

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Telegraphic Address  
'Bunge', Nairobi  
Telephone 2848000  
Fax: 2243694  
E-mail: [csenate@parliament.go.ke](mailto:csenate@parliament.go.ke)



Parliamentary Service Commission  
Parliament Buildings  
P. O. Box 41842 -00100  
**Nairobi, Kenya**

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**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND MEMBERS OF STAFF  
OF PARLIAMENT**

**FROM: SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY/CHAIRPERSON TO  
THE PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION**

**SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**

**DATE: 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES CONSEQUENT ON THE DECLARATION OF  
COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) AS A GLOBAL HEALTH PANDEMIC AND  
THE CONFIRMATION OF A CASE OF CORONA VIRUS INFECTION IN  
KENYA**

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As you are aware, on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, the World Health Organisation declared the COVID -19 (corona virus) as a health pandemic. As you are further aware, on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, the Ministry of Health announced that it had confirmed the first case of the corona virus in Kenya. It has therefore become necessary to issue the following guidelines in order to prevent, and where necessary, contain and mitigate against the spread of the corona virus. These guidelines will remain in force for a period of thirty days or until further notice.

## **1. Foreign travel**

All foreign travel by members and staff of Parliament is suspended forthwith.

## **2. Conferences, retreats, workshops**

Conferences, retreats, workshops and other similar events of Parliament shall, going forward, be held within the precincts of Parliament in Nairobi.

## **3. School parties and other visitors to Parliament**

Visits to Parliament by schools, colleges and other groups shall stand suspended. In addition, the entry of any other visitors into Parliament during this period and the movement of visitors within the precincts of Parliament shall be restricted.

## **4. Committee sittings and visits outside Parliament**

All committees are encouraged to defer the sittings and visits outside the precincts of Parliament.

## **5. Scheduled official engagements**

Official engagements that had been scheduled to be held within the precincts of Parliament in the next thirty days shall forthwith stand deferred until further notice.

## **6. Recent travels and possible exposure**

Members of Parliament and staff who, within the past fourteen (14) days have returned into the country from a destination in which cases of corona virus

infection have been reported are advised to take particular precautionary measures as follows –

- (a) Stay at home if you begin to feel unwell, even with mild symptoms such as headache and slight runny nose and avoid contact with others.
- (b) If you develop a fever, cough and difficulty in breathing, seek medical advice promptly. Call in advance and tell your medical service provider about your recent travel. Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility and also prevent possible spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

Any other Member of Parliament or member of staff who may have been exposed to the corona virus through their contacts or who has the symptoms currently associated with infection with the virus, is encouraged to immediately seek medical advice and to minimize close interaction with other persons in the interim.

The staff of the medical section are available to be reached on telephone to assist with any arrangements for medical attention.

## **7. Other preventive measures**

Members of Parliament and staff are encouraged to observe the following further preventive measures issued by the Ministry of Health as required to be undertaken by every individual in order to prevent, and where necessary, contain or mitigate the spread of the corona virus -

- (a) Regularly and thoroughly wash hands with soap and running water or use an alcohol based sanitizer. For this purpose, disinfectants/sanitizers have been provided throughout the parliamentary precincts.
- (b) Maintain a distance of at least one metre between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing;

- (c) Persons with a cough or sneezing should stay at home or keep a social distance, and avoid mixing with others in a crowd;
- (d) Maintain good respiratory hygiene by covering your mouth and nose while coughing and sneezing into a handkerchief, tissue or your flexed elbow;
- (e) Stay at home if you feel unwell with symptoms like fever, cough and difficulty in breathing; and
- (f) Avoid abuse of social media platforms or indulging in spreading misinformation that can cause fear and panic.

As you are aware, the global situation relating to COVID-19 and the corona virus infection is rapidly evolving as new information becomes available. We will continue to monitor events as they unfold and to review these guidelines as may be necessary.

**JUSTIN B. MUTURI, EGH, MP,  
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY/CHAIRPERSON,  
PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION.**

**KENNETH LUSAKA, EGH, MP,  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.**

c.c. Clerk of the Senate/Secretary Parliamentary  
Service Commission  
Clerk of the National Assembly  
Director-General-Parliamentary Joint Service

You are directed to take all necessary measures and deploy necessary resources to implement these guidelines.