



## Report No. 15, 2020

<b>Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19</b>		<b>Location: The Gambia</b>	
<b>Date of Report: 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2020</b>		<b>Investigation Start Date: 17 March 2020 as of 18hrs.</b>	
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## I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 15<sup>th</sup> national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

- A significant reduction recorded in the volume of calls to the 1025 Hotline
- 16 laboratory test results received from MRCG were all negative
- 116 individuals completed their mandatory 14-day long quarantine and were thus discharged
- The latest repeat test for the hitherto probable case (close contact of the third case) has turned negative (he is currently completing his mandatory quarantine period)
- 5 Sierra Leonean nationals who recently sneaked into the country, by sea, were apprehended and placed in mandatory quarantine
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the country reported a total of 4 confirmed cases (2 of whom recovered and 1 passed away)

**Regional situation:** As of 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, 13:43 hrs, 46 African countries (including The Gambia) reported 4,827 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia's only immediate neighbour) reported 195 cases. The first set of cases in affected African countries were imported. However, local transmission is now on the rise.

**Global situation:** Since 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 and as of 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, at 13:43, a total of 938,437 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries) have been reported from 206 countries, areas or territories. Of these, 46,891 deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 4.9%.

## II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

### ☐ Index Case:

- The 28-year old Gambian female arrived from London on the 15<sup>th</sup> March and self-reported for a laboratory test at the MRCG Laboratories on the 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- She was since isolated/hospitalized at MRCG and got discharged from admission on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, after producing two consecutive negative test results

### ☐ Second Case:

- The deceased was a 70-year old male Bangladeshi national who arrived from Senegal on the 14<sup>th</sup> March after passing through four other countries
- Died on the 20<sup>th</sup> March and buried on the 25<sup>th</sup> March

### ☐ Third Case

- The 71-year old male Gambian hails from URR, and returned from France on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020
- Patient was hospitalized at MRCG and was discharged on the 1<sup>st</sup> April upon recovery

### ☐ Fourth Case

- A 53-year old Gambian who arrived in The Gambia from France on the 15<sup>th</sup> March and resident at Busumbala Village (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 27<sup>th</sup> March and test results came out on the following day (28<sup>th</sup> March)
- Currently receiving treatment at the government treatment centre

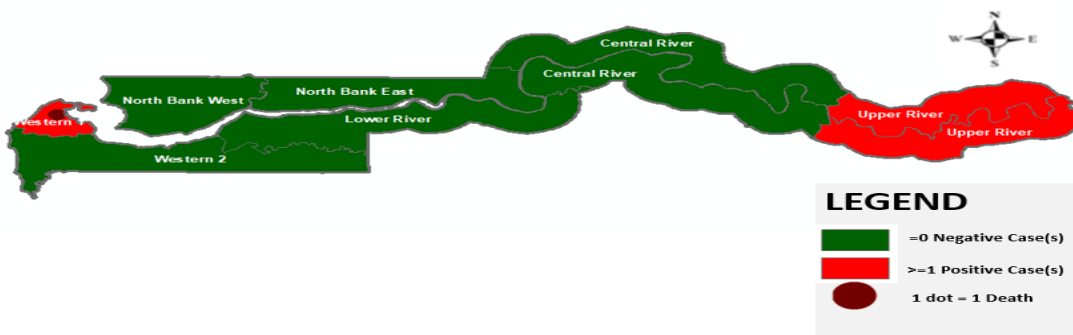
**Probable Case**

- 16 year old male, close contact of the 3<sup>rd</sup> case
- Sample collected on the 27<sup>th</sup> March and an inconclusive test result came out on the 28<sup>th</sup> March
- A follow-up confirmatory test has been done and the result has turned negative

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)	Recovery (ies)	Death (s)	Suspected case(s)	Probable Case(s)	Confirmed case (s)	Recovery (ies)	Death(s)
Western Health Region One	950,266	13	0	0	0	0	97	0	3	1	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Upper River Region	283,911	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	1	1	0
North Bank West	130,196	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Bank East	129,629	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower River	88,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central River	257,332	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>National Total</b>	<b>2,354,433</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>



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

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

Status	New	Cumulative
Quarantine	5	88
Completed quarantine	116	162
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	0	233
Total Tests conducted	16	129
Positive test result	0	4
Negative test result	15	123
Inconclusive test result	1	1

### III. Major Response Activities

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

Component	Interventions
<b>Coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily coordination meetings ongoing at both the strategic and technical levels</li> </ul>
<b>Surveillance/ Laboratory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular monitoring of the condition of all persons under quarantine</li> <li>Tracing of contacts and contacts of contacts of the confirmed cases is ongoing</li> <li>16 laboratory test results were received from MRCG on the 02<sup>nd</sup> April. 14 came out negative. A repeat test on the URR probable case came out negative. A repeat test on the case under treatment facility came out inconclusive; to be retested again in a few days</li> <li>5 new persons placed under mandatory quarantine</li> </ul>
<b>Case Management/ Psychosocial Support (PSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSS sub-committee instituted expansion of holistic PSS services to the community level</li> <li>Fourth case still receiving treatment and remains in stable condition (clinically and psychologically)</li> <li>A follow-up test will be done in 2 days to confirm recovery</li> </ul>
<b>Logistics/Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PPEs distributed in five health regions</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 TV and 16 radio programs successfully conducted</li> <li>To date, a total of 14 press briefings conducted (1 per day since the first confirmed case)</li> <li>5 social media posts shared (4 on Facebook and 1 on twitter)</li> <li>Summary of calls made to 1025 - a total of 245 calls received:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Out of the total calls received, 211 calls were related to COVID-19 inquiries and 34 calls were not related to COVID-19</li> <li>❖ 8 covid-19 related calls booked and referred for further follow-up</li> </ul> </li> <li>A significant reduction recorded in the volume of calls to the 1025 Hotline</li> </ul>

#### IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Test all persons (symptomatic or not) who are about to complete their quarantine period
  - Circulate the national quarantine SOPs
  - Develop and distribute national COVID-19 treatment guidelines
  - Continue with daily follow-ups of low risk contacts
  - Encourage public reporting and self-reporting of high risk individuals through the toll-free line (1025)
  - Increase psychosocial support to affected communities, persons under quarantine and those being followed up
  - Fumigation of the recently vacated quarantine facilities
- 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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