

**COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND
SOUTHERN AFRICA**

MARCHE COMMUN



السوق المشتركة للشرق والجنوب
الأفريقي

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

Ref.: CS/SG/1/1(24)ME-rlk

Date: 10th March, 2020

To: All Staff, COMESA Secretariat

From: Chileshe Mpundu Kapwepwe, Secretary General

**Subject: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF TRAVEL FOR COMESA STAFF DUE
TO THE FAST SPREADING EPIDEMIC– CORONA VIRUS (COVID- 19)**

As we are all aware, the outbreak of the Corona Virus (COVID– 19) in December 2019, is rapidly evolving and spreading to many countries around the world. Several lives have since been lost and many people are being infected at a fast rate. This has raised significant concerns as to the level of preparedness by many countries to deal with the epidemic.

In order to take preventative measures and reduce the risk of staff contracting the virus, all missions have been suspended with immediate effect until further notice.

In the meantime, we shall:

- Continue to share with all staff updates from the World Health Organisation;
- Invite Health Officials to talk to staff about the epidemic; and
- We also encourage staff to take personal precautions and practice health hygiene at all times in the office and out of office as well.

To facilitate COMESA's work, all meetings shall be conducted using Video conferencing and or teleconferencing facilities until the situation normalises

Your cooperation in this matter shall be highly appreciated.

c.c. CEOs of COMESA Institutions