Common Market for
Eastern and Southern Africa

COMESA

COVID- 19 IN COMESA

MEASURES IN PLACE IN MEMBER STATES



Fourth Edition

30 April 2020

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This publication comprises a listing of measures that COMESA Member States have put in place to contain the spread of the Corona virus. They cover trade facilitation and support to businesses, protection of the vulnerable from the impact of the spread of the virus and other relevant measures. It also includes the support received from the international community Aid agencies. A trendline on the number of cases reported has also been included as well as the contacts of the focal points in the Ministries that coordinate COMESA activities in Member States.

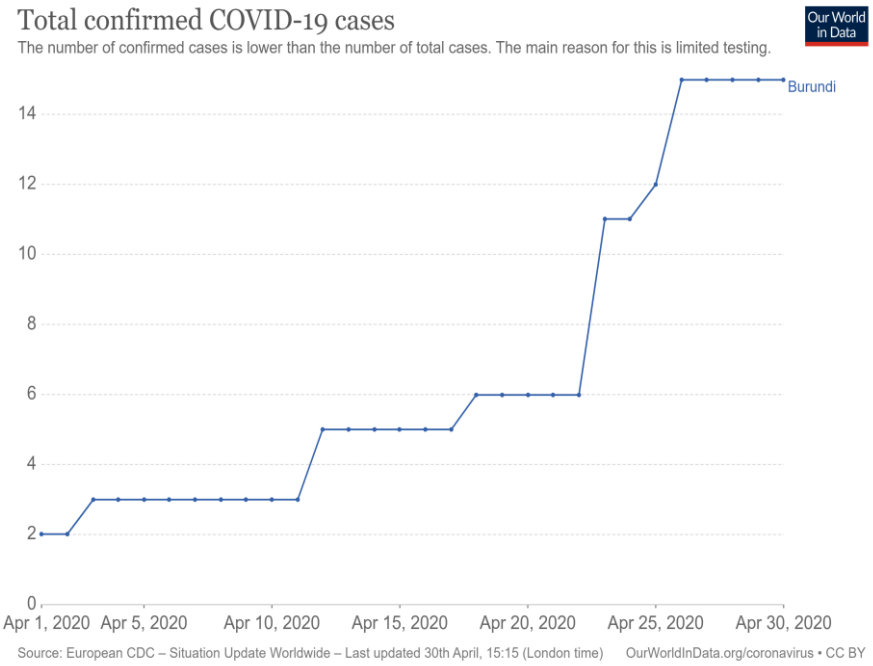
This document will be updated on a regular basis to take into account the new measures that governments are putting in place in response to changing circumstances.

The data and information are drawn from monitoring press briefings of the national COVID-19 response task forces and other open sources.

Compiled by:
Trade and Customs Division and Governance, Peace and Security Unit

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COMESA Secretariat



BURUNDI

BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Burundi on 31st March 2020

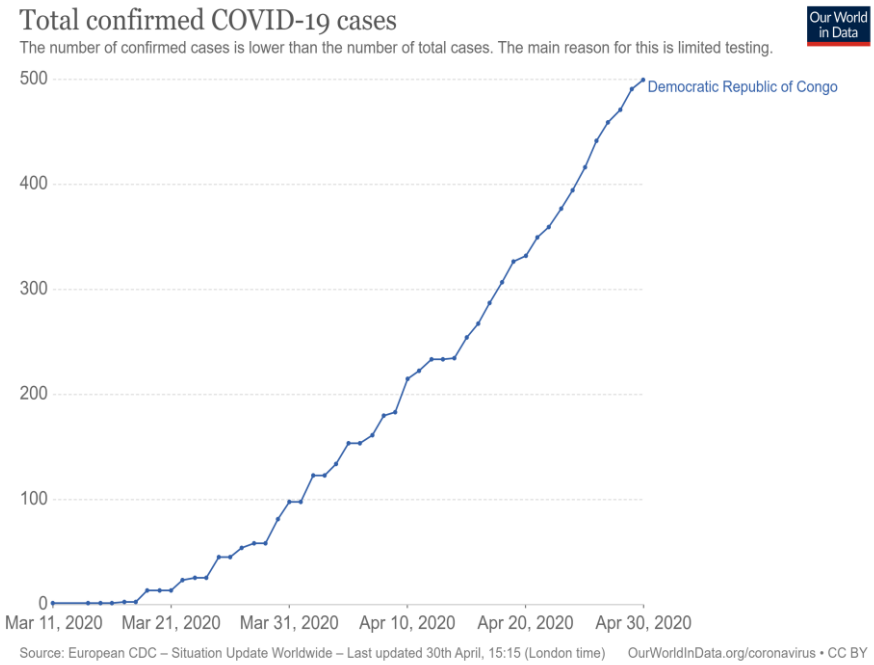


Preventive Measures in Place	• Suspension of passenger flights in and out of Burundi from 22nd March 2020. • All borders were closed except for cargo. Travelers are advised that if they plan to cross the border from Rwanda into Burundi, they may be denied entry • Mandatory quarantine for 14 days for those exposed or suspected of having the virus. • Limited access to hotel premises for two months at least since then. • Sensitization and awareness campaign have been created through TV and Radio. • Installation of hand sanitizers and water for handwashing in public places. • The authorities have asked hospitals to make beds available for potential cases (20 for each national hospital and 5 for each local hospital).
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• From the new COVID 19 government directives/guidelines, all borders are now open for cargo movement. No longer police escort but drivers must ensure minimal interaction with people and apply strictly hygiene measures. • Cargo flights are still operating.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Directeur général du Commerce Ministère du commerce, de l'Industrie, et du Tourisme B.P. 492 BUJUMBURA République du Burundi Tél: +25779927041, +257 22 242833 E-mail: mutchryso@yahoo.fr Burundi Embassy in Lusaka: Email: ambabulskabi@gmail.com pasruho@gmail.com

Comoros

No cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Comoros

Preventive Measures in Place	• Adherence to barriers as announced by the President including regular washing of hands, social distancing (1-2 meters), etc • Closure of all schools and educational institutions of higher learning effective 20th March 2020 • Prohibitions of gatherings of more than 20 people • Ban of collective prayers including Friday prayers (blessed day for Muslims) closing sea and air borders (except for cargo ships and/or special evacuations). • Flights between Comoros and the islands of Mayotte and the Réunion suspended • Quarantine measures implemented for travelers from, or who have transited trough COVID-19- infected countries • Night curfews to restrict movements
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Closing of sea and air borders (except for cargo ships and/or special evacuations) • Support for economic operators and households (reduction of customs duties, deferral of tax obligations, etc.) • Import taxes on food, medicines, and items related to hygiene reduced by 30 percent. • A fund to support employees associated with airport operations created. • The Central Bank reduced reserve requirements to 10 percent. • The authorities announced a restructuring of commercial loans and freezing of interest rates in some commercial loans.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministres de l'Economie, des Investissements, chargé del'Intégration Economique MORONI, Union des Comores Tél: +269 332 66 69, +269 339 10 15, +269 321 58 58 Email: minieco2019@gmail.com; sgmourtadhoi@gmail.com; Abdou_nassur@yahoo.fr



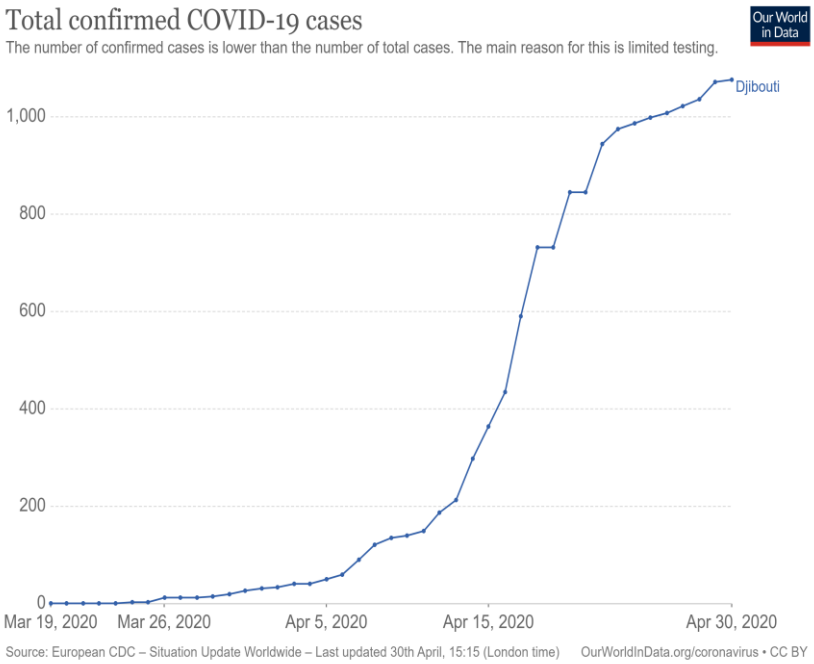
Democratic Republic of Congo

BACKGROUND

The first coronavirus was confirmed on 10 March 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• Formation of a COVID-19 Task Force and a coordination team in the government on 18 March and issuance of Presidential Decree declaring a state of emergency on 24 March for an additional 15 days. • Closure of all education centers, prohibition of all gatherings of people in public spaces, including suspension of all religious and sporting events, and closure of bars and restaurants • Mandatory wearing of masks • Extension of the state of health emergency decreed on March 24 • Suspension of all major international passenger flights into and out of the country from 20 March until further notice. However, cargo flights allowed to operate • Closure of land borders with Angola, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda starting 21 March. • Declaration of a 48-hour-long total confinement from 23 March 2020 over all Haut-Katanga province. • Release by Government of 1200 inmates from Makala Prison and other prison facilities on 7th April to decongest the prisons • Ban of inter-provincial travel from 24th March • Prohibition of all gatherings of people in public spaces • Shut down of all land, sea and air borders to passenger, private or commercial travel from 24th March • Total lockdown of Kinshasa for four days from 28 March and for 14 days from 7 April 2020. • Covid-19 victims interred under government supervision. • Other measures: The development of a response national plan with an estimated budget of • $135 million (0.3 percent of GDP) to: i. Strengthen early detection and surveillance and foster coordination within the government and expert that helped discover Ebola charged to coordinate the mechanism ii. Improve the quality of medical care to infected patients; and iii. Develop preventive communication strategies and enhance medical logistic platforms.

	• Dashboard that shows current information and information on COVID-19 put in place on: https://www.stopcoronavirusrdc.info/
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• DRC did not close borders to cargo • Continuation with mineral export trade from Lubumbashi despite 24-hour lockdown on 28 April 2020 • The borders are open and Customs officers on duty • Kasumbalesa border open but limited flows / inbound flows / traffic out of Zambia Freight services and emergency transportation exempted from the Presidential Decree ban subject to strict screening of crews before admittance to allow entry of cargo. • Promotion of use of e-payments to reduce contamination risks in bank notes. • Fast tracking of ASYCUDA World Implementation approved. • Through the Central Bank (BCC) on 24 March to ease liquidity conditions such as: I. Reduction of policy rate to 7.5 percent II. Elimination of mandatory reserve requirements on demand deposits in local currency III. Extension of the maturity of emergency liquidity loans to up to 24 months. IV. Postponement of the adoption of new minimum capital requirements.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération Internationale 238, Avenue de la Justice KINSHASA/GOMBE République Démocratique du Congo Tél: +243 998 126 526, +243 818 118 061 Courriel: minicir@yahoo.fr zachtshim@gmail.com DRC Embassy in Lusaka : Tél : +260 975 852896 , Courriel : ambardclusaka@gmail.com



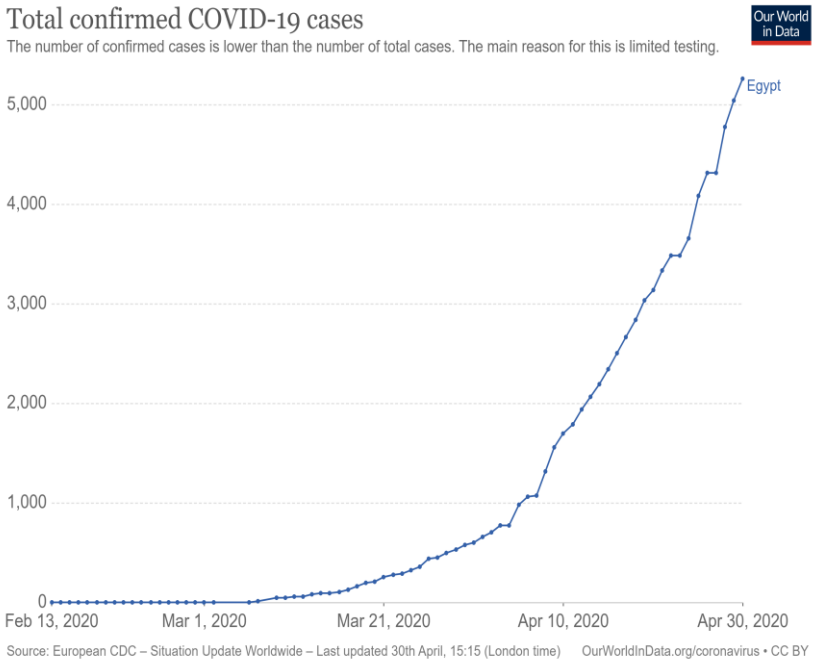
Djibouti

BACKGROUND

First case detected on March 18th, 2020

Preventive Measures in Place	• The Djibouti Government has set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and subcommittees have been established to observe the situation and impact. • A nation-wide lockdown is in place, except for essential services. • All commercial passenger flights suspended as well as train, boat and ship transport. • Traffic has been restricted to the minimum and is only allowed with administrative authorization. • Restrictions of air, land, and sea borders, interruption of passenger flights and trains to (and from) Djibouti; • Closure of educational institutions, religious/worship places, sports events and bars. • Quarantine sites to be established for infected persons and contact tracing procedures put in place; • Social distancing and other preventive measures including sanitization to be popularized by Government health agencies and the media. • The World Bank has provided Djibouti with US$5 million credit towards efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to the rapid spread of COVID-19. • The World Health Organization has delivered protective equipment to the Ministry of Health including goggles, surgical gowns, gloves, face masks and hand sprayers. WHO has also ordered 500 test machines and 80 respirators for COVID-19 preparedness in the country.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Cargo movement of goods and services permitted. • Only commercial traffic to/from Ethiopia allowed through Galafi border. At Galafi, a health checkpoint has been set up to monitor the temperature of people. • Port communities have raised awareness among Ethiopian drivers on compliance with barrier measures and brochures in Amharic language were produced and disseminated to the latter. • The Djibouti Port and Corridor is still operational, and no case has been detected. An alerting protocol is implemented by the port communities.

	• Slight truck shortage experienced due to spike in demand and drivers' fear of COVID-19. • Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA) introduced online payment gateway facility for the port community in order to limit physical visits to ports and free-zones premises and decrease online documentation completion time, enable savings on transportation while respecting government measures to contain the spread of the pandemic • Djibouti made 82.5% reduction in port tariffs and granted Free Terminal Handling Charges for 60 days, from Thursday, April 16th, 2020 for Ethiopia export cargo to the world gated in Djibouti Ports.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministre Délégué auprès du Ministre de l'Économie et des Finances, chargé du Commerce, des PME de l'Artisanat, du Tourisme et de la Formalisation B.P. 24 DJIBOUTI République de Djibouti Tél : + 253 21325441 +253 77851345 + 253 21355177 Fax : + 253 21 35 49 09 Courriel: ministre.commerce.dj@gmail.com; ali.d.abdou@gmail.com; hassanchehem@ hotmail.fr



Egypt

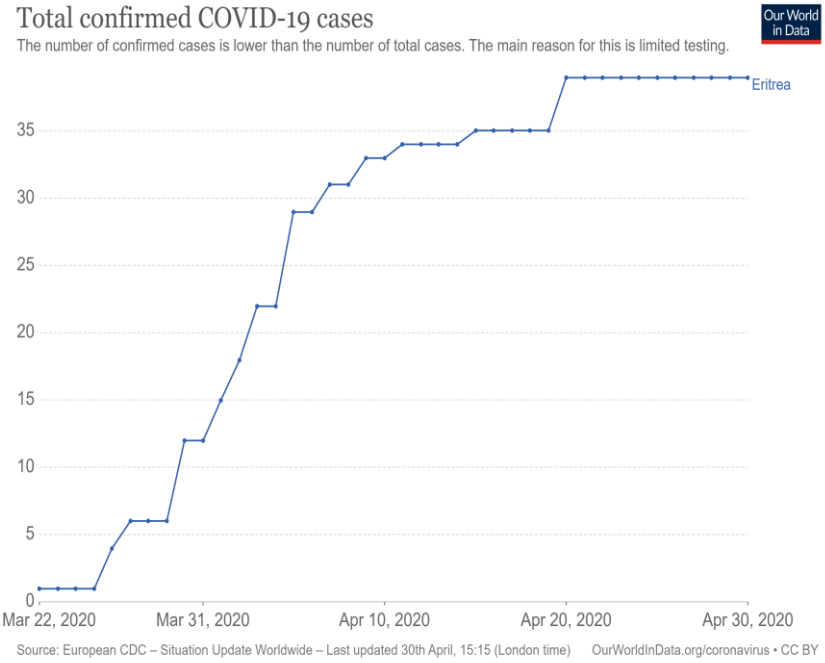
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Egypt on 14th February 2020



Preventive Measures in Place	• Overnight curfew starting at 9 p.m. to 6 am daily • Restriction of public gatherings in schools, universities, cafes, bars, clubs, malls, hotels, public transport, public gathering places and tourist locations. However, the malls and shops have been allowed to open daily until 5 p.m during the month of Ramathan. • Released over 4000 prisoners to prevent overcrowding in prisons and contain the spread of the Coronavirus • Suspension of flights in and from Egypt until mid-April 2020 • Mandatory quarantine for visitors who test positive for Coronavirus in a government isolation hospital. • Adoption of an integrated plan which covers early detection, quarantine and treatment measures, as well as raising public awareness. • Closure of schools, universities and colleges and all sporting activities. • All services provided by ministries and governorates to citizens, such as civil registry services, work permits, passports and renewal of traffic licenses, are all suspended**.** • Securing food stuff and goods in preparation for the months ahead. • Allocation 100 billion Egyptian pounds (6.35 billion U.S. dollars) to finance the anti-COVID-19 comprehensive plan and its precautionary measures. • Increased number of metro coaches in operation. • Daily sterilization off all terminals, means of transport and roads. • Public transport operators not to carry more than 50% of capacity of conveyance • Total lock down in a number of villages including Nile Delta, Gharbia, Menoefia and in some residential building in the Suez-canal city of Port Said. • Decontamination of 7500 buildings including government administrative building and tourist facilities. • Extension of the state of emergency for another three months from 28th April
Trade	• Slight lifting of overnight curfew to start at 9pm instead of 8 pm also a lifting of opening of shopping malls that were originally ordered to close to remain open on those days until 5pm • On 14 March, the government announced a USD 6.4 billion stimulus package allocating 20 billion Egyptian pounds ($1.2bn) to support the country's stock

Facilitation / Business Support	exchange • Reduction of Tariffs: USD4.50 per million British Thermal Unit (mmBtu) (previously USD 6.00 per mmBtu for cement companies and USD5.50per mmBtu for metallurgy and ceramic manufacturers). • Reduction in the price of electricity for “heavy industries” from EGP 1.10 to EGP 0.10 (c. USD 0.0064) per kilowatt hour. Electricity prices frozen for other industries for 3-5 years. • The Export Subsidy Fund will pay out the entire EGP 1 billion in arrears during March and April, plus 10% in cash payments to exporters during June 2020. • The Central Bank of Egypt decreased interest rates from 13.75% to 10.75%. • The Central Bank of Egypt extended the tenor of all bank loans to businesses for six months and provides debt relief for individuals. • The National Bank of Egypt announced a one-year savings deposit program with a 15% interest rate. • The Financial Regulatory Authority has announced an extension to 15 June for EGX listed companies to submit their financial statements for Q4 2019 (original deadline 30 April). • The exemption from the taxation of capital gains on securities listed on the Egyptian stock exchange (EGX) for Egyptian residents will be extended to 1 January 2022 (originally due to expire 17 May 2020). • The exemption from the taxation of capital gains on securities listed on the Egyptian stock exchange (EGX) for non-residents will be made permanent. • Withholding tax on dividends paid by companies listed on the EGX reduced from 10% to 5%. • From 25 March 2020, the Egyptian Ministry of Trade and Industry (the Foreign Trade Sector) put the following measures in place (i) documents, such as commercial invoices, would be accepted without being accredited by the Chambers of Commerce (this usually being a requirement) and (ii) certificates of origin would be accepted without authorization from the Egyptian Embassy abroad. • Stamp duty on transactions on the Egyptian stock exchange (EGX) will be reduced from 0.15% to 0.125% for non-residents. • Three-month extension for the payment of property taxes for companies in the industrial and tourism sector. • The grant of an “immediate” financing for the import of key commodities. • Trade between Egypt and Saudi Arabia to be done through trailers only without trucker by using RORO ships. • General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) currently permits local companies to hold their meetings virtually via conference and/or video calls.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade and Industry CAIRO Arab Republic of Egypt Tel: +20(2)2342190 Fax: +20 2 27940554 Fax: +20(2) 23422197 Email: a.elwassal@tas.gov.eg; m.ali@tas.gov.eg Egyptian Embassy in Lusaka: E-mail: Lusaka@ecs.gov.eg; Lusakaecs@outlook.com Tel: +260-211-251151, Fax: +260-211-250284



Eritrea

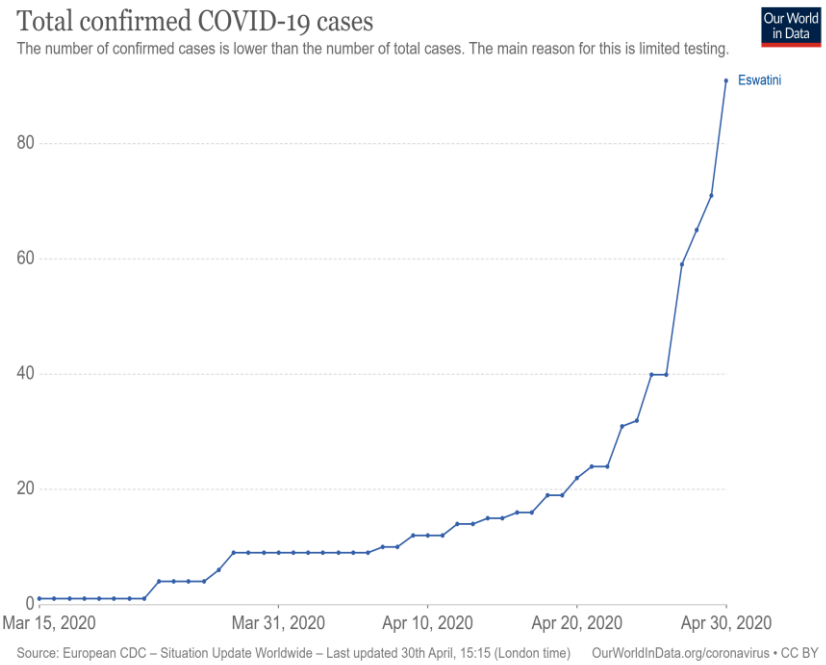
BACKGROUND

First case detected on March 21st, 2020



Preventive Measures in Place	• A lockdown declared on 2nd April 2020. • National Task Force on COVID-19 was established at high and lower levels and has issued regulations and implementing Guidelines. • All entry visas to Eritrea suspended. • All citizens, except those engaged in indispensable developmental and security tasks directed to stay at home. • Only a maximum of two members of a household are allowed to go out from their homes to buy essential food items during the day. This conditional permission also holds for emergency medical treatment. • All trading activities and transactions banned. Similarly, weekly markets that occur in various parts of the country also to remain closed. • All government institutions ceased from performing routine services and functions to focus on indispensable developmental and security tasks and most public sector employees to stay at home. • People that have been confined to their homes are not allowed to use their private cars during the period of lockdown, except the citizens employed in institutions that have been allowed to continue their functions • All public and private education institutions that will continue their operations will have to • strictly observe social distancing and all personnel of the public and private bodies that will continue their operations will be issued with permits by their respective institutions. • Food production, supply and processing enterprises as well as grocery stores, pharmacies and banks will continue to provide services. These institutions will close at 8:00 p.m. every evening.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Asmara International Airport is closed to commercial passenger flights for a minimum of two weeks from 25 March and extended on 08 April for next 21 days. • Major productive and service sectors (manufacturing, food processing, construction, and transport) allowed to continue their functions. • Citizens in the rural areas engaged in farming and animal husbandry allowed to continue their occupational activities. • Major productive and service sectors (manufacturing, food processing, construction, and transport) allowed to continue their functions.

Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade and Industry P. O. Box 1844 ASMARA State of Eritrea Tel: + 291 1117103, Fax: +291 1120586; +291 1124175 Email : ericomesa2@gmail.com; abdulrah78@gmail.com; zeferfd@gmail.com The Eritrean Ambassador to Kenya and Permanent Representative to COMESA New Waumuni House 2nd Floor P O Box 38651 Westlands NAIROBI Kenya Tel:+254-2-443164 , Fax: +254-2-443165, E-mail: beyeneruesom@gmail.com



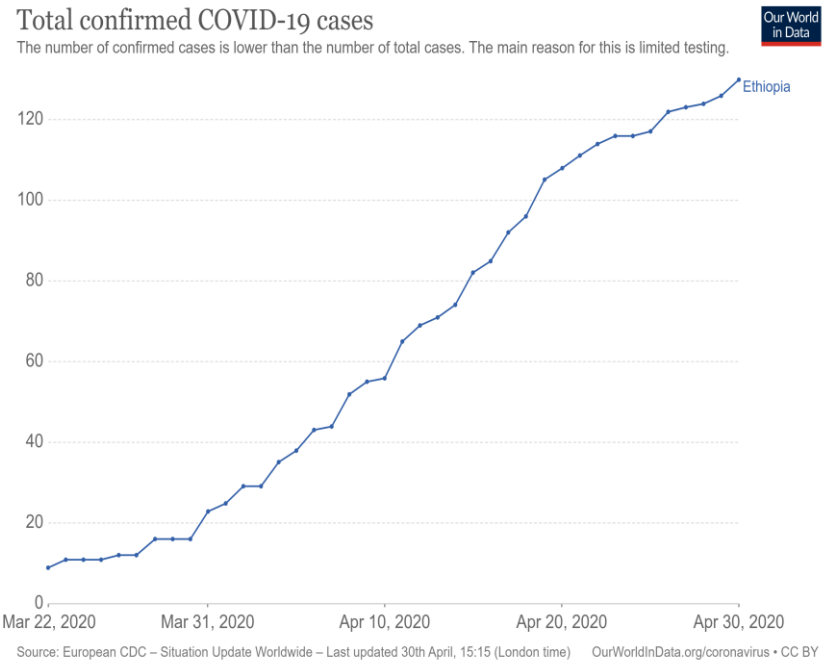
Eswatini

BACKGROUND

The first coronavirus case reported on 13 March

Preventive Measures in Place	• The Government established the Cabinet sub-committee, Emergency Task Force, Regional and Sector Committees to implement the COVID-19 Emergency Plan and declared a national state of emergency • Partial lockdown for 21 days beginning midnight of 15 April 2020. • On 22 April 2020 reversed a decision to relax coronavirus restrictions thus non-essential movements suspended, while public gatherings of more than 20 banned. • Operation permits for non-essential businesses revoked beginning 24 April, that include car dealerships, craft vendors, photographic studios, agents and consultants, dry cleaners, driving schools, furniture shops, general dealers not selling food items, car wash business, casinos and gambling shops, clothing shops (excluding baby shops) • Only essential sectors as identified allowed to operate and to also follow WHO Guidelines; • Suspension of private and public gatherings of 50 people or more • Closure of schools • Suspension of non-essential travel for all citizens • Recruitment and training of health workers, including scheduled onsite trainings of army personnel on screening at informal PoEs • Intensive screening and mandatory self-isolation for residents/citizens coming from high risk countries, • Enhanced coordination and collaboration among stakeholders through one channel of communication and conducting joint inspections, • Collaboration with neighboring countries through sharing of information on national developments that impact the movement of goods across the border, • Provision of PPE to staff and sensitization on the pandemic, • Mass COVID-19 screening, • Restricted entry to foreign nationals coming from high-risk countries. • The Government issued a supplementary budget for public healthcare amounting to E100 million (app. US$ 5.38) or 0.14 percent of GDP. • Redirected low priority recurrent spending to the fight against the

	pandemic and health infrastructure
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Set up Contact Point for information on measures affecting trade appointed including the contact details. • Redirected low priority recurrent spending to the fight against the pandemic and for health infrastructure. • Through the Central Bank of Eswatini, a reduction of the discount rate by 100 basis points to 5.5 percent; Reduced the reserve requirement to 5 percent (from 6 percent); Reduced the liquidity requirement to 20 percent (from 25) for commercial banks and to 18 percent (from 22) for the development bank • Encouragement of greater use of electronic payments; • Encouragement to banks by the Central Bank to consider loan restructuring and repayment holidays. • Cross Border Trade to operate normally; • Provision for later completion of clearance procedures • Fast tracking clearance of goods for the fight against COVID-19, i.e. medicaments. Clearance can be done after, controls still exercised • Enhanced Customs collaboration with other stakeholders i.e. Health (communication to clients through one channel, joint inspections, etc.) • Provision of PPE to the Customs staff, sensitization on the pandemic.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade MBABANE Eswatini Tel: (+268) 404 3201, Fax: (+268) 404 3055 Email: itd@realnet.co.sz; nkambulesib@gmail.com



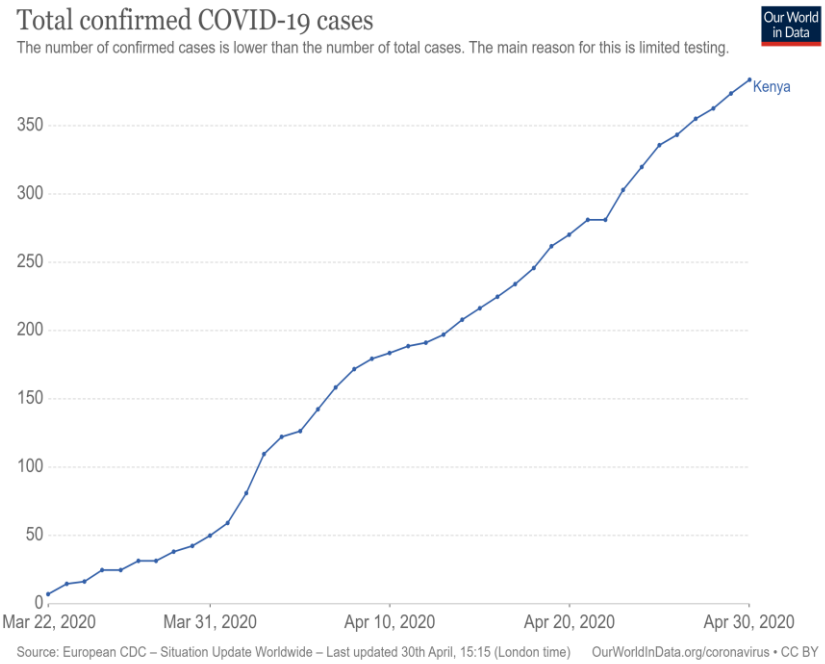
Ethiopia

BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was detected in Ethiopia on 13th March 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• On April 8, the Prime Minister declared a state of emergency for 5 months under Article 93 of the constitution, which allows it to impose more stringent measures. • Closing of all schools including institutions of higher learning and banning of public gatherings including sporting events for 15 days from 16th March 2020 • Release of over 4000 prisoners to prevent overcrowding in prisons and contain the spread of the coronavirus • Postponement of elections from 29th August 2020 to a new date to be determined • Effective 20th March, all arriving passengers face mandatory quarantine for 14 days • All movements across land borders, except for the flow of cargo and essential goods, are suspended effective 23rd March • • Closure of all-night clubs and places of entertainment effective 20th March until further notice • Wearing of face masks is mandatory when visiting 'service providing' places such as shops and everyone must stand at least two strides apart • Government employees ordered to work from home • Sporting activities at all levels are prohibited • Greetings by handshake are banned • As of 1st April, suspension of mass gatherings in places of worship including mosques and churches • COVID-19 Response Fund established for resource mobilization. Comprises both private and public institutions. Contributions are both financial and non-financial and include buildings, hotels, vehicles, sanitary items, masks, etc.
Trade Facilitation /	• Emergency support of $82.8M from the World Bank to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 • Ethiopia has relaxed rules for mobile banking and money transfers, opening the market to all local businesses to encourage people to go

Business Support	cashless to control the spread of coronavirus • Commercial banks ordered to give priority to importers that import goods to combat COVID-19 like ventilators, sanitary goods and medical equipment, including testing kits, when providing forex. • Ministerial level macro-economic management sub-committee has been set up • Waived all duties and taxes on all medical supplies and equipment imported to fight COVID- 19 • Ethiopian Airlines continues to operate concentrating mainly on cargo deliveries and scaled down passenger flights by about 90% • Border closure in effect but no restrictions on cargo movements from Djibouti to Ethiopia. Custom offices operating on both sides. However, shortage of trucks to Djibouti due to spike in demand • Djibouti Port operational for Ethiopian service. However, extended lockdown in Djibouti affecting operational hours for Shipping Lines and the storage space shortage in Djibouti port adds costs and time to the clearance of containers at the port. • Ethiopia-Sudan border is closed to all traffic. • Customs and Revenue authorities are facilitating continuity of business by implementing e-documents and e-payments and pre-arrival clearance procedures and exempting some required documents such as certificate of origin.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade and Industry P.O.Box 704 ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia Tel:+251 115513990, +251 115527676 Email: harrimisganu.arga@gmail.com; lisanework@yahoo.com; fikrutadesse@gmail.com; saronlakewethiopia@gmail.com



Kenya

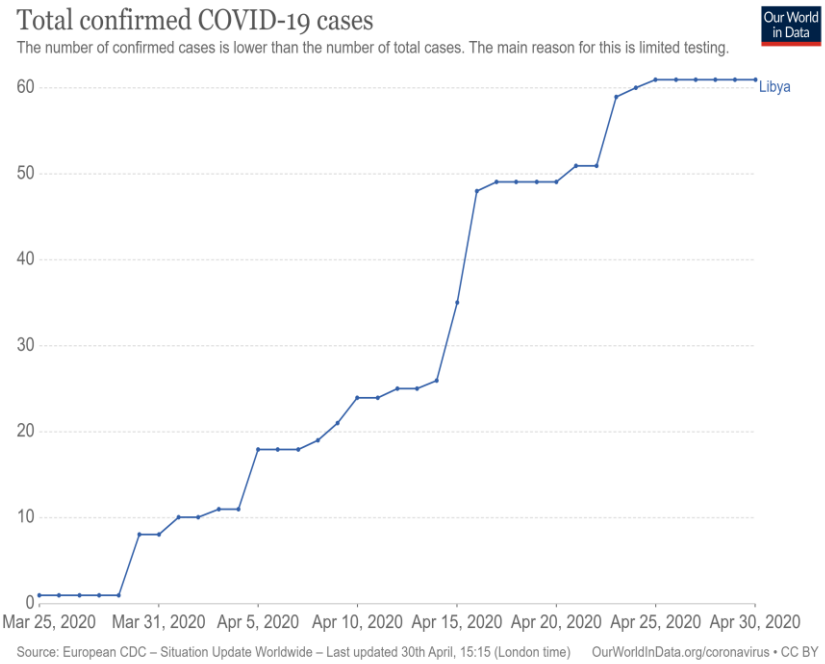
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Kenya on 13 March 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• The President established a Corona Virus Task Force as a national emergency response • Closure of all schools and educational institutions of higher learning for 30 days effective 20th March 2020 • Suspension of religious gatherings including Friday prayers in mosques, Sunday church services, weddings, for 30 days. However, the government has allowed for the reopening of restaurants albeit under strict measures to maintain social distancing. • Fines and jail time introduced for those found in breach of the measures. • Minimized attendance of social gatherings like weddings, funerals, malls for a period of 30 days. • Minimized congestion in public transport and limiting visitors to hospitalized patients in both public and private hospitals. • Public transport including all matatus, hospitals and shopping malls are encouraged to provide soap, water and hand sanitizers and ensure that all their vehicles and premises are regularly cleaned and disinfected. • Government registries and the courts are closed except for the handling of emergency matters. • Government offices, businesses and companies have been encouraged to allow employees to work from home except of employees working in critical or essential services. • Imposition of a curfew from 1900-0500 hours extended for another 21 days from 25th April. • Development of a local testing kit for COVID-19 by the Kenya Medical Research Institute. • Travel suspended for all persons coming into Kenya from any country with reported cases of Coronavirus. • Kenya citizens and any foreigner with valid residence permit entering Kenya is required to self- quarantine or go to a government designated quarantine facility. • Movement in and out of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kilifi,Kwale, ManderaCounties banned from 6th April 2020 for additional 21 days. This is with exception to movement of goods and essential services • Suspension of international flights.

	• ass production of sanitizers, masks and ventilators by private sector in Kenya • Temperature readings for truck crews to be taken at Entry Point and at designated weighbridges which are: Namanga; Busia, Gilgil, Mariakani; Malaba and Taveta. • Truck occupants must keep temperature/readings/health forms until they exit Kenya unless they are Kenyan residents; stringent screening on the trucks; Limited numbers of crew and passengers, and any truck crew member who exhibits symptoms occupants will be subject to a 14 days quarantine. • Cashless transactions encouraged and facilitated to limit contact. • Stringent medical screening at all border points. Only drivers, loader plus the clearing agent are allowed across the border. • A 100-percent tax relief for low-income-earning persons up to KES24,000 • Reduced the top Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) rate from 30 percent to 25 percent. • Appropriation of KES 10 billion through cash transfers to the vulnerable members of society. • Temporary suspension of listing with Credit Reference Bureau for persons who default on their loan obligations with effect from 1 April 2020. • Disbursement of KES 1 billion for the recruitment of additional medical personnel.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Cashless transactions such as mobile money and credit cards are encouraged. Mobile operators and banks have been implored to take into consideration the situation and reduce the cost of transactions during this period. • The reduction of the standard VAT rate from 16 percent to 14 percent (effective 1 April 2020). • A reduction of the resident corporate income tax from 30 percent to 25 percent. • 24-hour Call Centre and information portal set up and manned by Kenya Private Sector Association (KEPSA) • Lowering of Central Bank Rate (CBR) to 7.2% • Lowering of Cash Reserve Ration (CRR) to 4.2% • Central Bank of Kenya to offer flexibility to banks on loans that were active as of March 2020 to maintain liquidity levels • Assessment and restructuring loans taken by corporate borrowers (and SMEs) based on their respective circumstances arising from the pandemic. • Cargo movement allowed to continue however spike in transport requirements has led to a strained supply of trucks. • Mandatory requirement for all returning cargo crew to self-isolate for a period of 14 days straining cargo operations. • Office hours for Customs Offices changed to 9.00 – 3.00pm at a 50% reduced staffing. There is also reduced access to Customs officers and other officials. • Kenya Ports Authority has reduced workforce to two shifts. • Trade related essential services providers, Customs, Immigration, and Port Health officials are exempted from the provisions of curfew and required to work 24 hours
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Industrialization, Trade & Enterprise Development P.O. BOX 30547-00100 Kenyatta Avenue NAIROBI Tel: +254-20 2731531/2-44, +254-20 310983 Fax +254 20 3313600 E-mail: pa@industrialization.go.ke, psfortrade@gmail.com; b_makau@yahoo.co.uk; jnwkario@gmail.com Website: www.industrialization.go.ke Kenya Ministry of Health: Twitter: @MOH_Kenya, Facebook: MinistryofHealthKE, website: http://www.health.go.ke/ KRA Contact Points:

	• For Domestic Taxes and all frequently requested services, log on to: https://itax.kra.go.ke/KRA-Portal/ • For Customs related taxes, log on to iCMS (Integrated Customs Management Systems) and the Simba System • For Supply Chain Management (SCM) or e-procurement, log on to: http://www.kra.go.ke/en/tender • For additional support, call our Contact Centre on Tel: 020 4 999 999, 0711 099 999 or Email: callcentre@kra.go.ke



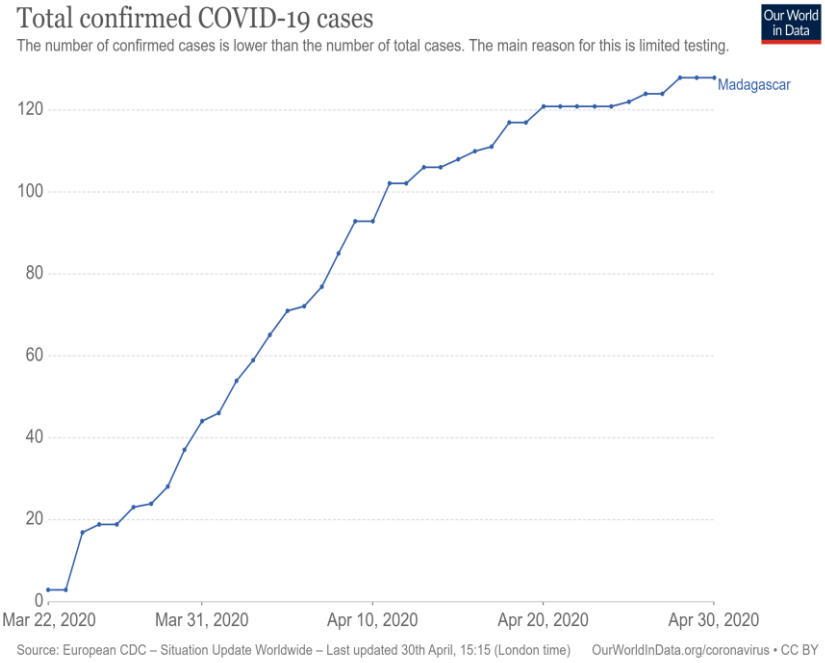
Libya

BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Libya on 3rd April 2020

Preventive Measures in Place	• Closure of all air, ground and maritime Libyan borders for a period of three weeks (with possible extension). • Prayers in mosques have been cancelled, schools and universities have been closed for two weeks and public gatherings limited. • Large public gatherings have been banned. • 470 inmates from local and regional prisons have been freed to reduce the risk of infections. • Suspension of all court proceedings until the end of April. • After the expiry of the 24 hours curfew on 24th April, partial curfew from 6 p.m. – 6 a.m. in the west for 10 days. In the East, in areas controlled by the Libyan National Army (LNA), the curfew remains 6 p.m to 6 a.m. • A special committee has been formed including with the ministries of interior, finance and health to develop a policy and procedures for repatriating Libyans from abroad. • The Supreme Committee for Combating COVID-19 closed all vegetable and meat markets but bakeries and some shops remain open to meet people's needs. • Only pedestrians allowed movement between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. • Points of entry (PoEs) to screen travelers arriving from affected areas have been established at three airports (Mitiga, Misrata and Benina), four sea-ports and land border entry points at Ras Ijdier, Wazen and Msaed.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Cargo exempted from ban • No penalties will apply to the late filing of corporate income tax, personal income tax and stamp duty returns. Customs and Revenue authorities are facilitating continuity of business by implementing e-documents and e-payments and pre-arrival clearance procedures and exempting some required documents such as certificate of origin. • Joint mechanism on export of goods between Libya and Tunisia through the boarder of Ras Ajbir established.
Coordinating Ministry	Ministry of Economy and Industry P.O. Box 4779 TRIPOLI, LIBYA

(National Contact Points)	Cell: +218 928 344531, Fax: +218 214 831394, Email: libya_zambia@yahoo.com Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Minister Plenipotentiary TRIPOLI Libya Cell: +218 91 0123447, Email: elseed.ali@hotmail.com Embassy of the State of Libya P O Box 35319 LUSAKA, Zambia Tel : +260(211) 253055/255388, Fax : +260(211) 251239, Mobile: 0955 208900/0977 977605 E-mail : libya_emb_zm@foreign.gov.ly; farajzarroug@gmail.com



Madagascar

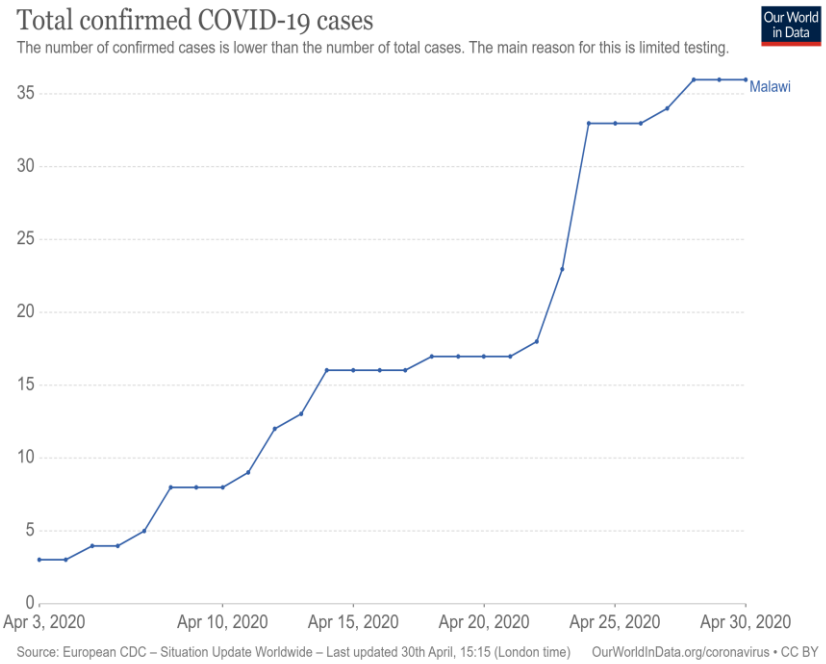
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Libya on 3rd April 2020.



Preventive Measures in Place	• Suspension of all international flights effective 20th March for 30 days. Only Air France and Turkish Airlines serve Madagascar via their weekly cargo flight. • Cruise ships not allowed in any port • Suspension of all public transportation in the country effective 23rd March • Closure of all schools and universities • State of emergency in force until 19th April • Imposition of a curfew from 2000hrs to 0500hrs from 23rd March • Only shops selling essential items remain open and opening hours restricted from 0600hrs to 1200hrs • All public services are closed, except for health workers, the judiciary, public security, municipal sanitation and roadworks, telecommunications and the media • Lockdown in Antananarivo and Toamasina effective 23rd March with only one person per household allowed to go shopping for essential items • Gradual relaxation of the lockdown being implemented some schools still closed and movement and public transport permitted limited to 0600-1300hrs • A complete ban on all public gatherings throughout the country effective 23rd March • Public markets to open for only three days a week subject to strict SOPs • All entertainment venues closed, and all sporting events suspended
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Gradual relaxation of lockdown allowing movement and public transportation from 0600-1300 hours • Price controls introduced by Government to regulate the prices of essential services and to prevent businessmen from taking advantage of the situation to hike prices • Lockdown in Antananarivo and Toamasina not affecting transportation of goods • Any transport, except for goods banned. • Ports are operational while respecting governmental procedures. Major problems experienced on Mauritius trans shipments and connections. • Customs offices Tamatave and Antananarivo will ensure maximum service with minimum contact. However, humanitarian aid, pharmaceuticals and PPN will be given priority. • Temporary suspension of all exports of drugs and other health products
Coordinating	Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ministry (National Contact Points)	Secrétaire général du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères 1, rue Andriamifidy, Anosy ANTANANARIVO 101 Madagascar Tél: +261 34 49 555 89 / +261 34 66 635 44 Courriel : sg.mae.gov@gmail.com; rthm12@yahoo.fr; Director of the COMESA- Tripartite Department Directorate of Regional Integration Ministry of Foreign Affairs Tel.: +261 34 39 388 95, +261 34 66 635 86 Email: dcrmae2019@gmail.com; mbola.andriana@gmail.çom mar.rabi@yahoo.fr



Malawi

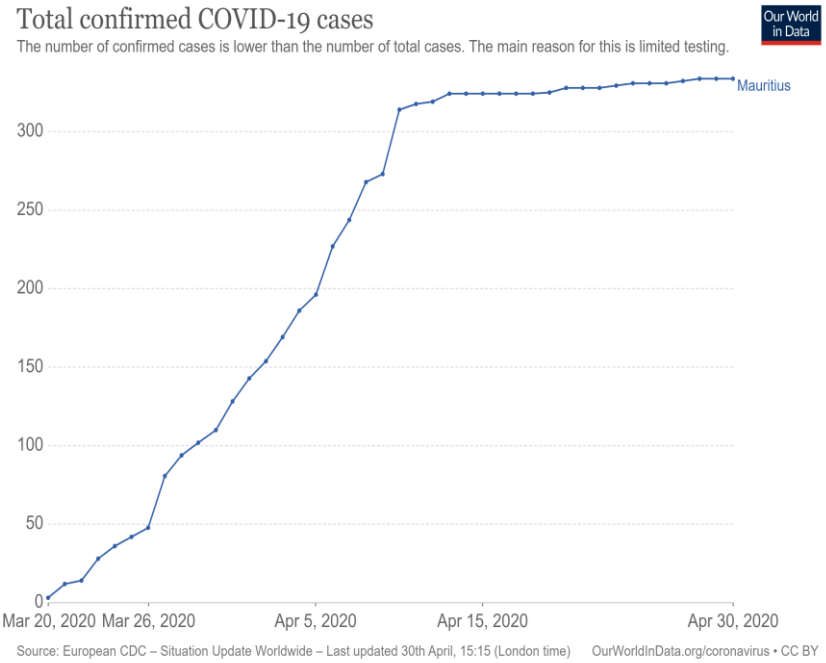
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was detected in Malawi on 2nd April 2020.



Preventive Measures in Place	• Malawi declared a State of National Disaster from 23rd March • Closure of all schools, colleges and universities from 23rd March 2020 until further communication • All flights into and out of Malawi suspended effective 1 April, until further notice. • Flights carrying medical professionals, essential health equipment and emergency relief items are exempted. Additionally, authorities have suspended the issuance of visas. Flights carrying returning Malawi citizens and or cargo are handled on a case by case basis. • Announced a three-week lockdown beginning 18th April to 9th May to try to curb the spread of COVID-19. All non-essential businesses and services would stop (Lockdown temporally blocked by the High Court) • Recruitment of 2000 health workers to support the fight against COVID-19 • Postponement of a repeat Presidential Elections May to July 2020 • Restriction of all forms of public gatherings to less than 100 people • Mandatory 14 days quarantine for all travelers from COVID-19 affected countries • Opening of institutional isolation and treatment centers in the cities of Blantyre, Lilongwe and Mzuzu • Establishment of a relief fund through which well-wishers, companies can contribute to support the fight against COVID-19 • The President and all the ministers to take a 30% pay cut for three months in order to support the fight against COVID-19 • Formation of a Presidential task force on COVID-19
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Reduction of fuel prices to lower the transport costs • Application of tax waivers on the importation of essential goods for Corona Virus management • Reserve Bank of Malawi to allow banks to offer a three-month moratorium on interest payments on loans to small- and medium-sized businesses • The country's Competition and Fair Trading Commission to put in place strict monitoring of price controls and punish anyone found increasing prices

	• The government to increase loans under the Malawi Enterprise Development Fund that will help micro, small and medium scale businesses that have been seriously affected by COVID-19 • Tobacco markets to remain open and allowed to operate without disruption to protect small farmers and bolster foreign currency receipts. • Trucks carrying cargo allowed into and out of Malawi.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism P. O. Box 30366 LILONGWE 3 Malawi Tel: +265 999 969669; +265 1 770244, +265 1 780244, 780647 Fax: +265 1 770680, +265 1 780680, 782183 Email: minci@malawi.net; ken.ndala@gmail.com, kelphas.m@gmail.com



Mauritius

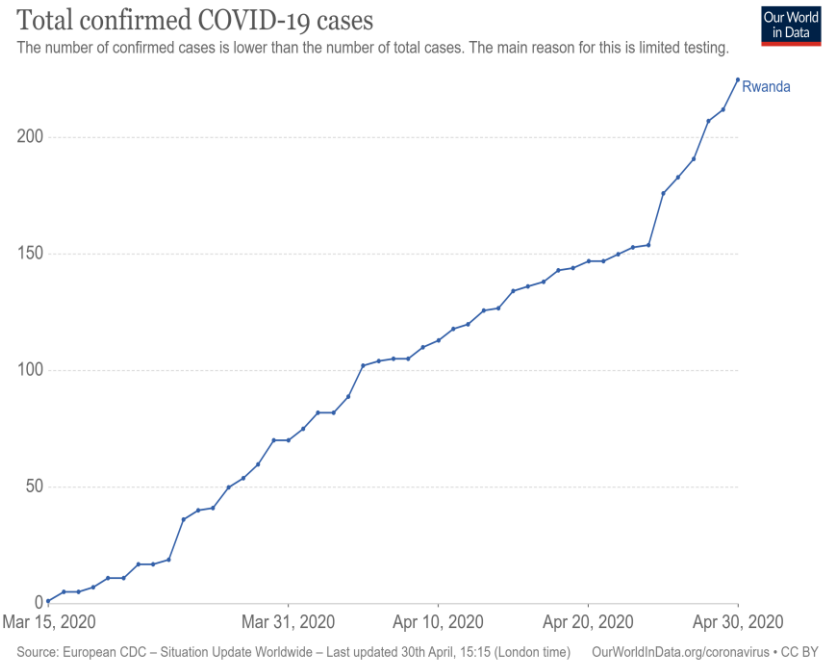
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was detected in Mauritius on 18th March 2020.



Preventive Measures in Place	• Closure of borders and banning of commercial flights effective 19th March • Closure of all schools and institutions of higher learning effective 23rd March until further communication • Covid-19 Task Force which includes ministries of health and trade created • A lockdown imposed for all non-essential services/travel from 23rd March to 15th April now extended until 4th May • Mandatory wearing of face masks while out of home • Both public and private sector workers are being asked and encouraged to work from home and COVID-19 Work Access Permits have been issued to key persons of all organisations who need access to their place of work • Precautionary measures including handwashing stations mandatory at all public facilities • The supermarkets and shops selling essential commodities open from Monday to Saturday from 0900hrs to 17.00hrs but families restricted to shopping only twice a week for a maximum of 30 minutes each • Mauritians to be in possession of their National Identity Card and foreigners to present either their passport, residence permit or work permit • Only one person per family will be allowed in stores • Home loan repayment deferred for six months • Postponement of court cases • Wage support • Sanitary control at the entry and those with a temperature above 37.50C will be taken in charge by the Ministry of Health and Wellness • Shopping restricted to 30 minutes only and shoppers to carry their own bags • Access limited to only three per persons for essential products e.g flour, rice, oil, milk, tissue papers • Removal of VAT from Hand sanitizers and face masks • Other measures: I. Establishment of a special relief fund to support small scale enterprises II. A COVID-19 Solidarity Fund was put in place to support the

	population
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Introduction of a moratorium of six months on capital repayment for existing loans for enterprises that are being affected by COVID-19 • Provision of a special Relief fund through commercial banks to meet cash flow and working capital requirements of economic operators which are being directly impacted by COVID-19 • Reduction of a cash reserve ratio applicable for commercial banks from 9 to 8%. This reduction is a key measure that aims at supporting banks to further assist businesses which are being directly impacted by COVID-19 • Provision of financial support to workers in the informal sector of 50% of the monthly minimum wage • A standing committee to be formed to explore potential ways to limit the impact of the Covid-19 on trade and businesses. The committee will be under Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives • All companies in Mauritius can apply for Wage Assistance subsidy to alleviate the employee cost for the month of March ranging from 15 days basic wage bill to USD 313 per employee; • The Mauritius Government has applied for a grant of USD 650 million from the world bank for economic stimulus • The BOM has initiated a USD/MUR swap arrangement with commercial banks for an initial amount of USD100 million to enable commercial banks to support import-oriented businesses, except for the State Trading Corporation which will be dealing directly with the Bank of Mauritius for its foreign currency requirements until further notice. • The Bank of Mauritius has removed shared ATM fees and will continue to maintain adequate supply of banknotes to commercial banks for their ATMs • Electricity consumption rates have been reduced for low income groups and small businesses. • Capital Market activity has been suspended. The Stock Exchange of Mauritius has suspended all trading until further notice
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade PORT LOUIS Republic of Mauritius Tel: (230) 405 2541; (230) 405 2622 Fax: (230) 211 3148, (230) 2137674 Email: sfa@govmu.org; secretariatmofa@govmu.org; mphokeer@govmu.org; skhundoo@govmu.org Focal Point – Ministry of Health & Wellness Mr. S. Ramasawmy, 5th Floor, Emmanuel Anquetil Building, Port-Louis, Mauritius Tel: 230 201 1892 Fax: 230 201 2330 Email: swrasawmy@govmu.org



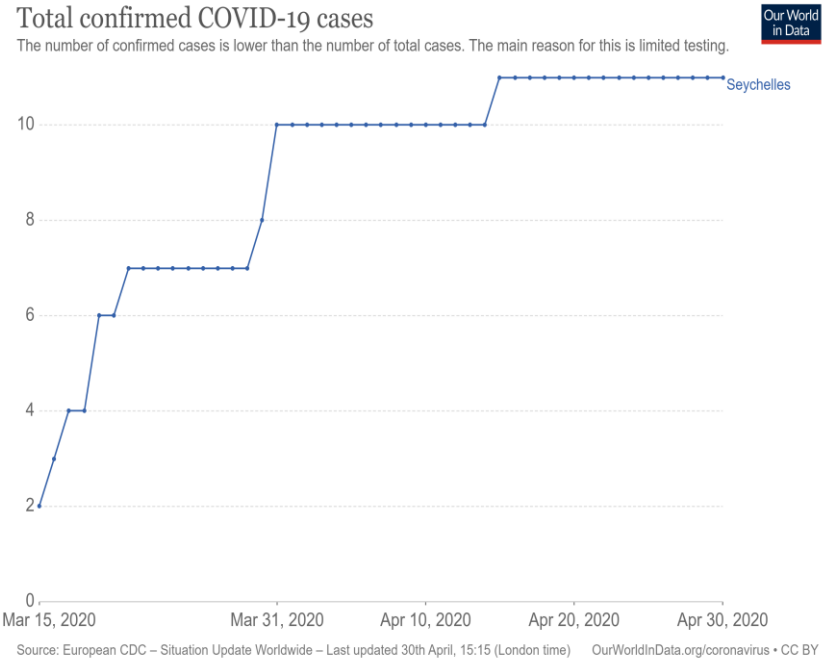
Rwanda

BACKGROUND

First COVID-19 case detected on March 8th, 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• A nation-wide lockdown announced on March 21, 2020. • Motos (motorcycles) are not permitted to carry passengers but may offer delivery services. Other public transport within cities will only operate for essential movements, as above, and with at least one (1) meter distance between passengers. • Government has established an online platform for people in need of essential services including visiting hospitals, attending to emergencies, shopping etc. to apply for clearance of movement. • Citizens or foreigners returning to the country are subject to a 14-day mandatory quarantine at designated locations; • Suspension of all commercial flights to and from the country except for cargo and essential services. • Places of worship closed as well as educational institutions (schools and colleges), bars and restaurants. • Restaurants and cafes to provide only take away services. • Authorized trucks carry not more than two people including the driver. • Declaration of imports and exports and the corresponding documents/attachments will be submitted online. • All payments of customs duties and fees will be made by use of e-payment • Clients with perishable goods and consignments that require special warehousing facilities such as petroleum products shall be allowed to proceed to destination after change of crew members (truck drivers) in respect with the current health guidelines in places; • Transit cargo should be escorted upon entry to the final destination and truck drivers will only stop at designated points. • Social distancing to be observed. • Wearing of face masks is mandatory in public places and multi-family settings. • All borders closed except for goods and cargo services. • Internal travel between districts and cities not authorized except for medical reasons or essential services. • Social gatherings including weddings and sports events banned and non-essential movement outside homes not permitted. • Shops and markets closed except for those selling food, medicine and other essential services.

	• Contact-tracing for suspected infected persons to be conducted for further follow-up, testing, and treatment. • Citizens urged to use mobile money and online banking whenever possible to limit the transfer of paper money and minimize person to person contacts • The World Bank on April 7th 2020 approved a USD 14.3 million (RWF 13.65 billion) International Development Association (IDA) credit as emergency response towards efforts to contain COVID-19
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Maximum utilization of intrusive cargo scanners for homogeneous goods. • The whole clearance process for imports, exports and transit is conducted in the Rwanda Electronic Single Window (RESW) which minimizes to a great extent any human intervention. • All cargo and conveyors shall be offloaded and transshipped at the Customs point of entry (i,e Rusumo and Kagitumba Customs Border Posts). • Warehousing facilities shall be available for loading, offloading and warehousing of cargo at the entry points; • Inland Cargo depots shall be availed for effective loading and transshipment exercises at the Customs entry point; • Clearing of goods should be done using the pre-clearance mechanisms currently in place i.e. SCT Clearance framework and payment of duties and taxes before the arrival of the goods quick release at the entry border posts; • All declaration documents accompanying cargo must be submitted electronically to customs administration to avoid paper manipulation; • Clearing agents must declare the full detailed description of goods to expedite the clearance and release of goods; • The Central Bank of Rwanda has provided a Rwf50 billion ($54 million) facility and reduced the reserve requirement ratio for commercial banks from 5 per cent to 4 per cent to support the country's banking sector. • The IMF emergency support under the Rapid Credit Facility in March 2020 provided Rwanda with a $109.4 million (Rwanda Francs 104 billion) for Covid-19-related pressures on trade, tourism and foreign exchange reserves. The support will also provide much-needed resources for health expenditure and for households and firms affected by the COVID-19 crisis. • From 14th April 2020 Rwanda to benefit from USD $11 million (RWF 10.5 billion) debt service relief from the International Monetary Fund for an initial period of 6 months.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade and Industry B. P. 73 KIGALI Rwanda Tel: +250-784855445, +250788415515 Email: ps@mineacom.gov.rw; msebera@minicom.gov.rw



Seychelles

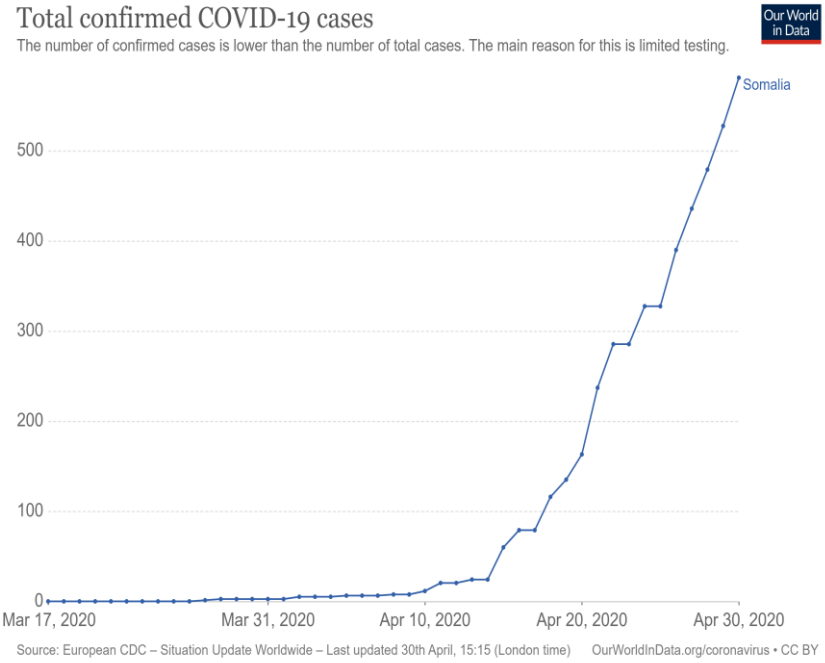
BACKGROUND

The first two coronavirus cases were reported on 14 March 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• Ban on foreign travel by Seychelles citizens and residents, effective 23rd March 2020 until further notice. Restrictions to be lifted from 1st June 2020. • Travel ban on foreigners arriving in Seychelles by sea from any marine vessel (will not be allowed to disembark) • As of 10th March 2020, all cruise ships not allowed entry into Seychelles' waters until further notice • All leisure boats not allowed entry into Seychelles' waters until further notice • All Seychellois citizens returning from any country by sea to be subjected to additional health screening and placed under obligatory quarantine for at least 14 days upon arrival. • All foreign workers holding a Gainful Occupation Permit (GOP) and outside of Seychelles as of 20th March 2020, not allowed to return until further notice. No new GOPs to be issued. • Closure of all public schools and day cares centres on Mahé, Praslin and La Digue until further notice, including all post-secondary institutions, the University of Seychelles and the Guy Morel Institute. However, all child-minding and day-care services, all post-secondary institutions including A-Levels, Guy Morel Institute and the University of Seychelles, will reopen on 11th May 2020 while Primary and Secondary Schools will reopen on 18th May 2020. • Improvement of handling capacity of quarantine and treatment facilities, including the finalization of a programme to receive additional human resource support if necessary. • Closure of Seychelles International Airport is closed to international passenger flights until 30th April 2020 • Reinforcement of measures and controls since 6th April 2020 at the Port, including new maritime surveillance measures that mandate the use of tracking systems such as VMS, on all vessels at all times; failure of which will be a punishable offence under the law. • Temporary closure of all construction companies to stop the transportation of large groups of construction workers. • Since midnight of 9th April 2020, movement of people restricted during the day except for essential services of which a list has been published and special pass has been made available. **Additional measures include:** • Non-essential workers advised to stay at home and work from home.

	• Members of the public restricted from leaving homes and moving on the roads until 4th May 2020 except for purposes of accessing essential services such as, to buy food, for medical assistance, to go to the bank, amongst others. • As of 17th April 2020, movement of people restricted from 7pm in the evening till 6am in the morning until 4th May 2020. Only the police with the support of the army and certain key workers in critical services to be allowed on the road. • A list of these critical services has been published by the Public Health Commissioner. Additional measures include: • Closure of all shops from 6pm in the evening until 6.30am the next morning until 4th May 2020. • Closure of all shops and businesses that do not sell groceries and food. • Public gatherings which attract crowds or comprise social distancing, strictly forbidden and no permission to be granted by the police for any public gatherings. The ban to be lifted from 4th May 2020 and I. All restrictions on the movement of people will be removed. II. Religious services, including funeral services, will be able to resume following guidance from the Department of Health. III. All shops will be able to stay open until 8 pm in the evening. The majority of services and businesses will be able to reopen. Construction companies can resume their work as per guidance issued by the Department of Health • Conduct of funeral procedures at the cemetery under strict guidelines as set out by the Department of Health.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Amended budget presented by Minister of Finance to National Assembly on 7th April 2020 as a move to reconsider and reprioritize Government spending for the year in light of the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Budget also caters for economic and social support that the Government intends to provide to private sector and the most vulnerable people over a defined period of time. • Detailed plan on the gradual easing of restrictions announced by the President on 27 April 2020 to be implemented, including the following trade-related measures: ○ From 4 May 2020 i. All restrictions on the movement of people will be removed. ii. All shops will be able to stay open until 8 pm in the evening. iii. Majority of services and businesses will be able to reopen. Construction companies can resume their work as per guidance issued by the Department of Health. ○ From 1 June, i. The airport to reopen for commercial flights in line with guidance issued by the Department of Health. ii. Seychellois will be able to travel abroad as per the guidelines and regulations issued by the Department of Health. iii. Leisure boats and yachts will be able to enter Seychelles territory, respecting any guidance from the Department of Health. • On 8 April 2020, Central Bank of Seychelles Governor announced the disbursement of US$10 million out of the country's international reserves of US$591 million to assist the domestic market. • The government announced measures to subsidize wages for companies facing distress caused by COVID-19 • On 20 March 2020, Government announced reduction of loan repayments for six months. • Tax payments due in March postponed until September. • The Central Bank of Seychelles (CBS) reduced the policy rate by 100 bps to 4 percent on March 23. • Central Bank provided a credit facility of approximately US$36 million to assist commercial banks with emergency relief measures to assist businesses and individuals struggling with the financial impact of the pandemic. • A limited credit provided to government by the Central Bank up to SCR 500 million (US$30 million) • Maturity of credit to commercial banks extended to 3 years.

Latest Developments	If the situation stays under control up until Sunday 3rd May 2020, Seychelles will start to lift certain restrictions gradually as follows: From Monday 4th May, • All restrictions on the movement of people. • Religious services, including funeral services, will be able to resume following guidance from the Department of Health. • All shops will be able to stay open until 8pm in the evening. • The majority of services and businesses will be able to reopen. Construction companies can resume their work as per guidance issued by the Department of Health. From 11th May, • All child-minding and day-care services, all post-secondary institutions including A-Levels, Guy Morel Institute and University of Seychelles, will reopen. From 18th May, • All primary and secondary schools will reopen. From 1st June, • The airport will reopen for commercial flights in line with guidance issued by the Department of Health. • Seychellois will be able to travel abroad as per guidance and regulations issued by the Department of Health. • Leisure boats and yachts will be able to enter Seychelles territory, respecting any guidance from the Department of Health. • Sporting activities can resume, following guidance from the Department of Health.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs State House P O Box: 55 VICTORIA, MAHÉ Seychelles Tel: [+248] 429 56 56 Fax: [+248] 432 42 48 Focal Points Ms. Amenda Padayachy. email: APadayachy@mfa.gov.sc Mr. Jean-Paul d'Offay. email: Jpdoffay@mfa.gov.sc



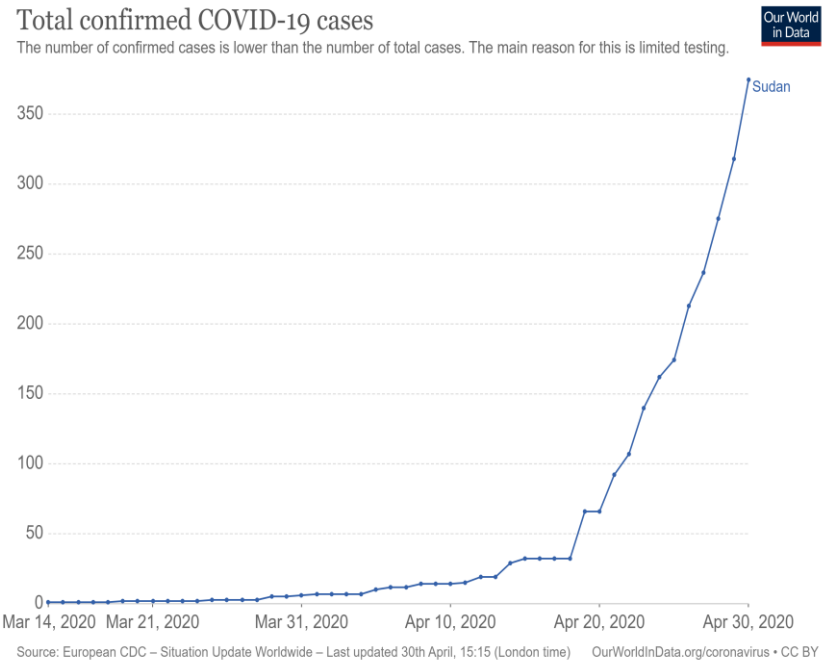
Somalia

BACKGROUND

First case detected on 16th March 2020

Preventive Measures in Place	• All educational institutions both private and public closed. Large gatherings prohibited. • Public meetings banned. • A night curfew declared on 15th April 2020 for Mogadishu and to be observed between 7:00 and 5:00 a.m. The curfew prohibits opening of business premises and traffic. However, shops selling dry foods, hospitals, and pharmacies are exempted. • Minibuses which usually carry 15 passengers will only be allowed to carry 10 in order to reduce congestion in public transport vehicles. • International and domestic commercial flights suspended with exceptions for humanitarian flights. • Cancellation of all flights except medical equipment and foodstuff flights • Restriction on imported KHAT to Somalia from our neighbouring countries (Kenya and Ethiopia) • National health institutions -assisted by WHO - to conduct case findings and contact tracing, testing and treatment, and quarantine activities. • A toll-free number 449 has been set up for the public to seek advice and report suspected cases of COVID-19 across the country. • Banned re-export of medical equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) due to domestic shortages.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Exemption of tariffs on all imported foodstuffs including rice, dates, wheat flour, and cooking oil ahead of the month of Ramadan. • Sea ports and road transport are operational but medical screening of crew in effect. • Dropping charges for cash withdrawals from ATMs. Ministerial level macro-economic management sub-committee has been set up • Waived all duties and taxes on all medical supplies and equipment imported to fight COVID- 19
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact	Embassy of the Republic of Somalia 377A Kabulonga Road

Points)	Box 34051 LUSAKA Zambia Tel: (+260) 211 262199 Email: embassyofsomalialusaka@hotmail.com



Sudan

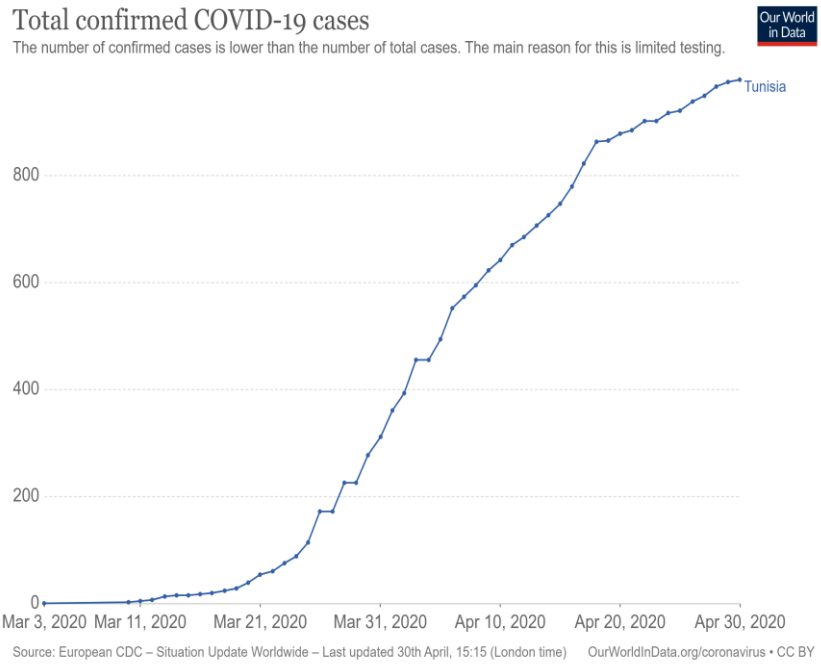
BACKGROUND

The first coronavirus case was confirmed on 13 March 2020.



Preventive Measures in Place	• Prime Minister issued Emergency Order No. 1 of 2020 which criminalizes attacks on health personnel, smuggling, and illegal hoarding of good and medicines • Suspension of visa issuance and flight services to countries listed by WHO as the most affected (Korea, China, Italy, Iran, France, Spain, Japan, and Egypt) from 12 March to 23 April • Closure of three border crossing points with Egypt, dispatch of medical teams and security forces to the border areas with Egypt and halting bus trips to Egypt; and following a state of emergency declared on 16th March, a shutdown of all ports of entry. • Ban on political and social events or gatherings beginning 14 March, including the postponement of the National Economic Conference, scheduled for 29-31 March. • Closure of schools, universities, religious institutes, universities, colleges and higher institutes for one month beginning 14 March. • Introduction of a curfew in the whole country from 24 March 2020 (08:00 pm until 06:00 am) until further notice. From 31 March, the hours of the mandatory nationwide curfew were extended to 12 hours to between 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. • 21-day lockdown of Khartoum State and nearby city of Omdurman beginning 18 April 2020. • Postponement of basic certification exams in all states until further notice. • Measures introduced to shorten the time worshipers spent in mosques to avoid crowding. • Establishment of a National Covid-19 Response Plan with a budget of $82 million to manage arrivals at points of entry, isolation, patient care, infection prevention and control, supplies, risk communication, surveillance and capacity building. • Introduction of one-month mandatory self-quarantine beginning 19 March 2020 for Sudanese arriving from abroad. • Release of 4,217 prisoners on 25 March at al-Hoda prison in the city of Omdurman. • Halt to inter-city and long-haul bus travels beginning 26 March (from 6 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.). • Establishment of a national fund to collect donations to combat the pandemic. • Daily reporting has been activated at 10 points of entry: Northern, Red Sea, Khartoum, Kassala, Gedarif and West Darfur states; seaports, airports and

	ground crossings. • Only scheduled flights of goods and humanitarian supplies and medical supplies are permitted
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Ban on maize exports from 15 March until further notice. • Local transport within Sudan allowed including fuel and other essential commodities. • Port Sudan operational but Cargo vessels must meet 14 days quarantine from last departure. • Sudan exports on Egyptian trucks are allowed to leave through Ashkit border crossing.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Industry and Trade P.O. Box 194 KHARTOUM Sudan Tel: +249 183 772793; Fax: +249 183 781208 E-mail: comesasudanmft@gmail.com ; Email: sudanmt@gmail.com



Tunisia

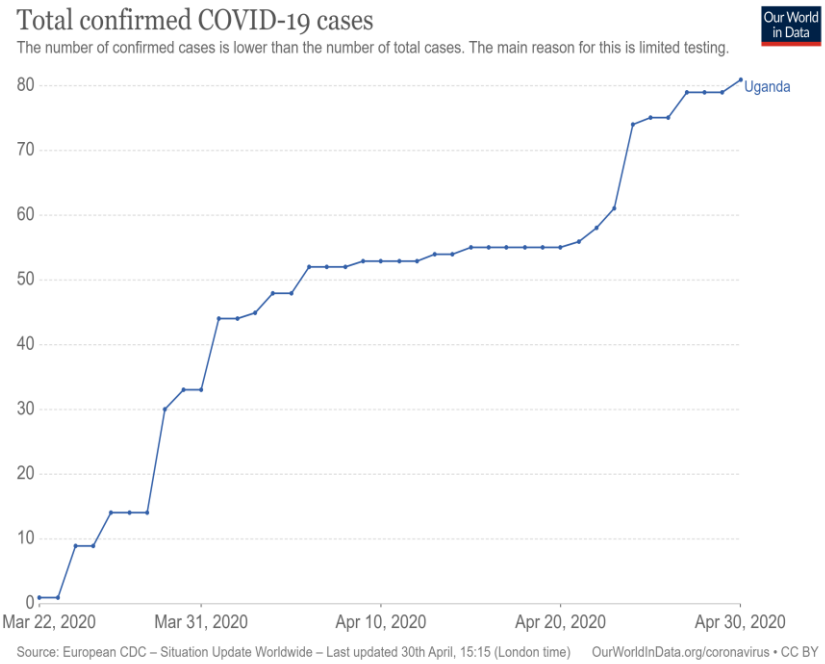
BACKGROUND

The first case of COVID-19 was reported in Tunisia on 2nd March 2020.



Preventive Measures in Place	• Suspension of flights and closure of maritime borders • Restriction of internal movements and imposition of a curfew from 6 pm to 6 am. • Closure of factories, offices, hotels and restaurants to stop the spread of coronavirus • Total lockdown with Robocop enforcing the lockdown. • Cancellation of cultural and sports events and scientific conferences • Closure of cafes, bars and restaurants as of 04:00 p.m. • Closure of schools, Universities and other educational institutions. • Expansion of the budget allocation for health expenses as well as the creation of a 100 TND Million (app. US$34 mill) fund for the acquisition of equipment for public hospitals. • Enhanced digitization of government services to minimize human contact. • Robotic technology has been deployed for policing and screening of patients at the hospital. • Allocated 100 MD (approximately $50million) for acquisition of hospital and public health equipment.
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• A 2.5 billion TND emergency plan ($0.71 billion or 1.8 percent of GDP) was announced on March 21. • Creation of investment funds of 600 million TND (app.US$ 204 million). • Established a state guarantee for new credits of 500 million TND (app. US$ 170) • The government will delay tax debts, postpone taxes on small- and medium-sized businesses, delay repayment of low-income employee loans and provide financial assistance to poor families. • Provided banks with the necessary liquidity to enable them to continue their normal operation. • Carry over of credits (principle and interest) due during the period from 1st March until the end of September 2020. These measures granted to customers classified 0 and 1 • Establishment of a fund of 2.5 billion Tunisian dinars ($860 million) to support businesses • Lowering of the interest rate to 6.75%. • Delaying the payment of instalments on loans and dropping charges for cash withdrawals from ATMs.

	• Banks have removed withdrawal charges and offering e-banking subscriptions • Activation of a mechanism for the state to cover the difference between the policy rate and the effective interest rate on investment loans within a cap of 3 percent. • Postponement of CIT return filing deadline (due by March 25) until the end of May 2020, for all companies except those subject to CIT at the rate of 35%; • Exemption from VAT for sales of pharmaceuticals by retailers and wholesalers; • All companies are authorized to revalue their buildings and lands recorded in their balance sheets on the basis of their market value; the capital gain resulting from this revaluation will be exempt from income tax provided that the revalued assets are not sold; • Amnesty of customs duties for industrial companies, which were subject to customs minutes or judgments before 20 March 2020, provided they pay a fine of 10% of the amount of the said duties; • For companies severely impacted by COVID19, certificates of suspension of VAT as well as all tax certificates, for persons who are normally eligible, will be granted immediately on request without requiring the presentation of the necessary documents based on a commitment to provide these later; • For companies severely impacted by COVID19, the procedures for the refund of VAT credits derived from operations will be simplified through removing the consideration of the requirement for 6 months of consecutive credit, and the credit will be refunded within one month; • Joint mechanism on export of goods between Tunisia and Libya through the boarder of Ras Ajbir established.
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade CNR Hedi Nouira and Ghana Avenues 1002 Tunis- Tunisia Email : omar.behi@tunisia.gov.tn Email: chaouki.jaballi@tunisia.gov.tn / chaouki.jaballi@gmail.com Tel: +216 71 354 434; Fax : +216 71 245 868



Uganda

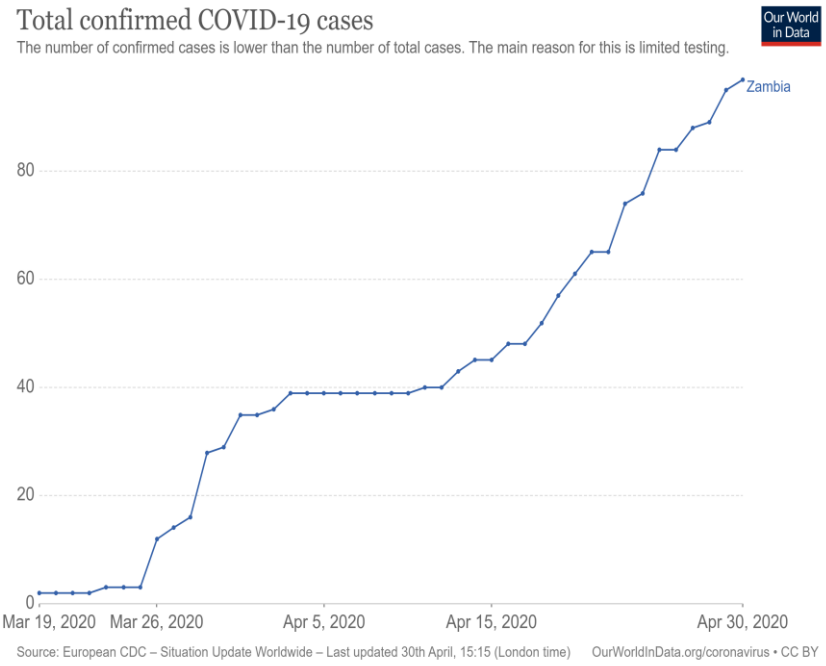
BACKGROUND

First case detected on 18th March 2020



Preventive Measures in Place	• A total lockdown extended for 21 days from 15th April to 5th May • Testing of all truck drivers entering the country from all entry points in place including testing the crew of cargo planes • All trucks entering the country restricted to have only one driver per truck and will only be allowed to make stopovers at designated points • Closure of all schools and educational institutions of higher learning for 30 days effective 20th March 2020 • Suspension of religious gatherings including Friday prayers in mosques, Sunday church services for 30 days effective 18th March 2020 • Ban of all international flights and closure of all borders including land, sea for a period of 21 days effective 22nd March 2020 and extended to 5th May • All incoming travelers are quarantined at designated facilities for 14 days • Suspension of political and cultural public meetings, rallies, conferences, by-elections • Public gatherings limited to a maximum of 5 persons • Ban of exercising (especially jogging) to enforce social distancing. People advised to exercise from their homes. • Ban of all public and private transport except cargo and the transport of essential services for fourteen days effective 30th March 2020 • Presidential directive to allow free movement of cargo within the country and across borders in 12 hours. Empty trucks, however, allowed to move during the night across the border to reduce the queues. Cross border pedestrian traffic prohibited • Truck may carry a maximum of three persons with duties in connection with the movement and clearance of conveyance and or cargo. • All drivers on Uganda side are to go through a mandatory “blood test” upon arrival at the border • no major impact on truck movement • Construction sites should continue if they can be able to encamp their workers for the entire period of the lockdown • All shopping malls, Arcades and shops to suspend operation for 14 days effective 30th March. • Those selling food items and supermarkets exempted but must strictly adhere to SOPs

	• Curfew starting from 1900hrs to 0600hrs for 14 days effective 30th March 2020 now extended to 5th May • Civil servants to stay and work from home • Food markets allowed to operate subject to adherence of strict standard operating procedures including the vendors staying at their workplaces for the duration of the lockdown
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Reduction of fees on mobile money transactions and other digital payment charges in order to limit the use of cash and increase daily transactions limits for Mobile Money • Intervening in the foreign exchange market by the Central Bank to save the shilling from depreciation and to smoothen out excess volatility arising from the impact of COVID-19 on the global financial markets • Central Bank to provide exceptional liquidity assistance to financial institutions for a period of one year for those who need it. This measure will enable financial institutions to have sufficient liquidity to assist businesses which are being directly impacted by COVID-19 • The movement of cargo trucks and cargo flights in and out of the country permitted despite the total lockdown currently being enforced • Container depots in Kampala are operational
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Trade, Industry & Cooperatives P.O. Box 7103 KAMPALA Uganda Tel: +256 41 230916; Fax: +256 41 341247; E-mail: ps@mtic.go.ug High Commissioner & Permanent Representative to COMESA Uganda High Commission 25 Msasane Road Oysterbay P.O. Box 6237 DAR ES SALAAM Tanzania Tel: 2556 22 266 7200; Email: rkabonero@gmail.com or info@ughc.co.tz



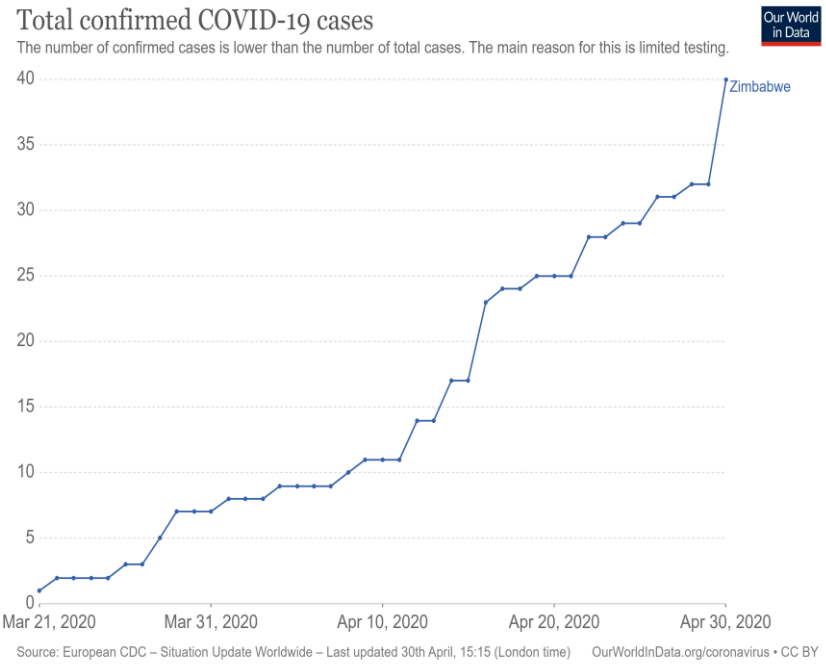
Zambia

BACKGROUND

First case detected on 18th March 2020

Preventive Measures in Place	• Suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 are subject to mandatory isolation at a Government of Zambia-designated health facility. • All travelers arriving in Zambia from any country with confirmed COVID-19 cases are required to self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days, and to inform Zambian heath officials if they develop symptoms. • Health screening at all entry points. • International flights in Ndola, Livingstone and Mfuwe suspended until further notice. The Kenneth Kaunda International Airport in Lusaka to remain open until further notice. • Conferences, meetings and workshops involving large groups of people banned; But some lifting of restriction to holding church services and other public gatherings since 24th April - Lusaka City Council has put in place procedures for obtaining certification/permit for holding a church service or public gathering. • Schools, universities and other educational institutions closed till further notice. • Restaurants to operate only on take-away and delivery basis while all bars, nightclubs, cinemas, gyms and casinos closed. • Police to restrict numbers of people visiting inmates and suspects in police detention. • Prison authorities to ensure detention facilities are not overcrowded. • Social distancing of at least one to two meters to be observed. • Social gatherings banned. • Ministry of Health has set up the Epidemic Preparedness Fund amounting to Kwacha 57 million (app. US$3.17 million). • Cabinet approved a COVID-19 Contingency and Response Plan with a Budget of 659 Mill. Kwacha (app. US$36.6 M) under the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit. • Meetings of the Council of Ministers, Committee of Permanent Secretaries, and the National Epidemic Preparedness, Prevention Control and Management Committee (NEPPC&MC) have been convened since the declaration of the outbreak. • Mandatory wearing of face masks in public places announced on 16th April 2020

Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• To support easing of liquidity, Government to release Kwacha 2.5 billion (app. US$140 Mill) to reduce arrears owed to domestic supplies of goods and services, pay outstanding arrears of pensioners and retirees. • Kwacha 140 million (app. US$7.8 Million) to be paid to local contractors in the road sector. • Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) to suspend excise duty on imported ethanol-based sanitizers and other medicine-related activities subject to guidelines to be issued by ZRA. • VAT payments on imported spare-parts, lubricants, and stationery to be removed to ease pressure on companies. • Suspension of import duties on the importation of concentrates in the mining sector to ease pressure on the sector. • Suspension of export duty on precious metals and crocodile skins. • The Government has put in place measures to encourage the use of digital financial services to minimize use of cash money and minimize person to person contacts in conducting financial transactions by: I. waiving charges for person to person electronic money transfers of up to Kwacha 150: these transactions are thus to be free of charge. II. Removing the transaction and balance limits on agents and corporate wallets. III. Reducing the processing fees for Real Time Gross Settlement System. • Pre-clearance and E-payment strongly encouraged to reduce human contact • Use of Risk Management and selectivity • Truck drivers are allowed entry at border points however, they are subjected to testing and kept under mandatory quarantine for 14 days on entry if showing symptoms or if they are originating from high risk countries
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Zimbabwe

BACKGROUND

The first coronavirus case was confirmed on 20 March 2020.

Preventive Measures in Place	• On 17 March 2020 the President declared the pandemic a State of National Disaster and on 19th March a COVID-19 National Preparedness and Response Plan was launched • Suspension of gatherings of more than 50 people including suspension of prayers at churches and mosques • Closure of all schools, colleges and universities indefinitely • Cancellation of political meetings and major events like the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) • Lockdown of 30th March extended by 14 days to 3 May 2020 • Designation of journalists as an essential service (SI 93 of 2020) • Reduction of employee attendance at government and private workplaces (except for critical staff). • Gazette Public Health (Covid-19 Prevention, Containment and Treatment) Regulations 2020 on 23 March to allow for compulsory testing • Authorities availed over ZWL$100 million (app. US$2 million) to fight COVID-19. • Government lifted freeze on hiring for the health sector and set a target to recruit 200 additional medical personnel (5 percent increase) • Massive testing intensified
Trade Facilitation / Business Support	• Reduction of main lending rate from 25% to 15% by Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe effective 1 May 2020. • Authorization to companies to extend the payment of corporate taxes (waiving interest and penalties) • Suspension of duties and taxes on various goods and services related to COVID-19, including on testing, protection, sterilization, and other medical consumables. • Relaxation of some procurement regulations with a view of facilitating speedy procurement of essential goods and services. • Return of the multicurrency system allowing both Zimbabwean dollar and US dollar as legal tender. • Reduction in bank policy rate from 35 percent to 25 percent. • Reduction of the statutory reserve ratio on bank deposits from 5 percent to 4.5

	percent. • Increase of the private sector lending facility by the central bank from ZW$1 billion to ZW$2.5 billion. • Movement from managed floating exchange rate system to a fixed exchange rate management system. • Encouragement of use of electronic payments including RTGS, mobile money and other electronic payments • Mining and manufacturing sectors allowed to reopen in line with WHO and public health authorities' guidelines • Borders open for commercial cargo • Electronic cargo tracking in place for high risk cargo • Designated transit routes as per Electronic cargo tracking in place with waived/ loosened fines • Regulated transit days and CVG conditions in place • Regional Customs Guarantee Scheme (RCTG) and Yellow Certificate (YC) acceptable • Mandatory pre-clearance • Physical examination suspended except in exceptional circumstances (Non-Intrusive inspection (NII)) • E resolution of queries via ASYCUDA World
Coordinating Ministry (National Contact Points)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade P.O. Box 4240 HARARE Zimbabwe Tel: +263 4 794681-6/ +263 793372-5 Fax: +263 4 705161 Email: secretary@zimfa.gov.zw