only non-contact greetings for social interactions.
- Public spaces must have hand-washing stations.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government of C.A.R. intends to implement an announced response plan for the health sector that was prepared in strong collaboration with the WHO, with an estimated cost of 27 billion of FCFA (1.9 percent of GDP). This plan contains measures to strengthen the ability of the healthcare system to deal with such pandemics in the future. It aims at: (i) providing medical care of confirmed cases; (ii) improving the monitoring of the country's points of entry; and (iii) strengthening the capacities of the medical staff, laboratories and hospitals.
- The government has requested the help of its development partners to finance this plan through grants and loans.
- The Bank of Central African States (BEAC) will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC)

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE: N/A**

12. Chad

**INFECTED:** 23

**DEAD:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 2

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of land borders with CAR and Sudan
- Quarantine for nationals coming back from high risk countries
- Cancellation of events of more than 50 people
- An inter-ministerial management committee meets daily to monitor developments.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The Bank of Central African States (BEAC) will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC).

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

An estimated CFAF 15 billion (0.3 percent of non-oil GDP) of fiscal measures have been approved and are being implemented. These measures include:

- training of medical and technical staff,
- purchase of necessary medical equipment,
- construction of seven health centers in remote areas,
- construction of three mobile hospitals,
- securely managing entry points.

13. Congo

**INFECTED:** 60

**DEAD:** 5

**RECOVERED:** 5

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

Adoption of containment measures, including social distancing, travel bans on visitors from high-risk countries and quarantine for nationals/expatriates returning from those countries, screening at ports of entry, and school closures.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

Congo is a member of CEMAC. As such, monetary and macroprudential policy decisions are taken at the regional level. BEAC announced that it will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in CEMAC. However, banks with financing needs will be able to satisfy their requests at the marginal lending facility under the usual conditions.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

Availing to the Ministry of Health USD 1.4 Million to combat the epidemic

14. Democratic Republic of the Congo

**INFECTED:** 68

**DEAD:** 6

**RECOVERED:** 0

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Declaration of state of emergency across the country to fight the coronavirus pandemic
- Closure of all the country's borders, except for traffic of trucks, ships and cargo planes with essential freight.
- Suspension of all flights from countries at risk and transit countries
- All persons departing from the country's capital, Kinshasa to the other parts of the country be systematically subjected to control measures in order to prevent the spread of this pandemic to the rest of our country.

- Prohibition of all gatherings, meetings, celebrations, of more than 20 people in public places outside the family home.
- Temporary suspension of Schools, activities in stadiums, entertainment joints and all public worship
- All cases that test positive throughout the country will be treated at the Government's expense

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- A preparedness and response national plan with a budget of \$130 Million is being finalized with support from development partners to deal with the pandemic. The plan mainly focuses on actions to (i) strengthen early detection and surveillance and foster technical and operational coordination within the government; (ii) improve the quality of medical care to infected patients; and (iii) develop effective preventive communication strategies and enhance medical logistic platforms. The plan's budget is estimated at \$130 million (0.3 percent of GDP).
- The central bank (BCC) announced several measures to ease liquidity conditions by:
  - reducing the policy rate by 150 bps to 7.5 percent;
  - eliminating mandatory reserve requirements on demand deposits in local currency; and
  - extending the maturity of emergency liquidity loans to up to 24 months.
- The Central Bank has postponed the adoption of new minimum capital requirements and encouraged the restructuring of non-performing loans.
- The Central Bank has announced measures to reduce contamination risks in bank notes and promote the use of e-payments."

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

15. Gabon

**INFECTED:** 57

**DEAD:** 1

**RECOVERED:** 1

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- International flights to and from Gabon are limited to one flight per week per airline.
- Restaurants are closed to the public with the exception of takeout and delivery services.
- Gatherings of 30 or more persons are prohibited.

- All places of worship are closed.
- All court hearings are cancelled with the exception of essential litigation.
- Visits to prisons are prohibited.
- Visits to hospitals are prohibited absent express authorization from medical personnel.
- Suspension of tourist visas for persons coming from the United States, China, South Korea, and EU countries,
- Closure of all educational institutions
- Enhanced screening at ports of entry.
- Persons entering Gabon with recent travel to countries deemed high risk, including those previously listed, will be subject to quarantine.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government has invited the SME and the Large Businesses Associations to discuss what would be the best measures to adopt in order to alleviate the impact of both crises.
- The government has also created a fund available at their Caisse de Depots et Consignation (CDC) with an initial allocation of FCFA 4 billion (approx. USD 2 million) to combat the propagation of COVID-19 in the country. Authorities' current projection envisages the control of non-priority expenditure and redirect savings (FCFA 17 billion; 0.2 percent of GDP) to COVID-19 related spending.
- The Minister of Finance has designated a public accountant in order to facilitate disbursements of health-related spending of that fund.
- The Bank of Central African States (BEAC) will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC)

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

16. Equatorial Guinea

**INFECTED:** 21

**DEAD:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 4

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Declaration of a National State of Alarm to facilitate the mobilization of economic and material resources needed to stem the spread of coronavirus.
- Creation of a special emergency fund to which the government will contribute 8 Million Dollars.
- Equatorial Guinea's Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarbons (MMH) will waive fees normally charged to service companies for a duration of 3 months
- Nationals and expatriate citizens should avoid unnecessary travel outside of their residence.
- Travel to work, health centers, pharmacies, supermarkets should be made individually. Practice social distancing and avoid large gatherings of over 10 persons in a single space.
- Be prepared for further restrictions and road closures for reasons of public health or security.
- Anyone having entered Equatorial Guinea after day one of the current measures are obligated to go to the health authorities in order to take the necessary steps of safeguarding the health of others.
- All bars, leisure and game rooms, pubs, casinos, pools, etc not providing prepared food are ordered closed. Public restaurants and dining rooms are excluded but should not accommodate more than ten persons at any given time.
- Vehicles providing public transport are prohibited to carry more than (1) passenger. Companies providing transport for employees should not exceed (2) passengers.
- Citizens with any symptoms related to COVID-19 must notify the health authorities"

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- In light of the recent oil price declines, the government is contemplating to slow down execution of non-priority expenditures as well as to continue implementation of plans to strengthen the tax administration.
- The Bank of Central African States (BEAC) will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the

COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC).

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

- The government has deployed an initial health spending plan (0.07 percent of GDP) focused mainly on prevention. This plan operationalized a first response system, quarantine facilities for incoming travelers, and laboratory facilities/testing. A more comprehensive health contingency plan is to be deployed soon.

17. Cameroon

**INFECTED:** 868

**DEAD:** 14

**RECOVERED:** 130

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Containment measures including closure of land, air and sea borders, quarantine for travelers returning from a country with a high level of infection, closure of schools and universities, prohibition of gatherings of more than 50 persons, closure of bars, restaurants and entertainment spots after 6 pm, suspension of missions of civil servants and parastatals abroad, cancellation of school and university games, and a ban on overloading taxis and public transportation.
- Use of electronic communications and digital tools for meetings of more than 10 persons

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The Bank of Central African States (BEAC) will suspend its main absorption operations on the monetary market for the coming week in order to better assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on banking liquidity in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC)

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

18. Nigeria

**INFECTED:** 343

**DEAD:** 10

**RECOVERED:** 91

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of International Airports and Land Borders for four weeks
- Cargo vessels that have been at sea for more than 14 days be allowed to dock only after the crew have been tested and confirmed disease-free by the Port Health Authorities



- Suspension of the movement of commuter trains
- Ensuring that all production of essential items such as food, medical and pharmaceutical products continues unhindered.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The release of a 10 billion Naira grant to Lagos State, the epicentre of the Covid-19 outbreak in Nigeria to enable Lagos increase its capacity to control and contain the outbreak, while also supporting other States with capacity-building.
- The release of a 5 billion Naira special intervention fund to the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) to equip, expand and provide personnel to its facilities and laboratories across the country
- The government is reviewing its 2020 budget and, given the expected large fall in oil revenues, announced plans to cut/delay non-essential capital spending by N1.5 trillion (close to 1 percent of GDP).
- A fiscal stimulus package to provide relief for taxpayers and incentivize employers to retain and recruit staff during the downturn is being designed.
- Import duty waivers for pharmaceutical firms will be introduced.
- Regulated fuel prices have been reduced, and an automatic fuel price formula introduced to ensure fuel subsidies are eliminated.
- The Central Bank of Nigeria introduced additional measures, including:
  - reducing interest rates on all applicable CBN interventions from 9 to 5 percent and introducing a one year moratorium on CBN intervention facilities;
  - creating a N50 billion (\$139 million) targeted credit facility; and
  - liquidity injection of 3.6 trillion (2.4 percent of GDP) into the banking system, including N100 billion to support the health sector, N2 trillion to the manufacturing sector, and N1.5 trillion to the real sector to impacted industries.
- The official exchange rate has been adjusted by 15 percent.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

19. Niger

**INFECTED:** 548

**DEAD:** 13

**RECOVERED:** 86

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- State of Emergency commencing March 20
- Curfew from 7 pm to 6am in the city of Niamey
- Containment measures including health controls at border crossings;
  - public awareness campaigns;
  - banning gatherings of 50 people or more;
  - closure of bars and entertainment centers;
  - closure of schools;
  - closure of land and air borders (except for commercial goods, health and security travel);
  - banning religious congregations and traditional gatherings such as birth celebrations; and
  - imposing social distancing and hygiene rules in the local markets

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- A COVID-19 response plan has been formulated, focusing on containment and prevention, with an initial cost of US\$2.4 million (0.02 percent of GDP).
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
  - communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  - initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and

- ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

20. Benin

**INFECTED:** 35

**DEAD:** 1

**RECOVERED:** 18

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- As of 19 March, entry visas are restricted. Entry and exit at border crossings is limited to “extreme necessity” and authorised in liaison with bordering countries.
- Heightened screening measures for visitors
- Quarantine in allocated hotels will be obligatory for all passengers arriving in Benin via air. Foreign nationals will be required to cover their own costs of quarantine.
- Suspend all public gatherings including conferences, funerals, festivals, political rallies, sporting events, and religious activities

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Mitigation and prevention measures taken so far by the authorities amount to CFAF 10 billion (about \$17 million or 0.1 percent of GDP). They are also considering more ambitious measures provided that they can garner financing from donors.
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO’s refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;

- communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
- initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
- ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE**

N/A

21. Togo

**INFECTED:** 77

**DEATH:** 3

**RECOVERED:** 32

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Suspending all flights from high-risk countries (Italy, France, Spain, Germany) for two weeks.
- Canceling every international event Togo is to host for 3 weeks (Effective March 16).
- Entries for non-citizens from countries with high infection rates is banned. Nationals and permanent residents will be subject to a mandatory quarantine for 14 days upon entry.
- Closure of its land borders.
- Gatherings of more than 100 people have been forbidden, effective next Thursday at midnight.
- Cancellation of all sports and cultural events for 3 weeks

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Establishing of an XOF 2 Billion fund by the Government to fight the pandemic.
- Authorities have announced an action plan heavily reliant on development partners' financing.
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;

- extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions;
- setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.;
- allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
- communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  
- initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
- ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

22. Ghana

**INFECTED:** 566

**DEATH:** 8

**RECOVERED:** 4

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- suspension of all public gatherings exceeding 25 people for four weeks;
  
- closure of all universities and schools until further notice; and
  
- mandatory 14-day self-quarantine for any Ghanaian resident who has been to a country with at least 200 confirmed cases of COVID-19, within the last 14 days.
  
- Closure of all borders to travelers for two weeks.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government committed US\$100 million to support preparedness and response.
  
- The reduction of policy rate from 16 to 14.5% to reduce lending rates.
  
- Reduced liquidity and capital requirement for banks.
  
- Lowering the primary reserve requirement from 10 to 8 percent.
  
- Lowering the capital conservation buffer from 3 to 1.5 percent.
  
- Revising provisioning and classification rules for specific loan categories.

- Steps to facilitate and lower the cost of mobile payments.
- Institution of the Coronavirus Alleviation Programme prepared by the Minister of Finance whose objective is to protect households and livelihoods, support micro, small, and medium-sized businesses, minimise job losses, and source additional funding for promotion of industries to shore up and expand industrial output for domestic consumption and exports.
- Directions to the Ghana Water Company Ltd and the Electricity Company of Ghana to ensure the stable supply of water and electricity and therefore no disconnection of water/ electricity.
- Government will absorb the water bills for the next three months, i.e. April, May and June
- Government, in collaboration with the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI), Business & Trade Associations and selected Commercial and Rural Banks, to roll out a soft loan scheme up to a total of six hundred million cedis (GH¢600 million), which will have a one-year moratorium and two-year repayment period for micro, small and medium scale businesses
- Sourcing local manufacturing companies to assist in the domestic production of personal protective equipment i.e. face masks, head covers, surgical scrubs and gowns
- An insurance package, with an assured sum of three hundred and fifty thousand cedis (GH¢350,000) for each health personnel and allied professional at the forefront of the fight, has been put in place, with a daily allowance of one hundred and fifty cedis (GH¢150) being paid to contact tracers.
- Government has also decided that all health workers will not pay taxes on their emoluments for the next three months, i.e. April, May and June.
- All frontline health workers will receive an additional allowance of fifty percent (50%) of their basic salary per month, i.e. for March, April, May and June.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

Setting up of a 100-bed capacity facility inside one remote area to quarantine suspected cases.

23. Cote d'Ivoire

**INFECTED:** 626

**DEATH:** 6

**RECOVERED:** 89

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Declaring a state of emergency and establishing a curfew from 9pm to 5am;
- Banning all international travels, except for humanitarian aid purpose;
- Prohibiting public gatherings of more than 50 people;
- Closing schools, nightclubs, restaurants, bars, theatres and other recreational facilities; and
- Imposing restrictions on public transportation and movements between regions in the country.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government is working on an emergency response plan of 96 billion CFAF (or 0.3 % of GDP) to:
  - provide free care for those with the infection and equipping intensive care units;
  - strengthen epidemiological and biological surveillance (virus testing; creation of a free call center, rehabilitating and equipping laboratories);
  - reinforce capacities of pharmaceutical industries and financing research on the virus.
  
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
  - communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  - initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
  - ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

24. Liberia

**INFECTED:** 59

**DEATH:** 6

**RECOVERED:** 4

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of all schools, night clubs, cinemas, beaches, spas, mosques and churches.
- Banning of all street selling and gatherings of more than 10 people.
- Limits on admittance to banks and restaurants to five customers kept six feet apart.
- Social distancing for health facilities and pharmacies (which are to remain open).
- Mandatory washing with soap and clean water at all public and private establishments.
- Establishment of a hotline for use by the population to report those exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Aside from a preparedness plan, no other special fiscal measures have yet been adopted.
- The authorities are hoping to finalize a COVID-19 preparedness plan in conjunction with the donor community.
- The World Bank has to date approved US\$1.5 million of financing (which is yet to be utilized).
- Facilitation of more efficient electronic payments and promotion of digital forms of payments.
- The daily transaction limits for using mobile money to purchase goods and transfers has been adjusted,
- The monthly aggregate transaction limits for purchasing of goods and transfers through mobile money have been adjusted,
- The suspension of the rules (asset classification and provisioning) on credits to borrowers in the aviation, hospitality, tourism, agriculture, and businesses involved in cross-border trading sectors for a period of three months so as to exercise flexibility to borrowers in those sectors and categories of borrowers, including but not limited to flexible restructuring terms



**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

25. Mali

**INFECTED:** 123

**DEATH:** 10

**RECOVERED:** 26

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Suspension of commercial flights from affected countries (except cargo flights).
- The closure of land borders.
- The suspension of all public gatherings.
- The prohibition of social, sports, cultural and political gatherings of more than 50 people.
- The closure of schools (for 3 weeks), night clubs and bars.
- Setting up of a crisis response unit, a hotline for signaling any suspicious case, and some quarantine facilities.
- Night-Time Curfew from 9pm -5am.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government has prepared a contingency plan to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and strengthen its medical care capacity, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, costed at about CFAF 6.3 billion (0.06 percent of GDP).
- The government is also working with the World Bank to enhance its medical care capacity, notably in terms of medical equipment (respirators, quarantine facilities, etc.).
- At the regional level, the council of Finance Ministers of the WAEMU have committed to undertake necessary steps to mitigate the adverse economic effects of the virus, although no specific measure has been announced yet.
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:

- providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
- extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
- setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
- allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
- communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
- initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
- ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

26. Guinea

**INFECTED:** 363

**DEATH:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 31

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Large public gatherings have been banned,
- The international airport has been closed to non-essential flights, and
- Public areas (markets, religious facilities) are required to have hand sanitizing equipment.
- All schools have been closed until further notice.
- Guinean embassies and consulates have suspended visa issuance to travelers from countries with more than 30 confirmed cases.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- A National Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for a COVID-19 outbreak was prepared, with the support of international development partners.
- Key measures focus on strengthening surveillance at ports of entry.
- Reinforcing capacity for COVID-19 detection.

- Increasing the number of quarantine centers.
- Expanding treatment facilities and acquiring needed medical equipment.
- Conducting a communication campaign

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

27. Guinea Bissau

**INFECTED:** 38

**DEATH:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 0

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- All borders were closed and all flights to Bissau interrupted as of March 18.
- All schools and outdoor markets are closed until further notice.
- Large gatherings are prohibited.
- Public transportation vehicles can no more circulate in Bissau since March 25.
- The prohibition will be extended to the entire country on March 28.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
  - communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  - initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and

- ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

28. Gambia

**INFECTED: 9**

**DEATH: 1**

**RECOVERED: 2**

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of Land Borders and country's airspace except for medical and cargo flights for 21 days
- Freezing of prices and ration essential food (rice, meat, fish and cooking oil) and non-food (soap, sanitizers and cement) commodities to prevent price gouging and hoarding.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The authorities have prepared a US\$9 million COVID-19 action plan for which they are seeking grant financing given the country's debt situation.
- The government has also reallocated 500 million dalasi (0.6 percent of GDP) from the current budget to the Ministry of Health and other relevant public entities to complement the support already received from partners to prevent and control the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- To ease liquidity conditions the central bank reduced its monetary policy rate by 50 basis points at end-February 2020 to 12 percent and increased its standing deposit facility rate by the same margin to 3 percent.
- It is also actively monitoring the situation and is in close communication with banks and ready to respond to the situation as inflationary pressures warrant.
- Further measures are under consideration to provide emergency liquidity support together with increased intensity and frequency of supervision to address any financial stability concerns.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

MoH to implement WHO guidelines

29. Senegal

**INFECTED: 299**

**DEATH: 2**

**RECOVERED: 183**

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Imposing of a national state of emergency,
- Imposing an evening curfew and banning all public gatherings.
- Schools are closed for at least three weeks.
- All international flights canceled until at least April 17.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The government plans to set up an emergency fund of up to FCFA 1000 billion (7 percent of GDP), financed by a mix of donor contributions, voluntary donations from the private sector, and the budget.
- The Fund will be used to support vulnerable households and firms.
- FCFA 50 billion will be allocated for urgent food aid.
- The government intends to adopt tax measures, providing some general tax relief and targeted support to the most affected sectors (hotels, restaurants, transport and culture).
- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
  - communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  - initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
  - ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

30. Burkina Faso

**INFECTED:** 515

**DEATH:** 27

**RECOVERED:** 161

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

Containment measures including social distancing, a nationwide curfew, closure of schools, cancelation of major public events, closure of terrestrial borders, and the suspension of commercial flights and key government services.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The regional central bank announced the following monetary and macro-financial measures with the aim of mitigating the negative economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis by:
  - providing CFAF 340 billion additional liquidity to bring the total liquidity made available to banks by weekly and monthly auctions to CFAF 4,750 billion;
  - extending the collateral framework to access the BCEAO's refinancing to include CFAF 1,050 billion of bank loans to prequalified 1,700 private companies that could thus benefit from better financing conditions, and
  - setting-up a framework with the banking system to support firms with repayment difficulties.
  - allocating FCFA 25 billion to the trust fund of the West African Development Bank (BOAD) to increase the amount of concessional loans to eligible countries to finance urgent investment and equipment expenses;
  - communicating on the special program for refinancing bank credits granted to SMEs;
  - initiating negotiations with firms issuing electronic money to encourage its usage; and
  - ensuring adequate provision of banknotes for satisfactory ATM operation

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

31. Mauritania

**INFECTED:** 7

**DEATH:** 1

**RECOVERED:** 2

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

Containment measures to limit the spread of the virus, including suspension of all commercial flights into and from the country; closure of all land borders except for the transportation of goods; closure of schools and universities, as well as of all restaurants and cafés; and a curfew from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. throughout the country.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- As a first step the Ministry of Health has prepared a \$10 million (0.13 percent of GDP) short-term response plan to contain the spread of COVID-19.

- The plan includes the procurement of medical supplies and equipment as well as the recruitment of additional medical staff.
- The government is expected to announce soon a large set of measures to further address the pandemic and support the population and the economy, including financial assistance to negatively impacted people and businesses.
- The reduction of the policy rate from 6.5 percent to 5 percent.
- Reduction of the marginal lending rate from 9 percent to 6.5 percent.
- A decrease of the reserve requirement ratio from 7 percent to 5 percent.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

32. Algeria

**INFECTED:** 1983

**DEATH:** 313

**RECOVERED:** 601

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Cancelling flights.
- Imposing quarantines to repatriated Algerians.
- Closure of schools, universities, restaurants, and shops.
- Cancellation of public and private events.
- Shut down of transportation services (internal and external).
- Putting on mandatory leave half of civil servants and private workers with full compensation.
- Demonstrations and religious activities have been cancelled.
- A lockdown of affected areas has been ordered.
- A curfew has been put in place in several cities including Algiers.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- In response to the oil price shock, authorities have announced their intention to lower current spending by 30 percent (7.2% of GDP or USD 12 bn), while keeping wages intact and protecting health and education spending.

- The government is also preparing a supplementary finance law, which will incorporate measures to mitigate the economic impact of the virus. The law will notably include compensation measures for losses incurred by businesses.
- Declaration and payments of income taxes for individuals and enterprises have been postponed, except for large enterprises.
- The Bank of Algeria lowered the reserve requirement ratio from 10 percent to 8 percent, and its main policy rate by 25 basis points to 3.25 percent.
- Cutting of the import bill by at least USD 10 bn (6 percent of GDP).

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

33. Morocco

**INFECTED:** 1838

**DEATH:** 126

**RECOVERED:** 210

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Establishment of a Special Fund for the Management and Response to COVID-19.
- All international passenger flights to and from the country were suspended.
- Suspension of all promotions and recruitment contests under this year's state budget so as to minimize costs.
- Creation of an emergency committee chaired by the Minister of Finance in charge of monitoring the situation.
- Declaration of a state of health emergency
- Adoption of containment measures including quarantine, suspension of all international passenger flights, forbidding of all public gatherings, and closed mosques, schools, universities, restaurants, cafes, and hammams.
- Regulation of prices and control of the distribution channels of facemasks and hydro alcoholic gels.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Donation by trade unions of three days worth of wages over the next three months to the newly established COVID-19 solidarity fund.



- The authorities have created a special fund dedicated to the management of the pandemic, of about US\$1 billion financed by the government and by voluntary contributions from public and private entities which will be tax deductible. This fund will cover the costs of upgrading medical facilities and support businesses and households impacted by the pandemic.
- Employees who become unemployed and are registered with the pension fund will receive 2,000 dirhams a month and can put off debt payments until June 30.
- All businesses can defer social contribution payments until June 30.
- Companies with annual turnover lower than 20 million dirhams can defer tax payments.
- Reduction of the policy rate by 25 bps to 2.0 percent.
- To support companies, loan payments are suspended for small and medium-sized businesses and self-employed people until June 30, and
- Creation of a new banking credit line to finance businesses' operational expenses, which is guaranteed by the Central Guarantee Fund.
- The Capital Market Authority has revised downwards the maximum variation thresholds applicable to financial instruments listed in Casablanca Stock Exchange.
- Broadening of the dirham's fluctuation band to +/- 5 percent (from +/- 2.5 percent) on March 6, 2020.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

34. Tunisia

**INFECTED:** 726

**DEATH:** 34

**RECOVERED:** 43

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Night time curfew from 6pm to 6am
- Suspension of classes in universities and schools
- 2 week lockdown from March 22.

- Maritime borders will be closed to all countries.
- Air borders with Italy will be suspended permanently.
- All passengers arriving to Tunisia are required to self-quarantine for 14 days.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Tunis Stock Exchange to continue operations
- A 2.5 billion TND emergency plan (\$0.8 billion or 2 percent of GDP) was announced on March 21. The package includes:
  - the postponement of CIT payments, other taxes and social contributions,
  - VAT exemptions, VAT refund procedures and reimbursement acceleration,
  - rescheduling taxes and custom arrears, and others in order to provide liquidity to the private sector,
  - limiting layoffs and protecting the most vulnerable population especially in the informal sector.
  - Expansion of the budget allocation for health expenses as well as the creation of a 100 TND Million fund for the acquisition of equipment for public hospitals. From the social side, this also includes cash transfers for low income households, disabled and homeless people (150 TND million).
  - Support for those who will be on temporary unemployment because of the COVID19 shock (300 TND million).
  - The Central Bank has reduced its policy rate by 100bps
  - Banks to defer payments on existing loans and suspend any fees for electronic payments and withdrawals
  - creation of investment funds, a state guarantee for new credits and the activation of a mechanism for the state to cover the difference between the policy rate and the effective interest rate on investment loans within a cap of 3 percent.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

35. Libya

**INFECTED:** 26

**DEATH:** 1

**RECOVERED:** 9

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Closure of the country's borders have been closed.

- Banning of large public gatherings.
- Dusk-to-dawn curfews have been ordered in some regions.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

No measures announced yet.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

36. Zambia

**INFECTED:** 45

**DEATH:** 2

**RECOVERED:** 30

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Enacting of statutory instruments which: (1) designate COVID-19 as a notifiable disease, and (2) provide additional regulations to facilitate management and control of COVID-19 as per the Public Health Act.
- Non-essential travel to all countries shall not be authorised.
- Returning employees in the Public Service from the affected countries shall be quarantined for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days.
- All authorities that have been granted hitherto for travel abroad are hereby revoked. Fresh approval should be sought for essential travel abroad only.
- Non-essential travel outside the district boundaries is also cancelled.
- Discretionary travel to places such as shopping malls or social visits should be minimized
- Institutions should take measures to ensure that there is no crowding at the work station.
- Institutions should take measures to ensure that there is no crowding at the service points.
- All institutions to provide sanitising facilities for their staff and visitors as well as maintaining good hygiene practices in the work environment.

- All employees are required to ensure that they strictly observe the preventive measures as prescribed by the Ministry of Health to protect themselves and others from contracting the COVID-19.
- Conferences, meetings and workshops involving large groups of people should not be held until further notice.
- All Provincial and District Epidemic Preparedness and Response Committees are hereby activated and should be fully supported.
- All sector stakeholders should be fully engaged in the implementation of the Covid-19 Contingency Plan.

#### **STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- The Zambian government has announced a 57-million-kwacha emergency fund (around 0.02 percent of GDP) to strengthen preparedness and enhance public security.
- The Bank of Zambia has announced several measures to stimulate the use of e-money and reduce the use of cash, such as
  - waiving fees for transactions below a certain threshold;
  - relaxing the limits on single and total daily transactions for individuals, small scale farmers, and enterprises, and removing of transaction limits for corporate wallets;
  - reducing interbank payment processing fees

#### **HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- The National Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) located at the ZNPHI is activated and is using a multisectoral Incident Management System (IMS) approach to coordinate preparedness, surveillance and response efforts at technical level.
- Active surveillance is ongoing at points of entry and in healthcare facilities.
- All international passengers are being screened and those from high risk countries followed up for 14 days.
- Isolation facilities to safely manage cases and limit spread of disease have been designated at district level across the country.
- Laboratory testing capacity for COVID-19 has been established at the University Teaching Hospital Virology Laboratory and at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Zambia.
- Infection prevention and control measures are being strengthened, with procurement of disinfectants and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including gloves, face masks, aprons and hand hygiene supplies.
- Community engagement through radio, TV, and social media platforms, and distribution of Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials is ongoing.
- Parliamentarians have also been engaged to facilitate and promote community awareness in their constituencies.

- A Call Centre has been established for the public to report concerns and also receive information on the disease.
- Specialized training for key healthcare workers and surge staff including immigration, customs, defense, security and point of entry personnel is being rolled out countrywide.
- Guidelines for various aspects of preparedness and response have been developed and distributed to health facilities, including the private sector.
- The Government of the Republic of Zambia has established an Emergency Fund to provide resources for COVID-19 preparedness, surveillance and response.

37. Angola

**INFECTED:** 19

**DEATH:** 2

**RECOVERED:** 4

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Cancellation of all international flights except for cargo flights.
- Passengers arriving from high-risk countries are quarantined for 14 days.
- Containment measures such as closure of land borders, banning of public events with more than 200 people.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

No measures announced yet

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

38. Mozambique

**INFECTED:** 28

**DEATHS:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 2

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Creation of a technical and scientific committee to advise the government.
- Containment measures such as
  - the shutdown of schools from pre-school up to university,
  - the ban of all gatherings, of more than 50 persons,
  - the ban and cancellation of all entry visas,
  - a 14 day quarantine for all travelers entering Mozambique "

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Increase of the budget allocation for health, from about MT 2 billion (or about 0.2 percent of GDP) to about MT 3.3 billion (0.3 percent of GDP).

- The Minister of Finance has asked for US\$ 700 million from partners to face the impact of the pandemic.
- Reduction of reserve requirements by 150 basis points for both foreign currency and domestic currency deposits (to 11.5 percent and 34.5 percent respectively).
- Introduction of a foreign currency credit line for institutions participating in the Interbank Foreign Exchange Market, in the amount of US\$ 500 million, for a period of nine months;
- Waiving of the constitution of additional provisions by credit institutions and financial companies in cases of renegotiations of the terms and conditions of the loans, before their maturity, for clients affected by the pandemic, until December 31.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

39. Zimbabwe

**INFECTED:** 17

**DEATH:** 3

**RECOVERED:** 0

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

Containment measures including suspending gatherings of more than 50 people, suspending prayers at churches and mosques, closure of all schools, colleges and universities indefinitely, and cut down of employee attendance at government and private workplaces (except for critical staff).

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Return of the multicurrency system.
- Reduction of the bank policy rate from 35 percent to 25 percent.
- Reduction of the statutory reserve ratio from 5 percent to 4.5 percent.
- Increased private sector lending facility from ZW\$1 billion to ZW\$2.5 billion.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A

40. Namibia

**INFECTED:** 16

**DEATH:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 3

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Proclamation of a state of emergency.
- Suspension of the issuance of visa on arrival and implementation travel ban of foreign nationals (by air and sea) from affected countries.
- A temporary travel suspension for 30 days for Namibians or Permanent Residents functionaries except for special cases with prior authorization with Ministry of Health and Social Services and Home Affairs and Immigration.
- All leisure, business and social travel is suspended.
- All international scheduled flights, private chartered flights to only land at Hosea Kutako International and Walvis Bay International Airports.
- Suspension of all scheduled flights from affected countries.
- Mandatory screening for COVID-19 to be conducted at all Points of Entry in the country.
- All returning Namibians and permanent residents arriving from countries at high risk or from affected other countries will be subject to supervised self- quarantine from 14 days.
- South African Borders, including Air Travel to remain open to serve as points of entry for Namibians returning home and exit point for visitors from Namibia, and to facilitate trade between the two countries.
- All court hearings to be conducted without attendance by members of the public.
- All pending matters in court to be postponed in absentia for 30 days.
- Provision of separate detection facilities for new incoming accused person or suspects, and that routine screening should be conducted before admission.
- Implementation of decongestion procedures at police cells.
- Visits to correctional facilities and police holding cells be restricted to limited numbers of family members as determined by the relevant authorities.

- Deaths and funerals related to COVID-19 will be handled by the government with psychosocial support to the family.
- Water supply to communities is key in the prevention of COVID-19, and Service Providers are urged to make sure that water is available to the public, through water tanker services and other means.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

The Ministry of Finance and Bank of Namibia to conduct a thorough impact assessment of the COVID-19 on the economy.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- Mandatory immediate reporting of all suspected cases from both State and Private Health Facilities, using set case definitions as well as taking specimens and packaging according to the set standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Introduction of triage system and mandatory screening at all Health Facilities in the country and that the Ministry of Health and Social Services coordinates the provision of Personal Protective Clothing/Equipment to all Ports of Entry officials.
- Include private facilities (UNAM & NUST), and other allied health services) sectors in the response depending on need.
- All health care workers to comply with the notification, prevention and control of notifiable diseases.

41. Eswatini

**INFECTED:** 15

**DEATH:** 0

**RECOVERED:** 8

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Passing of CoronaVirus regulations 2020 to enforce adherence to both the National Emergency declaration actions and the partial lockdown measures.
- Setting up of the necessary structures to fast track implementation of the National Response to the outbreak of the COVID 19 including the Inter-Ministerial Emergency Management Committee, National Emergency Task Force and the Technical working group.
- Government Implementation of a health response plan.



- Partial lockdown on selected sectors of the economy.
- Fundraising for COVID-19 by the Resource Mobilisation Committee.
- Suspending all unnecessary travel within cities, towns, communities.
- All gatherings of more than 20 people are prohibited.
- Closure of borders for non essential travel.
- Returning citizens and residents are to be subjected to mandatory 14 days quarantine at designated locations except for those who are able to self-isolate.
- Employers to allow as many as possible employees to work from home.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

Issuance of a supplementary budget for public healthcare in the amount of E100 million or 0.14 percent of GDP (pending parliamentary approval). Low priority recurrent spending will be redirected to the fight against the pandemic and a portion of the capital budget will be reallocated towards refurbishing hospitals and completing new hospitals.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- Intensifying of contact tracing to provide information on the cases to be followed and monitor the development of symptoms to inform need for testing.
- Training of health care workers on the frontline

42. South Africa

**INFECTED:** 2415

**DEATH:** 27

**RECOVERED:** 140

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Enforce a nation-wide lockdown for 21 days with effect from midnight on Thursday 26 March.
- South African citizens and residents arriving from high-risk countries will automatically be placed under quarantine for 14 days.
- Non-South Africans arriving on flights from high-risk countries South Africa has prohibited will be turned back.

- International flights to Lanseria Airport will be temporarily suspended.
- International travellers who arrived in South Africa after 9 March 2020 from high-risk countries will be confined to their hotels until they have completed a 14-day period of quarantine.
- Individuals not to be allowed to leave their homes except under strictly controlled circumstances, such as to seek medical care, buy food, medicine and other supplies or collect a social grant.
- Temporary shelters that meet the necessary hygiene standards will be identified for homeless people.
- All shops and businesses to be closed, except for pharmacies, laboratories, banks, essential financial and payment services, including the JSE, supermarkets, petrol stations and health care providers.
- Essential transport services to continue, including transport for essential staff and for patients who need to be managed elsewhere.
- Emergency water supplies are provided to rural areas and informal settlements.
- Introduction of regulations to the disaster management act.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- Setting up of a Solidarity Fund, which South African businesses, organisations and individuals, and members of the international community, can contribute to combat the spread of the virus.
- Putting into place regulations to prohibit unjustified price hikes, to ensure shops maintain adequate stocks of basic goods and to prevent panic buying.
- Old age pensions and disability grants are to be available for collection from 30 and 31 March 2020, while other categories of grants will be available for collection from 01 April 2020.
- Proposal to introduce a Temporary Employee Relief Scheme, which will enable companies to pay employees directly during this period and avoid retrenchment.
- Any employee who falls ill through exposure at their workplace will be paid through the Compensation Fund.

- Exemption of Commercial banks from provisions of the Competition Act to enable them to develop common approaches to debt relief and other necessary measures.
- Use of the reserves within the Unemployment Insurance Fund system to extend support to those workers in SMEs and other vulnerable firms who are faced with loss of income and whose companies are unable to provide support.
- Provision of a tax subsidy of up to R500 per month for the next four months for those private sector employees earning below R6,500 under the Employment Tax Incentive.
- The South African Revenue Service to work towards accelerating the payment of employment tax incentive reimbursements from twice a year to monthly.
- Tax compliant businesses with a turnover of less than R50 million will be allowed to delay 20% of their pay-as-you-earn liabilities over the next four months and a portion of their provisional corporate income tax payments without penalties or interest over the next six months.
- Exploration of the temporary reduction of employer and employee contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund and employer contributions to the Skill Development Fund.
- The Department of Small Business Development has made over R500 million available immediately to assist distressed SMEs.
- The Industrial Development Corporation has put a package together with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition of more than R3 billion for industrial funding to address the situation of vulnerable firms and to fast-track financing for companies critical to our efforts to fight the virus and its economic impact.
- The Department of Tourism has made an additional R200 million available to assist SMEs in the tourism and hospitality sector.
- The South African Reserve Bank has cut the repo rate by 100 basis point and also provided additional liquidity to the financial system.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

- Introduction of a public health management programme which will significantly increase screening, testing, contact tracing and medical management.
- Introduction of 'centralised patient management' for severe cases and 'decentralised primary care' for mild cases to prevent overwhelming of hospitals.

43. Botswana

**INFECTED:** 13

**DEATH:** 1

**RECOVERED:** 0

**PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE:**

- Barring of entry into Botswana of travelers from high-risk countries.
- Botswana citizens and residents returning from the affected countries will be subjected to mandatory quarantine for 14 days.
- Suspension, with immediate effect, until further notice, of the issuance of visas at all embassies and ports of entry.
- Cancellation of current visas issued to any person from high-risk countries.
- Suspension of all international travel by employees of government, parastatals, and state-owned entities.
- Cancellation of all government, state-owned entities, and parastatals international meetings and conferences.
- 30-day suspension, with immediate effect, of public gatherings of more than 100 people for conferences, sporting events, etc.
- All businesses are to move quickly to acquaint themselves with the Factories' Act—in so far as Cleanliness, Overcrowding, Ventilation, Washing Facilities, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and the protection of eyes are concerned.
- Forced terminations, which have been effected under the guise of Section 18 of the Employment Act should be reconsidered.
- State of Emergency from 2 April.
- Movement out of the home is restricted to those performing essential services and transporting essential goods and to those with a COVID 19 Travel Permit issued by the government.

**STIMULUS PACKAGE:**

- COVID -19 Relief Fund and government has put up an investment of Two Billion Pula.

- Wage subsidy for citizen employees of businesses mostly affected by COVID-19, to enable them to retain employees.
- Guarantee loans by commercial banks to businesses mostly affected by COVID-19.
- Give eligible businesses affected by COVID-19 access to credit to support ongoing operations in conditions where credit becomes more difficult to obtain.
- Give tax concessions to businesses in eligible sectors.
- Ensure the continued availability of strategic supplies including;
  - A build-up of grain reserves;
  - A build-up of fuel reserves as well as a reduction of fuel prices as global fuel prices have dropped significantly;
  - Sufficient provision of water bowsers, trucks, water tanks and the;
  - Supply of medical equipment.
- Banks to offer restructuring of loan facilities through which each bank will consider each case within their credit policy and parameter including owner-occupied residential property mortgages and motor vehicle loans.
- All commercial banks will offer a payment holiday for three (3) months with the option to extend to six (6) months to the affected sectors.
- Regular payment obligations including life insurance premium payment, retirement fund contributions and loan instalments will be restructured and rescheduled to offer relief for at least three months to COVID-19 affected people subject to individual policies.
- All Government institutions will pay Government Purchase Orders (GPOs) within five (5) days and parastatals to will pay within 24 hours.
- Improve the efficiency of procurement processes.
- Government will pay all outstanding arrears for invoices within two (2) weeks and extended the validity period for GPOs.
- VAT refunds to businesses will be expedited to assist with cash flow.

**HEALTH DIRECTIVE:**

N/A