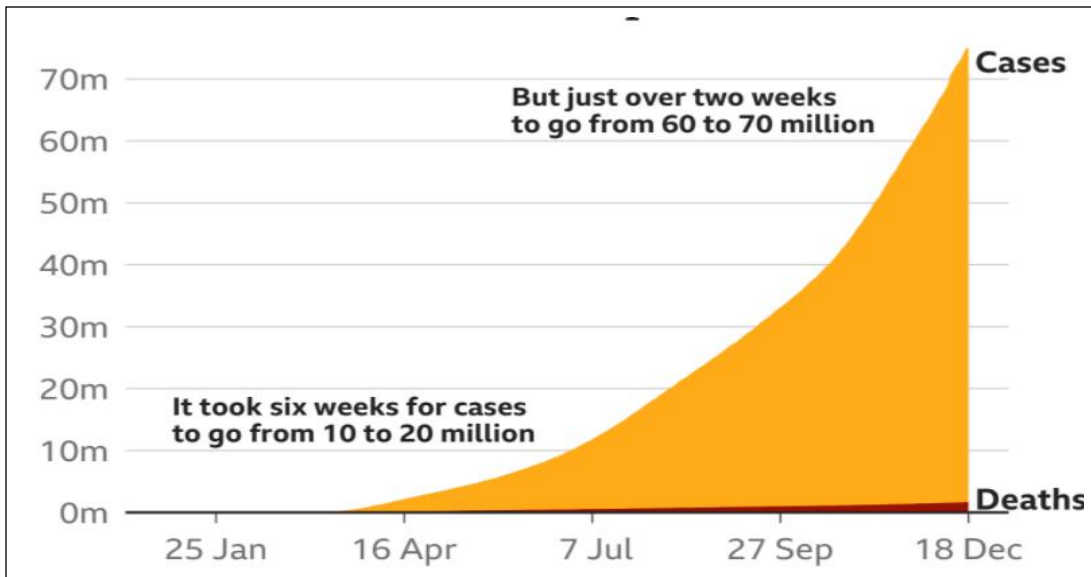




Contacts: Dr. Catherine Sozi; catherine.sozi@un.org, Dr. Tugumizemu Victor; tugumizemuv@who.int, +251904055745

WHO RESPONSE

Fig 1: Global COVID-19 snapshot updates; 19 Dec 2020



GLOBAL

New cases **700,846**

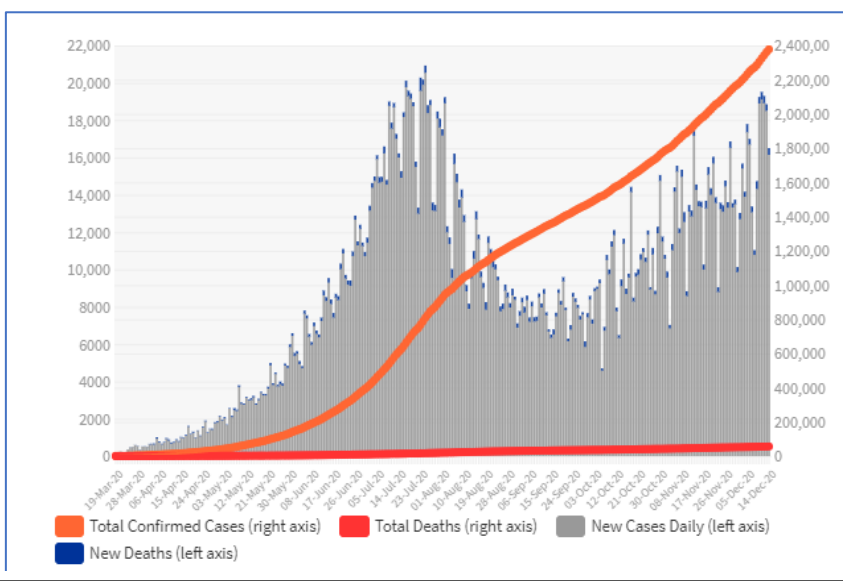
Confirmed Cases **74,299,042**

Deaths **1,669,982**

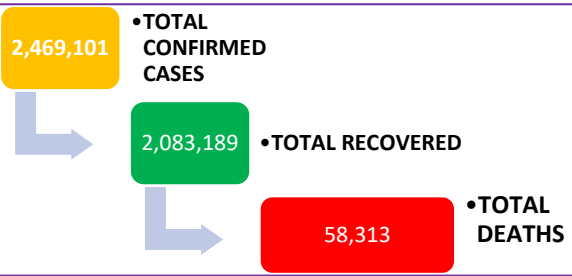
Source: WHO Dashboard 19-Dec 2020 @ 05:52pm CEST

AFRICA

Fig. 2: Trend of COVID-19 cases in Africa as of 19 December 2020

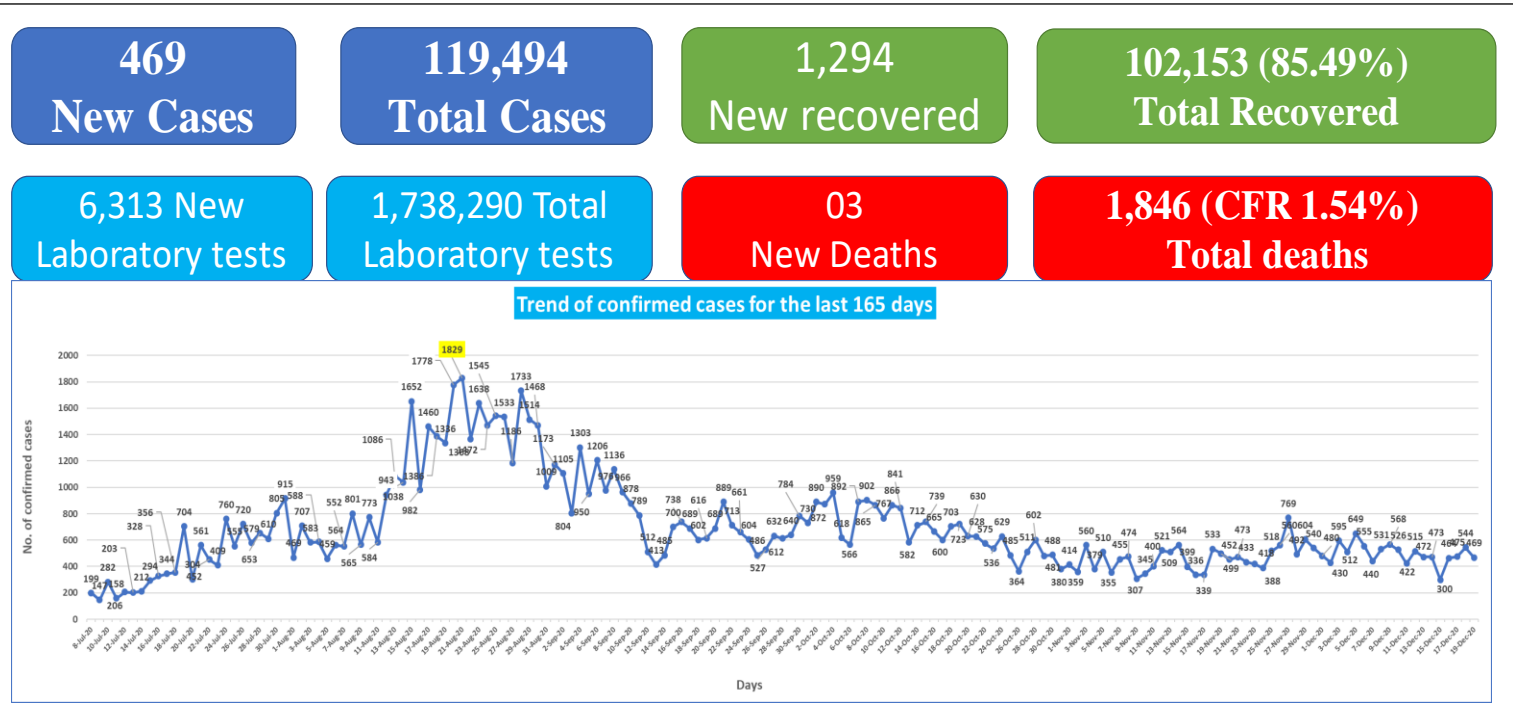


- As the second wave of infections hits the continent, the total number of coronavirus cases in Africa is nearing to 2.5 million. Countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Mauritania, Ghana and Ivory Coast have seen a sharp rise in cases and are reporting near record levels of infection
- A new variant (lineage) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes the coronavirus disease, has been detected in South Africa and is reported to be fueling the ongoing second wave of Covid-19 infections



ETHIOPIA

Fig. 3: Epidemiological details of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Ethiopia, 19-Dec 2020



Gaps/challenges to the ongoing COVID-19 response and proposed next steps in Ethiopia; 19 Dec 2020

High levels of non-adherence to COVID19 public health prevention guidelines	There is need to revitalize Risk Communication and Community Engagement and tailor messaging to address the current community concerns
Disruption of COVID19 response interventions in Tigray (conflict)	Strong advocacy for access to Tigray Region and reignite the emergency activities including COVID-19 response
Reduction in the number of COVID-19 tests conducted on a daily basis	Partners need to double their efforts in funding for the procurement of testing reagents and other laboratory supplies
Inadequate funding to sustain the operation response	Enhanced advocacy and intensification of resource mobilization drives
Sustaining COVID19 response intervention beyond 2020	Need for integration of COVID19 into routine programmes to enhance efficiency
Introduction of COVID19 vaccines	Enhance planning and preparedness to address the anticipated logistical challenges especially