GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 23-March-2020, there were 332930 total confirmed cases and 12,784 total deaths with a resultant increase of 14.0% and 13.5% respectively in the last 24 hours
- 169 countries/Regions are affected of which 43 are in Africa region including Ethiopia
- WHO has retaliated the focus on preventive measures to member states as a corner stone in the fight against COVID-19 and has alerted that United States of America could be the next epicenter if tougher measures are not put in place to halt the transmission.
- The pandemic is accelerating. It took 67 days from the first reported case to reach the first 100,000 cases, 11 days for the second 100,000 cases and just 4 days for the third 100,000 cases and 2 days to reach the 4th 100,000.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA

- New reported confirmed cases are 1
- Total number of reported confirmed cases is 12
- Cumulative number of suspected cases is 188
- Cumulative number of suspected cases with Negative Lab result 170
- Cumulative number of registered contacts is 292
- Cumulative number of alerts/rumors is 416
- WHO is working together with FMOH/EPHI in strengthening diagnostic testing for COVID-19, epidemiological investigation, case management and risk communication so as to suppress the transmission
- The Prime Minister directed that government employees should work from home

Fig 1: African countries reporting confirmed COVID-19 cases as of March 24, 2020

Since the first confirmed COVID-19 in Africa was reported in Egypt on 14-Feb-2020, it has since spread to 43 countries in just 39 days with a cumulative number of 1,788 cases and 58 deaths with a case fatality rate of 2.3%. The deaths were reported by Egypt (19), Algeria (17), Morocco (04) Burkina Faso (04), Tunisia (03), Ghana (2), DRC (02), Mauritius (02), Sudan (01), Gabon (01), Nigeria (01) and Zimbabwe (01)

- 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

- 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