



Report No. 10, 2020

Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 28th 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 10th 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.

- A new confirmed case has been reported from the latest batch of samples (23) tested
- Cumulatively, the country now has a total of 4 COVID-19 confirmed cases
- A new probable case has also been reported as the lab result of one of the contacts of the Numuyel case came out “inconclusive”
- A repeat sample from the probable case would be taken and tested in a couple of days to conclusively determine whether it would be COVID-19 or not
- All four confirmed cases are imported cases

Regional situation: As of 28th March 2020, (17:47 Hrs), 45 African countries (including The Gambia) reported confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia’s only immediate neighbour) reported 119 cases. The first set of cases in affected African countries were imported. However, local transmission is now on the increase.

Global situation: Since 31st December 2019 and as of 28th March 2020 (at 17:47 Hrs), a total of **591 971** cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries) have been reported from 196 countries, areas or territories. Of these, **26 990** deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 4.6%.*

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

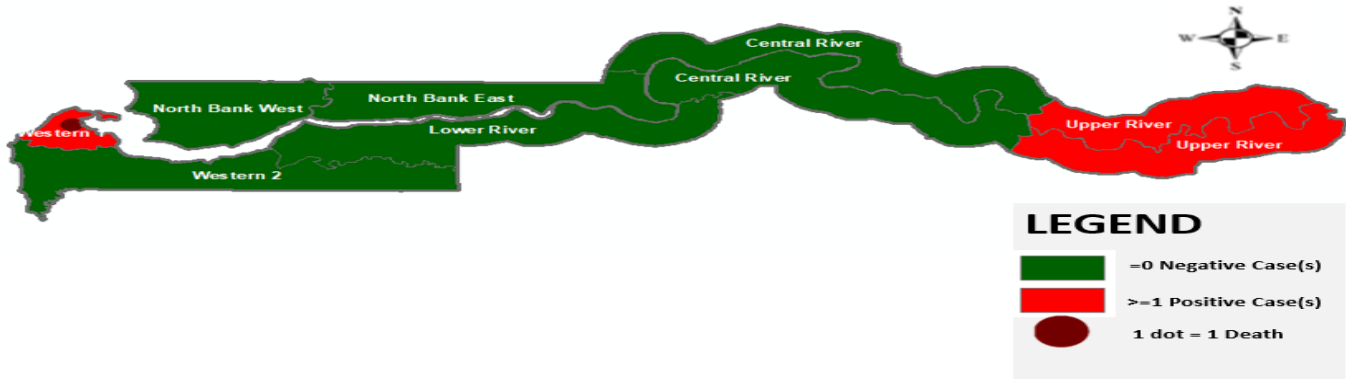


Fig 1: Map of The Gambia showing COVID-19 affected regions

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	4	0	1	0	60	0	3	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Upper River Region	283,911	16	1	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	21	1	1	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	16	232
Completed quarantine	0	0
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	13	151
Total Tests conducted	23	84
Positive test result	1	4
Negative test result	21	79
Inconclusive test result	1	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 21 new samples tested negative at MRCCG, 1 sample gave an inconclusive result and 1 tested positive 16 close contacts of the newly confirmed case have been placed under quarantine. Plans are in place to have their samples collected for covid-19 testing
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The two living confirmed cases remain hospitalized/isolated and in a stable condition at MRCCG New confirmed case currently hospitalized at the Government treatment centre
Logistics/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoH received donated items from Jack Ma Foundation (100,000 facemasks, 20,000 covid-19 test kits, 740 protective clothing, and 1,000 protective shields)
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large volume of calls to the toll-free 1025 hotline Summary of calls received on 1025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 275 calls received 12 calls were referred to contact tracing team, out of which 15 contacts were followed up

IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Intensification of 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
- 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:

Sana .M. Sambou

Incident Manager,

Public Health Emergency Operations Center

Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit

The Gambia

Email: sanasambou@hotmail.com

covid19gambia@gmail.com

Phone: +220 3516320/2422949