

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT



INTERNAL MEMO

TO: ALL STAFF, HEADS OF ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS

FROM: SECRETARY GENERAL

DATE: 10TH MARCH, 2020

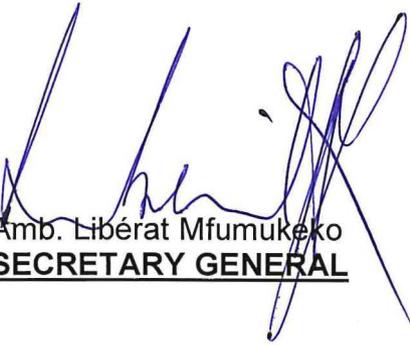
RE: EAC TRAVEL MEASURES TO PREVENT IMPORTATION OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID -19)

I noted with concern that the **NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)** continues to spread in the whole world covering 101 countries as of 9th March 2020, with a total confirmed cases at 105,586 globally, with a mortality rate of 3.4%, with increasing spread to Africa which now has 6 countries (Algeria, Senegal, South Africa, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Togo).

Given the nature of our work which involves travel, and the mode of delivery through meetings, conference, there is ample evidence that such gatherings can increase the risk of transmission of infectious disease including COVID-19. To prevent any risk of importation/contracting COVID -19 the EAC Secretariat is taking the following measures:

1. All international meetings and conferences with delegates from countries at high risk of COVID-19 are suspended until further notice.
2. All travel to or transit for EAC staff to countries at high risk of COVID-19 are suspended until further notice. High risk countries are provided by WHO from time to time on <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>. EAC Health department will issue regular updates on high risk countries as per WHO reports. Country currently at high risk are hereby indicated in the attached list. However, this list will be updated regularly.

3. The EAC management has been reliably informed that, the Republic of Kenya and Republic of Uganda have suspended all international conferences and meeting in their countries. The EAC will have to adhere to the Partner States' guidance with regards to convening of regional meetings in their respective capital cities. I hereby request that meetings planned in the EAC Partner States be convened as guided.
4. The management would like to encourage all staff to seek information about COVID - 19 from management and/or the health department, and observe hand hygiene at all times.



Amb. Libérat Mfumukeko
SECRETARY GENERAL