



Ministry of Health and Social Services  
Republic of Namibia

| NAMIBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 70 |                                 |                          |               |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Outbreak Name                            | <i>COVID-19 outbreak</i>        | Country affected         | Namibia       |
| Date & Time of this report               | <i>27.05.2020<br/>22:50 hrs</i> | Investigation start date | 13 March 2020 |
| Prepared by                              | <i>Surveillance Team</i>        |                          |               |

## 1. SITUATION UPDATE / HIGHLIGHTS

- No new confirmed case was reported today (28 May 2020).
- Cumulatively, 22 confirmed cases have been reported in the country, of which fourteen (14) have recovered.
- Supervised quarantine for all people arriving from abroad for 14 days is ongoing.
- The National Rapid Response Team deployed in Karas Region trained health workers in Karaburg, and Keetmanshoop on surveillance, infection prevention control, and case management.

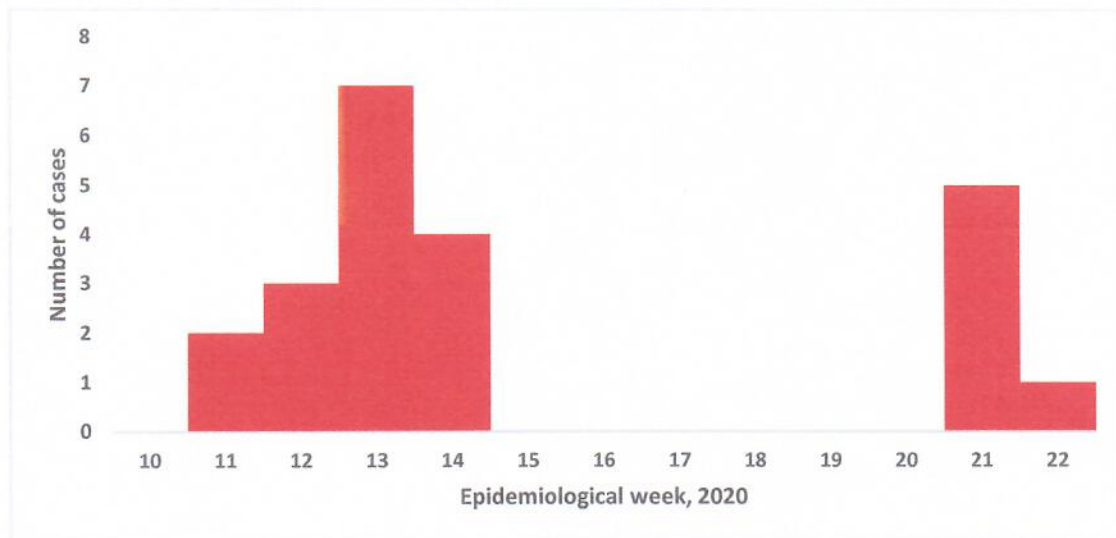
## 2. BACKGROUND

### Description of the cases

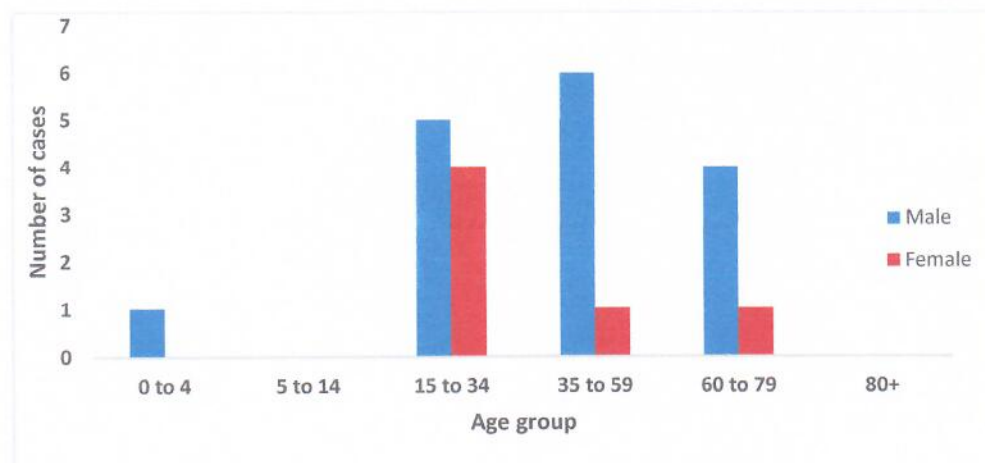
- **Index cases:** Two confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported in Windhoek district on 13 March 2020. The married couple; a 35-year-old male and a 25-year-old female, arrived from Madrid, Spain on 11 March 2020.
- Total number of imported cases currently stands at 19 while 3 cases are local transmissions.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

**Table 1: Confirmed cases by region as of 27 May 2020**

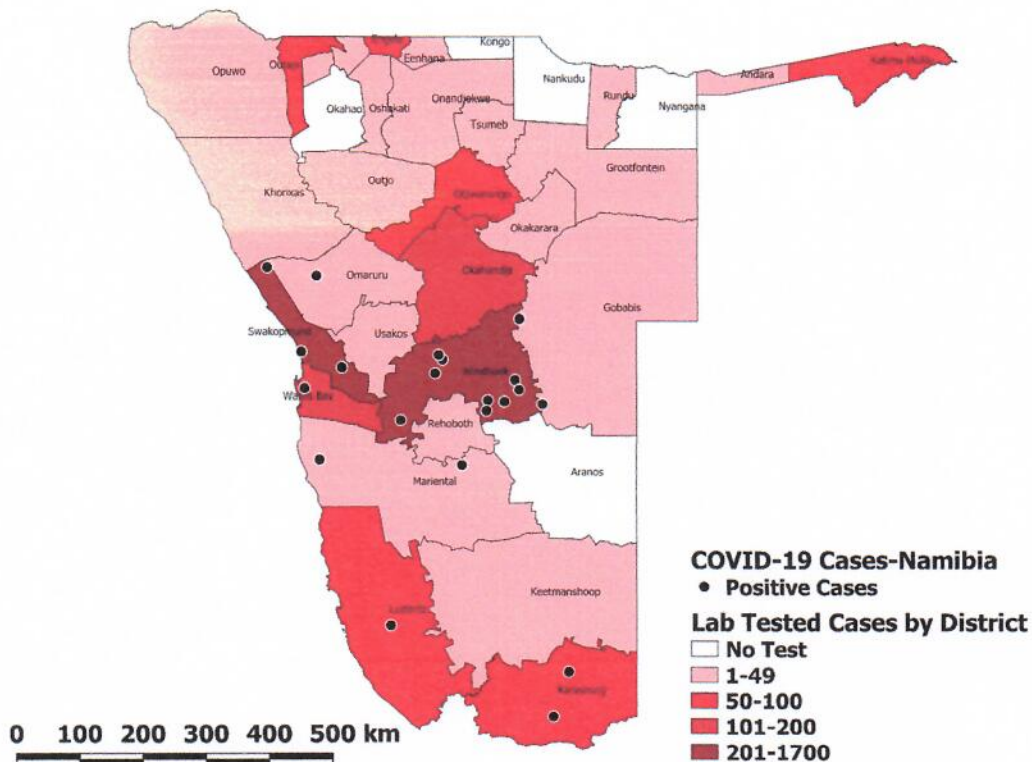
| Reporting region | Total Cases | New cases | Active cases | Recovered | Death    |
|------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Khomas           | 11          | 0         | 2            | 9         | 0        |
| //Karas          | 3           | 0         | 2            | 1         | 0        |
| Erongo           | 6           | 0         | 2            | 4         | 0        |
| Hardap           | 2           | 0         | 2            | 0         | 0        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>22</b>   | <b>0</b>  | <b>8</b>     | <b>14</b> | <b>0</b> |



**Figure 1: Epi-curve for confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia as of 27 May 2020**



**Figure 2: Age and sex distribution for COVID-19 confirmed cases in Namibia as of 27 May 2020**



*Figure 3: Suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases in Namibia per District, 27 May 2020*

### 3. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION / RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS

#### EPIDEMIOLOGY & SURVEILLANCE

- **Case definitions as of 20 March 2020:**

**Suspect case:**

A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND a history of travel to or residence in a location reporting community transmission of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset; OR

B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness AND having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset; OR

C. A patient with severe acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath; AND requiring hospitalization) AND in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that fully explains the clinical presentation.

**Probable case:** A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive. Inconclusive being the result of the test reported by the laboratory

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

- **Active surveillance working case definition as of 20 April 2020**

A patient diagnosed with Upper/Lower Respiratory Infection (Mild or Severe) presenting any of the following signs and symptoms: cough, sore throat, fever, chills, myalgia/body pains or shortness of breath in the past 7 days.

- **Surveillance activities**

- Call centre continue operations for 24 hours every day; 819 calls answered at the hotline today (27.05.2020) and 19 alerts investigated.
- Data entry is ongoing, realtime data dashboard will be launched on 1 June 2020.
- Active case search in all regions is ongoing.
- Contact tracing and monitoring is ongoing (see table 2).
- People under mandatory quarantine are being monitored daily (see table 3) and are being tested on day 12 before release on day 15 if they test negative.
- Plans are underway to conduct online Data management training early June.

### Contact tracing Summary

**Table 2: National contacts tracing summary for COVID-19 as of 27 May 2020**

| Variables  | High | Medium | Low | Total |
|--|------|--------|-----|-------|
| Total Number of contacts listed for follow up (potential)      | 95   | 63     | 190 | 348   |
| Total Number of contacts identified (cumulative)               | 95   | 63     | 174 | 332   |
| Total number of Contacts never reached                         | 0    | 0      | 16  | 16    |
| © Total Number of contacts lost to follow up                   | 0    | 2      | 5   | 7     |
| Total Number of contacts that developed signs & symptoms       | 26   | 8      | 7   | 41    |
| Total Number of contacts that tested positive (became cases)   | 3    | 1      | 0   | 4     |
| *Total Number contacts without signs & symptoms TESTED         | 20   | 5      | 27  | 52    |
| Number of active contacts monitored/followed in the last 24hrs | 24   | 6      | 50  | 80    |
| Total number of Contacts completed 14-days follow up           | 65   | 57     | 119 | 241   |

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

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

**Table 3: Number of people in mandatory quarantine facilities as of 27 May 2020**

| <b>Region</b> | <b>Newly quarantined 24hrs</b> | <b>Cumulative number of people</b> | <b>Number of people discharged</b> | <b>Number of people in quarantine now</b> |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Kunene        | 0                              | 52                                 | 42                                 | 10  |
| Omaheke       | 1                              | 57                                 | 44                                 | 13  |
| Kavango       | 0                              | 13                                 | 4                                  | 9   |
| Omusati       | 0                              | 81                                 | 67                                 | 14  |
| Oshana        | 0                              | 18                                 | 6                                  | 12  |
| Ohangwena     | 0                              | 138                                | 114                                | 24  |
| Hardap        | 1                              | 134                                | 115                                | 19  |
| Otjozondjupa  | 0                              | 296                                | 215                                | 81  |
| Khomas        | 0                              | 426                                | 307                                | 119                                       |
| Zambezi       | 0                              | 247                                | 134                                | 113                                       |
| //Karas       | 0                              | 190                                | 99                                 | 91  |
| Erongo        | 3                              | 70                                 | 46                                 | 24  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>5</b>                       | <b>1722</b>                        | <b>1193</b>                        | <b>529</b>                                |

**Table 4. Distribution of truck drivers who came into Namibia from neighboring countries and their destination regions on 27 May 2020.**

| <b>Destination</b> | <b>Country of departure</b> |               |                 |            |               | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
|                    | <b>South Africa</b>         | <b>Zambia</b> | <b>Botswana</b> | <b>DRC</b> | <b>Angola</b> |              |
| Karas              | 48                          | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>48</b>    |
| Khomas             | 68                          | 0             | 0               | 0          | 2             | <b>70</b>    |
| Oshana             | 6                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>6</b>     |
| Otjozondjupa       | 5                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 1             | <b>6</b>     |
| Kavango            | 0                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>0</b>     |
| Ohangwena          | 2                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>2</b>     |
| Hardap             | 5                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>5</b>     |
| Kunene             | 1                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>1</b>     |
| Omaheke            | 0                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 2             | <b>2</b>     |
| Omusati            | 1                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>1</b>     |
| Oshikoto           | 3                           | 0             | 1               | 0          | 0             | <b>4</b>     |
| Zambezi            | 0                           | 0             | 0               | 0          | 0             | <b>0</b>     |
| Erongo             | 15                          | 37            | 0               | 3          | 0             | <b>55</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>154</b>                  | <b>37</b>     | <b>1</b>        | <b>3</b>   | <b>5</b>      | <b>200</b>   |

## LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS

- As of 27 May 2020, a total of 3351 (including 170 re-tests) COVID-19 specimens were tested in the two laboratories (NIP and Path Care) as per table 5 below:

**Table 5: COVID-19 specimens recorded at NIP and Path care Laboratories as of 27 May 2020**

| Variables                                  | Laboratory  |            |              | Total       |
|--|-------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
|  | NIP         | Path care  | South Africa |             |
| Total sample received by the Laboratory    | 2579        | 838        | -            | 3417        |
| <b>Total sample tested</b>                 | <b>2375</b> | <b>806</b> | -            | <b>3181</b> |
| Total sample re-tested                     | 146         | 24         | -            | 170         |
| Total results positive                     | 15          | 6          | *1           | 22          |
| Total results negative                     | 2360        | 800        | -            | 3160        |
| Total sample discarded                     | 58          | 8          | -            | 66          |
| Total results pending                      | 0           | 0          | -            | 0           |
| Total results inconclusive/indeterminate   | 0           | 0          | -            | 0           |
| Total new suspected cases in last 24 hours | 87          | 61         | -            | 148         |

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

## COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP:

- Feedback meetings of pillar leads and Incident Manager (IM) are ongoing (3 times a week), to share accomplishments and to address key challenges.

## CASE MANAGEMENT:

- Conducted a simulation/drill at Windhoek Central Hospital COVID-19 ICU to assess the readiness of the health care workers on 23 May 2020.
- Out of the 22 cumulative confirmed cases, 14 have recovered after testing negative twice for COVID-19 at 48 hours' interval.
- Of the 8 active cases, 1 is critically ill in ICU. The 7 are all clinically stable.

## INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL:

- IPC activities are on going as part of IPC preparedness plan;
  - Distribution of PPE according to Regional plans
  - Observed IPC readiness in the Windhoek Central Hospital COVID-19 ICU during the simulation exercise conducted on 23 May 2020.

## **LOGISTICS.**

- Facilitation of the allocation of quarantine facilities in the country and transportation for discharged people from quarantine facilities is ongoing.
- Provision of commodities' specifications and verification for procurement is being done regularly.
- Distribution of PPEs to the regions

## **POINTS OF ENTRY:**

- Screening and inspection of incoming travellers and trucks at points of entry and check points is ongoing
- Plans are underway to prepare the regions to collect and submit daily reports at the points of entry.
- SOP for management and monitoring of cross border road transport at designated Points of Entry and COVID-19 checkpoints finalised
- Checklist for assessment of quarantine facility at ground crossing drafted.

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

- The COVID-19 Communication Center continues to update the public on the status of COVID-19, the impact on different sectors and address rumours around COVID-19.
- A total of 110 000 copies of flyers on COVID-19 facts have been printed and the distribution has commenced especially to the schools that are due to open
  - These copies are translated into 8 local languages.

## **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES:**

- Continuous provision of health education, psychosocial support services, as well as food to people in need of shelter.


## **4. CHALLENGES:**

- Inadequate isolation units at health facilities in the regions.
- Insufficient PPE and swabs for sample collection from suspected cases identified through active case search in some districts.
- Inadequate nasopharyngeal swabs and appropriate transport media.

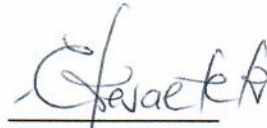
**5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD:**

- Establish fully equipped isolation units at health facilities in the regions.
- Logistics pillar to continue with the procurement and distribution of sufficient PPE to the regions to ensure that response is not interrupted.
- NIP to continue sourcing for swabs and appropriate transport media for all districts.

**Approved:**

PP 

Incident Manager  
Date: 27 May 2020



Secretariat