



ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 7th COVID-19 TELECONFERENCE MEETING OF THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29th APRIL 2020

We, members of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF), at our meeting held today deliberated on the COVID-19 pandemic in the country and resolved as follows:

1. The NGF Chairman briefed State Governors on coordination efforts with the federal government, multilateral and bilateral partners, and the private sector through the Coalition against COVID-19 (CACOVID). Governors expressed strong appreciation to the private sector coalition for the provision of palliatives to households and testing facilities to help curb the spread of the pandemic.
2. The Forum received update from the Governor of Edo State, H.E Godwin Obaseki, who heads the Committee that liaises with development partners. In response to the fiscal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on States, the NGF Secretariat will provide technical assistance to State governments in the preparation of their revised budgets for 2020, including guidance on macroeconomic and fiscal assumptions that reflect current realities.
3. After an interactive session with Alhaji Aliko Dangote, President of Dangote Group who joined in the teleconference, Governors commended Dangote for his increasing involvement in the fight against COVID-19, and pledged to provide the necessary logistical support to ensure that palliatives get to the people who need them.
4. The Forum also received a presentation from three health associations in the country, led by Dr. Francis Adedayo Faduyile, President of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Sam Oluabunwa, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN) and Comrade Abdrafuu Adeniji, President, National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives (NANNM) who prayed for Governors support in improving the working conditions of health workers at the frontline of the pandemic, through the



provision of adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) in all general hospitals and health facilities; training for health workers on infection prevention and control (IPC); harmonization of lockdown protocols; incentives such as hazard allowances and health insurance packages for health workers in the frontline; and the inclusion of senior health workers in the operations of State Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs).

5. Following the presentation members commended all the medical associations for working together and urged them to abide by their Hippocratic oath which obliges them to save lives first before thinking of other things, particularly during the Covid19 Pandemic and should always reach out to government for resolution of any perceived grievances.
6. Governors are committed to ensuring that personal protective equipment (PPE) are available in all general hospitals and health facilities; and they are collaborating with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to provide training to health workers, including their capacity to use telemedicine to strengthen infectious disease prevention and control and the use of PPE to stem the spread of the virus among health workers.
7. In the light of rising cases of infection among health workers, State governments will engage with their health workers to ensure that their safety and welfare are protected.
8. Governors are concerned with the continued movement of persons across States despite the enforcement of inter-State lockdown across States. The Forum will collaborate with the Nigeria Police Force, as well as State chapters of the National Union of Road Transport Workers and local government officials to strengthen security surveillance along State borders.

**NIGERIA
GOVERNORS'
FORUM**



Communiqué

A handwritten signature in red ink, which appears to be 'Kayode Fayemi', is written across the page.

**Governor Kayode Fayemi
Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum
29th April 2020**