



ANNEX I

SUMMARY OF PRIVATE SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 IN THE EAC REGION.

The EABC Board of Directors during their special VC meeting held on 9th April, 2020 in relation to COVID-19 pandemic, deliberated on the impact of the scourge to the private sector in the region, and developed an action platform to support mitigation and response to COVID-19. In a bid to safeguard current and future jobs, exports and businesses as well as offer quick economic recovery for the EAC Bloc, the Board on behalf of the EAC Private sector recommends to the Council of Ministers and to the Summit of the EAC Heads of State as follows;

1. Adopt a common regional approach in the preparedness and response measures towards mitigating the impact of COVID-19 outbreak in the EAC.
2. Implement an Open Skies Policy for cargo carriers into the EAC market to fully liberalise free movement of goods across the EAC without restrictions in line with the Yamoussoukro Decision on freedom rights and the draft EAC regulations on liberalisation of air transport services, during the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Provide an environment for private sector collaboration with Governments to enhance efforts towards mitigation and response measures against COVID-19.
4. The EAC Partner States to collaborate closely for increased production of essential goods and ensure their free flow across the EAC Partner States.
5. Allow free movement of essential services and service suppliers such as doctors, nurses, scientists, researchers, truck drivers, etc across the EAC region.
6. Urge the EAC Partner States to provide fiscal incentives to businesses already involved in manufacturing of essential products such as health equipment, sanitizers, masks, soaps.
7. Enhance collaboration in information sharing, best practices and any other support initiatives in fighting COVID-19.
8. EAC Partner States to develop a harmonized economic stimulus package to cushion businesses against the impact of COVID-19 and save jobs.

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