**GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- As of 20-March-2020, there were 209,839 total confirmed cases and 8,778 total deaths with a resultant increase of 9.8% and 12.4% respectively in the last 24 hours.
- 163 countries/Regions are affected of which 37 are in Africa region including Ethiopia.
- China did not report any domestic cases in the last 24 hours.
- Italy reported more deaths than those reported by China.
- WHO has shipped Personal Protective Equipment to 68 countries, and 1.5 million diagnostic kits to 120 countries.
- More than 70% of countries have a COVID-19 national preparedness and response plan, 89% have lab testing capacity, more than 70% have event-based surveillance for COVID-19 and 68% have a multi-sectoral partner coordination mechanism.

**WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA**

- Reported new confirmed cases are 3
- Total number of reported confirmed cases is 9
- Cumulative number of suspected cases is 129
- Cumulative number of registered contacts is 254
- Cumulative number of alerts/rumors is 260

---

**Fig 1: African countries reporting confirmed COVID-19 cases as of March 20, 2020**

---

**Take preventive measures extremely seriously**

- Avoid hand-shake and hugging at all times
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol base hand rub
- Get information from reliable sources only

- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 are: Fever, Cough, Sore throat, Difficulty in breathing and other flu like symptoms such as running nose and sneezing
- The public is advised to report any suspected cases to the nearest health facility or call **8335** or **+251929908433**

The first case of Coronavirus in the African continent was reported in Egypt on 14-February-2020.

As of 20-March-2020, a total number of 37 (67.3%) African countries have been affected with a cumulative number of 824 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 21 deaths with a case fatality rate of 2.5%. This represents a 30.2% increase in cases and 23.5% increase in deaths in the last 24 hours. The deaths were reported by Algeria (09), Egypt (07), Morocco (02) Burkina Faso (01), Sudan (01) and Tunisia (01). In the last 24 hours, Chad and Niger are the new countries that reported COVID-19 confirmed cases.