

Communication from The Presidency
No. Thirty-Seven (37)

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic
Saturday, 25th April 2020

Juba, South Sudan

The High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic held its 35th Meeting on the afternoon of Saturday 25th April 2020 under the Chairmanship of **H. E. Dr Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon**, the First Vice President and Deputy Chairman of the **High-Level Taskforce on COVID-19 Pandemic**.

The High-Level Taskforce was briefed on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation in South Sudan, the Region and the Globe by the **Honourable Minister for Health**.

The Honourable Minister informed the **Taskforce**, on Saturday 25th April 2020, South Sudan confirms its fifth sixth case of COVID-19. One Hundred and Seventy-Four (175) tests of samples, including from contacts and

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travelers to different locations in the country were tested. One-hundred and Seventy-Four (174) out of these returned negative. One sample, however, was positive. The 60-year-old traveler is in good health in isolation. A full contact tracing operation is underway. **South Sudan now has six (6) confirmed cases.**

The High-Level Taskforce, resolves to place all 101 potential contacts of the sixth case in quarantine for at least 14 days. Taskforce urges the contacts to cooperate with the Ministry of Health's Rapid Response Teams.

The High-Level Taskforce welcomes and commends the support and financial contribution of the donor community to boost the efforts of the government in fighting COVID-19 Pandemic. The Taskforce calls on the partners to closely collaborate with the Ministry of Health in implementation of National Pandemic Operational Plan.

The High-Level Taskforce calls for an engagement between the government and the donor community in order to reflect donor grants in the national budget of the government of South Sudan.

The High-Level Taskforce directs administrations of the defunct states to form unified State Taskforces in each capital of the ten (10) States. The Taskforce also calls for the formation of the County COVID-19 Committees as soon as possible. This is necessary for streamlining preparedness and response activities at all levels of governance structure.

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The High-Level Taskforce resolves that passengers returning to their home countries shall be allowed to leave the country without a prerequisite for providing a certified evidence of COVID-19 free status.

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

The High-Level Taskforce resolves as follows:

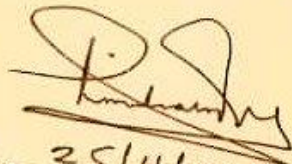
- 1- **Grant** Special Permission for the WFP to fly a MEDIVAC Aircraft No. UN72H along Rumbek-Malakal-Juba-Rumbek route at the earliest opportunity to evacuate from Malakal To Juba a critically ill person due to pre-existing medical condition.
- 2- **Grant** Special Permission for a charter plane to fly a private South Sudanese citizen, Mr David Yauyau from Pibor to Juba on 26 April 2020.
- 3- **Grant** Special Permission for A WFP Aircraft CESSNA C-208B with Registration No. ET-AOF operated by the Abyssinian Flights Services to land in Juba International Airport on 25th March 2020.
- 4- **Grant** Special Permission for UNHAS to bring into South Sudan two (2) pilots from Addis Ababa to Juba on Cessna Aircrafts No. ET-AOF and Cessna C-208B 25th April 2020.

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5- **Grant** Special Permission to the Humanitarian Flight MSF Aircraft 5Y-ZBR to fly staff from Malakal to Juba International Airport on 28 April 2020. All passengers on the plane must be tested prior to travel.

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


25/4/2020



H. E. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD
First Vice President
Deputy Chairman of the High-Level Taskforce on
Coronavirus (COVID-19)