



Report No. 12, 2020

Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 30th 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 12th 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.

- All 14 new laboratory test results received from MRCCG on the 30th March came out negative
- Latest repeat tests on both the index and the Numuyel cases came out negative
- A subsequent 'repeat' test will be conducted, in 1-2 days, to conclusively determine recovery statuses of both patients
- Samples have been collected from the 5 people who completed their quarantine period and the decision on their release from the quarantine facilities would depend on laboratory results
- Samples have also been collected from 2 quarantined individuals who manifested symptoms similar to those of COVID-19

Regional situation: As of 30th March 2020, 18:56, 45 African countries (including The Gambia) reported confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia's only immediate neighbour) reported 162 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 30th March 2020 at 18:56, a total of 784,800 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, 36,938 deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 4.7%.

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 MRCCG Laboratories on the 16th March.
 - Currently receiving treatment at MRCCG
- **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
 - Currently receiving treatment at MRCCG
- **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)

- 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)
- Currently receiving treatment at the government treatment centre

❑ **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

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	10	0	0	0	70	0	3	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	3	0	0	0	5	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	13	0	0	0	91	1	4	1

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

Status	New	Cumulative
Quarantine	0	247
Completed quarantine	0	0
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	17	168
Total Tests conducted	13	97
Positive test result	0	4
Negative test result	13	92
Inconclusive test result	0	1

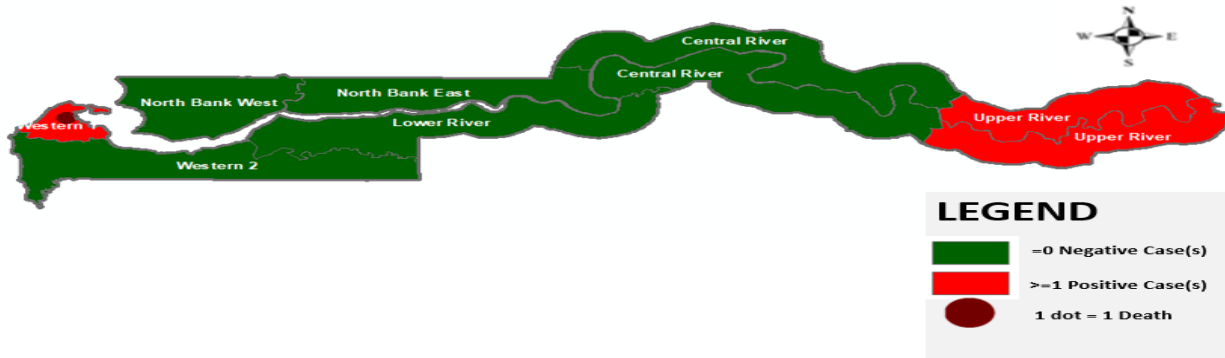


Fig 1: Map of The Gambia showing COVID-19 affected regions

III. Major Response Activities

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

Component	Interventions
Admin/Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations still ongoing with MoFEA for the release of COVID-19 funds to MoH
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 ongoing All 13 new laboratory test results received from MRCG on the 30th March came out negative Latest repeat tests on both the index and the Numuyel cases came out negative A subsequent 'repeat' test will be conducted, in 1-2 days, to conclusively determine recovery statuses of both patients Samples have been collected from the 5 people who completed their quarantine period and the decision on their release from the quarantine facilities would depend on laboratory results Samples have also been collected from 2 quarantined individuals who manifested symptoms similar to those of COVID-19 A subsequent repeat test will be conducted, in 2 days, to determine recovery status 17 new contacts traced and follow-up is ongoing
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The three living confirmed cases remain hospitalized/isolated and in stable condition (clinical and psychosocial) at MRCG and government treatment centre
Logistics/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 new vehicles added to the response fleet to facilitate mobility
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 TV and 21 radio programs successfully conducted on 4 TV and 12 Radio stations countrywide Daily press briefing was conducted 8 high profile figures conducting awareness raising programmes

- Social media monitoring guidelines developed and a dedicated team identified to monitor these platforms
- ToRs for RCCE sub-committee developed, SOP for call centre operations developed
- Large volume of calls to the toll-free 1025 hotline
- Summary of calls received on 1025:
- 853 calls received
- Out of the total calls received: 461 were related to covid-19 inquiries (7 referred for tracing), 123 related to community case reporting and 269 not related to covid-19

IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Immediate pre-positioning of PPEs in all health facilities
- Develop and distribute national COVID-19 treatment guidelines
- Intensify tracing of contacts of the confirmed cases and continue with daily follow-ups
- Encourage public reporting and self-reporting of high risk individuals through the toll-free line (1025)
- Increase psychosocial support to persons being followed up
 - 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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