Instructions for COVID-19 screening at Points of Entry (POE)

Following the WHO report on the ongoing global COVID-19 outbreak, the Ministry of Health recommends preventive measures to protect all residents and visitors of Rwanda and instructs the following at all ports of entry across the country:

1. All travelers arriving in Rwanda at all points of entry will be screened.

2. All travelers presenting one of the COVID-19 symptoms and coming from countries with confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be considered as SUSPECT CASES and therefore will be taken for isolation at nearest Hospital for further investigation and laboratory testing procedures.

3. If tested positive, SUSPECTED CASE becomes CONFIRMED and is sent immediately to COVID-19 Treatment Center.

4. If tested negative, SUSPECTED CASE remains eligible for ACTIVE FOLLOW UP and therefore he/she is advised to provide full identification for continued daily monitoring at place of self-quarantine* for 14 days counted from the day he/she left country with COVID-19 cases. The location of the SUSPECT CASES has to be accessible by MOH-RBC surveillance teams.

5. Suspect case in self-quarantine conditions must abide on the following conditions: wear masks all time; self-isolate from others in the same household and call 114 for further direction.

6. Any asymptomatic traveler coming from countries with confirmed COVID-19 cases will be considered AT RISK, and will be recorded in a register and electronic tools for continued daily monitoring for 14 days counted from the day he/she left country with COVID-19 cases.

Although ASYMPTOMATIC traveler is not required for strict quarantine, she/he must take preventive and protective measures and communicate to nearest health authorities for any unusual sign and symptom that he/she may develop within 14 days counted from the day he/she left country with COVID-19 cases.

These new instructions are for immediate implementation by Health staff deployed at all POEs until further notice.

Dr. NGAMIJE M. Daniel
Minister of Health