



**Ministry of Health and Social Services  
Republic of Namibia**

<b>Situational Report No.25 for COVID-19 Namibia</b>			
<b>Outbreak Name</b>	<i>COVID-19</i>	<b>Country affected</b>	<b>Namibia</b>
<b>Date &amp; Time of report</b>	<i>12 April 2020 20:40</i>	<b>Investigation start date</b>	13 March 2020
<b>Prepared by</b>	<i>Surveillance Team</i>		

**Date of outbreak declaration in Namibia: 14 March 2020.**

**1. SITUATION UPDATE / HIGHLIGHTS**

- No new confirmed case was reported in the last 8 days (5 – 12 April 2020).
- Cumulatively, 16 confirmed cases have been reported in the country, to date.
- Three confirmed cases have recovered and discharged
- Supervised quarantine for all Namibians arriving from other countries for 14 days is ongoing.
- Partial lockdown of Erongo and Khomas regions took effect on 28 March 2020 till 16 April 2020.
  - Borders have been closed except for essential/critical services and humanitarian support to the response.
  - All others prevention measures are applicable to the entire country

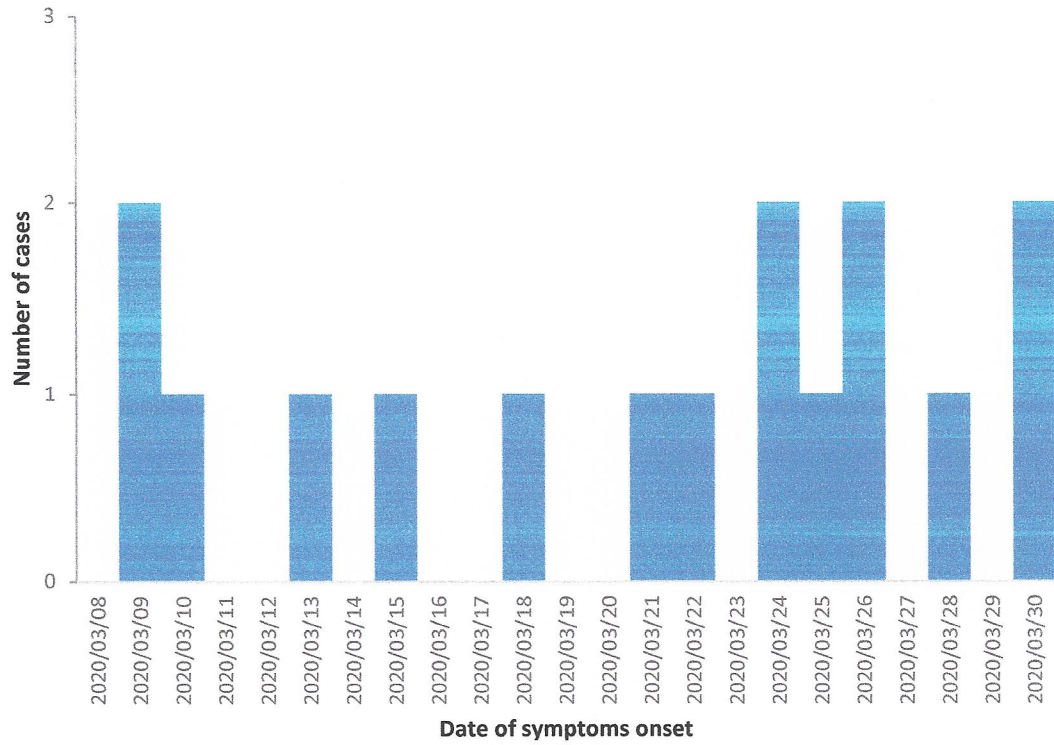
**2. BACKGROUND**

**Description of the latest cases**

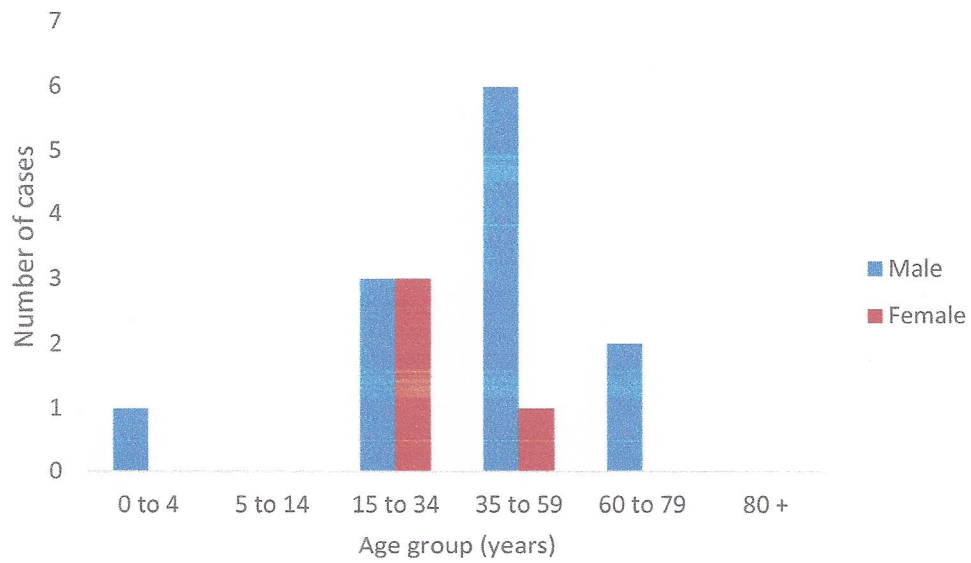
- **Index cases:** Two confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported in Windhoek district on 13 March 2020. The married couple; a 35-year-old male and a 25-year-old female, arrived from Madrid, Spain on 11 March 2020.
- Total number of imported cases currently stands at 13 and 3 cases local transmission.
- There is no evidence of community transmission in the country at the moment.

*Table 1: Confirmed cases by region as of 12 April 2020*

<b>Reporting region</b>	<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>New cases</b>	<b>Active cases</b>	<b>Recovered</b>	<b>Death</b>
Khomas	11	0	8	3	0
Karas	1	0	1	0	0
Erongo	4	0	4	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>



**Figure 1: Epi-curve for COVID-19 confirmed cases in Namibia as of 12 April 2020**



**Figure 2: Age and sex for COVID-19 confirmed cases in Namibia as of 12 April 2020**



**Confirmed case:** A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

- **Surveillance activities**
  - Daily pillar and intra-pillar discussions are held to deliberate daily progress, gaps and way forward;
  - Call centre continue operations for 24 hours per day.
  - Data entry is ongoing and data dashboards are under development using existing platforms.
  - Active case finding is currently underway in Khomas, Erongo and Karas regions, aimed to look for possible community transmission.
    - All 29 specimens tested to-date are negative (see table 2).
  - Contact tracing is ongoing (see table 3)
  - People under mandatory quarantine are being monitored daily (see table 4)

**Table 2: Number of suspected cases of COVID-19 from active case search, 12.04.2020**

Region	Number of suspected cases	Laboratory results	
		Positive	Negative
Khomas	22	0	22
Erongo	5	0	5
//Karas	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>

### Contact tracing Summary

**Table 3: National contacts tracing summary as of 12.04.2020**

Variables	Contact risk level			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
@Total Number of contacts listed (potential)	67	46	116	229
Total Number of contacts identified	66	46	100	212
Total Number of active contacts (being followed)	22	7	8	37
Number of contacts monitored/followed in the last 24hrs	22	7	8	37
Total number of Contacts completed 14-days follow up	41	36	87	164
Total Number of contacts that developed signs & symptoms	23	6	7	36
Total Number of contacts tested positive	3	1	0	4
*Total Number of contacts tested without signs and symptoms	10	1	4	15
© Total Number of contacts lost to follow up	0	2	5	7
# Total number of Contacts never reached	1	0	16	17

@ Number amended due to data cleaning; eight contacts for both case 3 and case 8 were listed twice

\*Number of contacts without signs & symptoms tested. One tested positive.

© Seven contacts are lost to follow up, all are non-Namibians and have travelled back to their countries.

# Seventeen contacts could not be reached as they did not provide contact numbers.

**Table 4: Number of people in mandatory quarantine facility as of 12.04.2020**

Region	Newly quarantined 24hrs	Cumulative number of people	Number of people who developed signs & symptoms and tested	Test results	Number of people discharged
Ohangwena	3	12	0	0	1
Hardap		40	0	0	40
Otjozondjupa		61	0	0	39
Khomas		142	5	5 Negative	125
Zambezi		86	3	3 Negative	46
//Kharas		1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>343</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>251</b>

### LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS

- As of 12 April 2020, a total of 495 COVID-19 specimens (including 27 retest) were recorded for testing in the two laboratories (NIP and Path Care) as per table below:
- No new lab results NIP was not open today.

**Table 5: COVID-19 specimens recorded at NIP and Path care Laboratories as of 12.04.2020**

As of 12/04/2020	Laboratory			Total
	NIP	Path care	South Africa	
Total sample received by the Laboratory	322	173	-	495
Total sample tested	266	171	-	437
Total results received	266	171	-	437
Total results re-test	27	0	-	27
Total results positive	9	6	*1	16
Total results negative	257	165	-	422
Total sample discarded	29	2	-	31
Total results pending	0	0	-	0
Total results inconclusive/indeterminate	0	0	-	0
@Total new suspected cases in last 24 hours	7	0	-	7

\*1 Patient specimen collected and tested in South Africa, he travelled back before results came out

@ Total new suspected cases laboratory results were received within 24 hours

### COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP:

- Daily feedback meetings between pillar leads, coordination team and Incident manager ongoing, to share daily accomplishments and to address key challenges
- Monitoring at road blocks, quarantine and isolation facilities being conducted regularly to ensure smooth coordination of COVID-19 interventions.
- Efforts to increase isolation and quarantine facilities are ongoing.

- Finalizing needs assessment and integrated capacity training plans for the responders at National and regional levels.
- Consolidating and harmonizing SOPs and TORs from all thematic pillars for submission to IM and senior management.
- Issues regarding HR and risk allowance for clinicians are being deliberated on

## **CASE MANAGEMENT**

- Out of the 16 cumulative confirmed cases, 3 recovered, and have been discharged, after testing negative for COVID-19.
- The other 13 confirmed cases are in stable condition and all are asymptomatic.
- Conversion of casualty department at Windhoek Central Hospital (WCH) into a highly infectious referral ICU underway.
- A 12-bed Isolation Unit has been constructed at WCH, awaiting inauguration.
- Ramatex renovation underway to be repurposed as an isolation facility
- Katutura State Hospital (KSH) TB ward being re-purposed into a COVID-19 ward.
- Four Private hospitals in Windhoek (Mediclinic, Lady Pohamba Private Hospital, Rhino Park Private Hospital, and Roman Catholic Hospital) have been designated as the private hospitals for the response of COVID-19 with a combined total of 8 ICU beds and 32 for moderate to severe cases.
  - COVID-19 patients with health insurance cover are eligible to access care in any of the 4 designated facilities
- Training of Health care workers (from different wards and from private facilities) on case management and IPC occurs every day at WCH, KSH, and Robert Mugabe Clinic.
- Bi-weekly ZOOM training sessions for Health Care Workers is ongoing.
- Revised SoP (version 2) was released for circulation.
- Plan to visit Regions to assess readiness is underway.

## **LOGISTICS:**

- Facilitation of the allocation of quarantine facilities in the country and transport for discharged people from quarantine facilities is ongoing.
- Procurement of PPE, Medical supplies and pharmaceuticals is ongoing
- Provision of commodities` specifications and verification for procurement is being done constantly

## **RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

- The communication hub continues to give updates on COVID 19 and also clarify miscommunications on a daily basis.

- A total of 75 500 COVID-19 posters and leaflets have been printed. These materials are on patient management and they are for health workers. Distribution is being sorted out for all health facilities (both public and private) in all regions.
- The Development Workshop Namibia has delivered printed information, education and communication materials in 4 languages: English, Oshiwambo, Otjiherero and Silozi.
- Regions continue to distribute messages at community level. Special attention is given to vulnerable members of the society such as people living with disability and those with minimal access to media.

#### **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES:**

- Health education, psychosocial support and post counselling services to people under quarantine, COVID-19 confirmed cases and their families are ongoing
- Daily orientation to regional social workers on their role in the COVID-19 response continue
- Conducted assessment of vulnerable persons at the dumpsite in Windhoek and provided food.
- Health education and psychosocial support services at places where persons in need of shelter are placed is ongoing
- “Tippy taps” erected at sites where persons in need of shelter are placed
- Facilitated release of 75 persons who were under mandatory quarantine at different places in Windhoek. No one showed any signs and symptoms.
- Conducted radio talks on COVID-19 and psychosocial support services available
- Equipped persons at the sites for persons in need of shelter in doing their own laundry and cooking

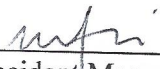
#### **4. CHALLENGES**

- Inadequate and at some places lack of isolation units at health facilities and at points of entry in the regions.
- Inadequate PPE
- Insufficient COVID-19 laboratory testing kits and swabs

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Establish fully equipped isolation units at health facilities and at points of entry in the regions.
- Fast track procurement process for Personal Protective Equipment and COVID-19 laboratory testing kits.
- Continue to build capacity of response teams.

**Approved:**

  
 Incident Manager  
 Date: 12.04.2020

  
 Secretariat