



Report No. 11, 2020

Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 29th March 2020	Investigation Start Date: 17 March 2020 as of 18hrs.
Prepared by:	Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia

I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 11th national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the 17th March 2020.

- Results of the 8 samples sent to MRCG are still pending
- Cumulatively, the country still has a total of 4 COVID-19 confirmed cases
- 12 additional close contacts of the last confirmed case (from Busumbala) have been admitted into quarantine
- 2 Senegalese fishermen, who claimed to be running away from the COVID-19 outbreak in their country, were also intercepted at sea yesterday by security personnel have also been put in quarantine
- A gentleman who recently arrived in the country from France and was since evading quarantine has been traced (through the 1025 Hotline) and put in mandatory quarantine

Regional situation: As of 29th March 2020, 17:55, 43 African countries (including The Gambia) reported confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia's only immediate neighbour) reported 142 cases. The first set of cases in affected African countries were imported. However, local transmission is now on the increase.

Global situation: Since 31 December 2019 and as of 29th March 2020 at 17:55, a total of 686,199 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries) have been reported from 199 countries, areas or territories. Of these, 32,277 deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 4.7%.these,

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

- **Index Case:**
 - The 28-year old Gambian female arrived from London on the 15th March and self-reported for a laboratory test at the MRCG Laboratories on the 16th March.
- **Second Case:**
 - The deceased was a 70-year old male Bangladeshi national who arrived from Senegal on the 14th March after passing through four other countries
- **Third Case**
 - The 71-year old male Gambian hails from Numuyel Village, URR, and returned from France on the 17th March, 2020
- **Fourth Case**
 - A 53-year old Gambian who arrived in The Gambia from France on the 15th March (was in the same flight with the index case)
 - Flight No. AT 579, Royal Air Maroc with 58 people onboard (including the crew)
 - Picked up from the airport by his brother

- Onset of symptoms began on the 20th March, intermittent dry cough that lasted about 2 days and then disappeared
- Married to 3 wives, has several children and resides in Busumbala Village
- His issue was reported to the RRT through the 1025 Hotline by a concerned citizen. A sample was collected on the 27th March and test results came out on the following day (28th March)

□ Probable Case

- 16-year old male, close contact of the Numuyel case
- Sample collected on the 27th March and an inconclusive test result came out on the 28th March
- A follow-up confirmatory test will be done to determine whether suspect is covid-19 positive or not in a few days

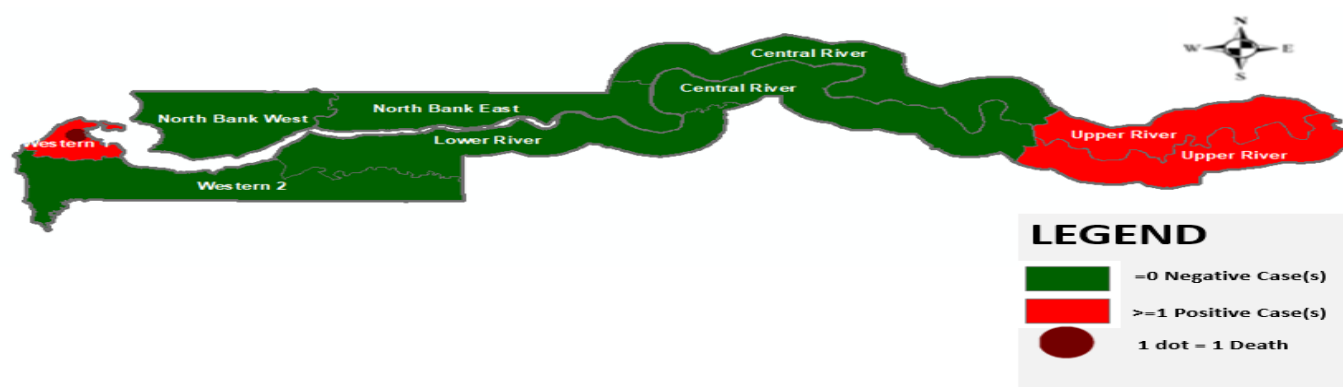


Fig 1: Map of The Gambia showing COVID-19 affected regions

Tables 1 and 2 show both the epi-classification of cases and the summary of outputs on the various public health activities undertaken:

Table 1: Epi-Classification of Reported Cases, by Region, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Region	2020 Population Estimates	Epi Classification							
		New				Cumulative			
		Suspected case(s)	Probable Case(s)	Confirmed case(s)	Death(s)	Suspected case(s)	Probable Case(s)	Confirmed case(s)	Death(s)
Western Health Region One	950,266	0	0	0	0	60	0	3	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Upper River Region	283,911	0	0	0	0	16	1	1	0
North Bank West	130,196	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Bank East	129,629	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower River	88,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central River	257,332	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Total	2,354,433	0	0	0	0	78	1	4	1

Table 2: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Status	New	Cumulative
Quarantine	15	247
Completed quarantine	0	0
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	0	151
Total Tests conducted	0	84
Positive test result	0	4
Negative test result	0	79
Inconclusive test result	0	1

III. Major Response Activities

Table 3: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Component	Interventions
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular monitoring of the condition of all people under quarantine Tracing of contacts and contacts of contacts of the confirmed cases is still ongoing 12 additional close contacts of the last confirmed case (from Busumbala) have been admitted into quarantine A gentleman who recently arrived in the country from France and was since evading quarantine has been traced (through the 1025 Hotline) and put in mandatory quarantine
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The two living confirmed cases remain hospitalized/isolated and in a stable condition at MRCC New confirmed case currently hospitalized at the Government treatment center
Logistics/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Senegalese fishermen, who claimed to be running away from the COVID-19 outbreak in their country, were also intercepted at sea yesterday by security personnel have also been put in quarantine
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 media programs conducted: 8 on radio and 4 on tv 4 video jingles produced and aired 16 communities sensitized on covid-19 using PA system Large volume of calls to the toll-free 1025 hotline Summary of calls received on 1025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 171 calls received 14 calls were referred to contact tracing team

IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Intensify contact tracing of confirmed cases
- Encourage public reporting and self-reporting of high risk individuals through the toll-free line (1025)

- More samples to be collected from remaining high-risk contacts of the Numuyel case and the Busumbala case
 - MoH to implement WHO guidelines relative to immunization and ANC services
 - Fumigation of the recently vacated quarantine facility, PHEOC, and the homes of all confirmed cases
 - Expand COVID-19 testing facility to the National Public Health Laboratory BLT3 Laboratory
 - MoICI, in collaboration with PURA, to ensure that COVID 19-related information is disseminated professionally
 - PURA to ensure all GSM operators do not charge for calls being made to the 1025 toll free number
- **Outbreak case definition (see below)**

1. Suspected case:

Any person with

- History of travel from any affected country within 14 days OR
- Close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection within 14 days OR
- Exposure to healthcare facility in a country where hospital associated COVID-19 infections have been reported **with or without** fever, cough, difficulty breathing

2. Community Case Definition:

Any person with hot skin, cough, not breathing well, and who has travelled outside The Gambia recently OR who has taken care of sick person in The Gambia

3. Probable case:

A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive or for whom testing was positive on a pan-coronavirus assay

4. Confirmed case:

Any person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection with or without signs and symptoms

For comments or questions, please contact:

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