

# Covid-19 Pandemic; An Analysis Of The Socio – Economics Of The New Order

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*Abstract: The unending coronavirus disease continues to rage havoc on human society globally and the social cost of it is yet to be measured. All the sectors of our society including education, economy, health, entertainment, religious activities amongst others are heavily affected by the pandemic due to the closure of schools, markets, borders, football activities and night clubs. The pandemic further threatens the future of people's livelihood as the search for cure continue in our science laboratories. This article reviews the social cost of COVID-19 at various levels of the economy and propose ways to reducing the impact. It takes a special look at the degree to which lives are sustained under the pandemic and the Ghana approach to curb the spread. It concludes that government and other businesses should become frugal to sustain lives under the pandemic.*

**Keywords: COVID -19, pandemic, infections, socio-economic impact**

## I. INTRODUCTION

The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) emerged at the end of December 2019 in Wuhan city of China. The novelty of this type of virus made public health experts across the globe began scrambling to understand, track, and contain it. Even though the virus started in China, it quickly spread to other countries. On Thursday, January 30, 2020, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) confirmed person – to – person transmission of the coronavirus disease in the United States, and the same day had the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) also declaring the coronavirus disease, a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). WHO further announced that the unknown COVID-19 is transmitted via droplets and fomites during close unprotected contact between an infector and infectee. Early cases identified in Wuhan were believed to have been acquired from a zoonotic source as many reported cases were visitors and individuals working in the Wuhan Wholesale Seafood Market. As of February 25, an animal source had not yet been identified.

The coronavirus began sweeping across the world by March 11, 2020 in 114 countries with over 118,000 people infected. WHO then declared as follows; “we have therefore made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic”

WHO admits there is no known cure for the novel coronavirus and provided guidelines on surveillance strategies for COVID -19 human infections. The guide document gives overall strategies that member countries should consider as part of comprehensive national surveillance for COVID 19. It reiterated the necessity to adapt and strengthen existing national health systems where necessary and to scale – up surveillance capacities. WHO recommended contact trace, test, isolate, quarantine, and other social measures as a surest way to break the cycle of transmission.

Public health and social measures are measures or actions by individuals, institutions, communities, local and national governments and international bodies to slow or stop the spread of COVID-19. These measures to reduce transmission of COVID-19 include individual and environmental measures, detecting and isolating cases, contact tracing and quarantine, physical distancing measures for mass gatherings,

international travel measures, vaccines and treatments. While vaccines and specific medications are not yet available for COVID-19, other public health and social measures play an essential role in reducing the number of infections and saving lives. The measures are used in conjunction with individual protective measures against COVID-19 such as frequent hand washing and respiratory etiquette.

As at 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020, the world coronavirus confirmed positive cases stands at 10,021,401 out of which 499,913 had died. This means that the world positivity death rate is 5%. In Africa, 382,730 total confirmed cases have been reported with 9,660 people dead putting positivity death rate at 2.5%. This means that the average positivity death rate in Africa is far lower than the average world positivity death rate. Thus Africa is doing better than Europe in the fight against the pandemic. Though there isn't enough data explaining why Africa positivity rate is low but I postulate that it may be due to hot temperatures which is slowing the spread of coronavirus disease.

On March 12, 2020, the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Health, confirmed two positive cases of COVID -19. The government immediately initiated robust and enhanced contact tracing approach to contain the virus in the country.

The country outlined coronavirus management measures as follows;

- ✓ Regular and thorough washing of hands with soap under running water and use of alcohol – based hand sanitizers
- ✓ Avoid shaking of hands
- ✓ Keep a distance of at least two meters from all persons particularly those with fever, cough, sneezing and difficulty in breathing
- ✓ It is advisable to be physically active, drink plenty water, eat healthy, avoid stress and have enough sleep
- ✓ Stay home if you feel unwell with symptoms of fever, cough and difficulty in breathing, and call a health official.

The above measures were considered to be crucially important to the management of the coronavirus pandemic and Ghanaians were encouraged to adhere strictly to them.

Subsequently, on the march 15, 2020, when Ghana case count had increased from two (2) to six (6), the president of the republic of Ghana announced further COVID -19 preventative measures and declared as follows:

- ✓ All public gatherings, including conferences, workshops, funerals, festivals, political rallies, sporting events and religious activities, have been suspended for the next four (4) weeks subject to review.
- ✓ All Universities, Senior High Schools, and basic schools, both public and private are closed.
- ✓ Ban on international travel
- ✓ Businesses and other workplaces allowed to operate but observing social distancing protocols
- ✓ Ban on operations of night clubs, beaches, spots amongst others
- ✓ Transport minister directed to ensure hygiene protocols
- ✓ Ministry of local government also directed to ensure hygiene in various markets.

There have been further social measures to contain the coronavirus in Ghana including partial lockdown, compulsory wearing of face mask among others.

The directive of the President triggered strict compliance by other institutions and bodies to contain the pandemic. This evolving situation created an altered lifestyle with very peculiar social conditions with adverse effects on culture, religion, education, economy, entertainment amongst others.

Despite the measures put in place by the Ghanaian government, there is increasing community spread resulting in positive cases skyrocketing with an increasing in the death rate, though at a relatively slow rate. As at 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020, Ghana's coronavirus disease confirmed cases stood at 17,994 with 112 deaths putting the Ghana death rate at 0.6%. This places Ghana COVID -19 death rate one of the lowest in the world and in Africa, averaging to 5%, and 2.5% respectively. Though Ghana's coronavirus confirmed cases and death rate have increased significantly, however, the statistics are far better compare to the rest of the World and Africa. This positive outlook may be attributed to the Ghana approach – advanced contact trace, test and quarantine which WHO had recommended. The sudden increases in the Ghana's COVID -19 confirmed cases and deaths may be due to stigmatization and the denial of COVID -19 pandemic.

The focus of this paper is to analyze the socio – economics of the new social order caused by the coronavirus and the resilience of stakeholders under the pandemic in sustaining lives.

## II. THE CURRENT SITUATION OF GHANA COVID -19

Ghana had its first two cases of COVID -19 in Accra on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, 2020 with no death and no recovery. The country immediately commenced robust advanced contact tracing, testing and quarantine. The country initial approach to managing the pandemic was commended for limited community infections and relatively low death rate. Even though, the few deaths recorded was attributed to people with underlying health conditions which is described in medical science as co – morbidity. Subsequently, the country COVID -19 case counts increased exponentially with majority of cases being asymptomatic with limited critical cases. However currently, the COVID -19 cases in Ghana are rising than before with more community infections, hospitalization, symptomatic, critical cases and high death rate even though still low relative to the African and global death rate.

Data below indicate the monthly COVID -19 number of test, confirmed cases, recovered, severe patients, number of dead, the rate of number of positive cases to number of test and the rate of number of dead to confirmed cases starting from the 29<sup>th</sup> of the first month that Ghana had it first cases. The 29<sup>th</sup> of each month has been chosen as a benchmark because as at 29<sup>th</sup> march, 2020, Ghana had registered its first five deaths from COVID -19. Also the theses were compiled on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2020.

Ghana situation	No of test	Confirmed positive	Recovered	Severe	Dead	No test to positivity rate	Positivity to death rate
29 – 03 – 2020	2,519	152	0	0	5	0.06	3.29
29 – 04 – 2020	113,497	2,074	212	6	17	1.83	0.82
29 – 05 – 2020	214,956	7,881	2,841	15	36	3.67	0.46
29 – 06 – 2020	300,520	18,134	13,550	20	117	6.03	0.65

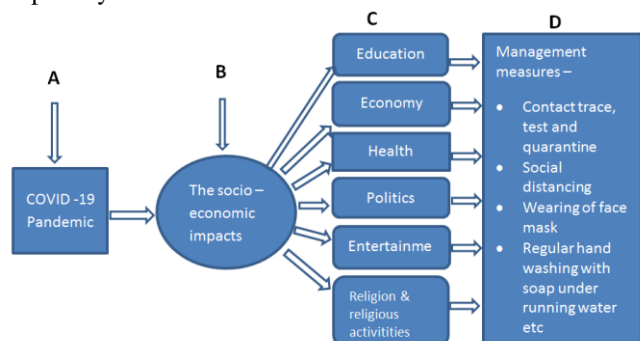
Author’s construct, 2020

Table 1.0: show the monthly data distribution COVID -19

From the table 1.0 above, it is clear that as at the 29<sup>th</sup> of March, 2020, the Ghana coronavirus confirmed case count stood at 152 out of 2,519 test conducted with test positivity rate at 0.06%. As at that, five COVID -19 infected persons had died representing 3.29% of the 152 confirmed cases. Three months latter; 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020, the number of test increased from 2,519 to 300,510 whilst the confirmed cases increased from 152 to 18, 134 representing test – positivity rate of 0.06% to 6.03% leading to an increased in infection rate by 5.97 %. Though there is no data on why the COVID -19 infections rate is increasing but the researcher hypothesized that is due to non – compliance to safety protocols, change of weather and denial.

Also, the number of COVID -19 patients who had died also increased from just 5 to 117 placing positivity death rate at 0.65% compare to neighboring West Africa, country, Mali of 5%. Even though, the positivity death rate of 0.65% is low relative to Africa and World average of 2.5%, 5% respectively, the reality about COVID -19 in Ghana is that the confirmed cases are increasing with more Ghanaians dying. In fact, the Ghana health Service admits that Ghanaians who report to the hospital are now dying within 48 hours. Though, there is no literature on why Ghanaians are now dying quicker from COVID -19, however, the researcher postulates that it may be due to the growing incidences of stigmatization, denial of the existence of COVID -19 coupled with changes in weather may be responsible for increase in cases, hospitalization and quick death. Stigmatization and social exclusion of COVID -19 patients makes it discouraging for people with suspected symptoms to report immediately for medical attention. Thus people with suspected symptoms hide at home and finally report to the hospitals when they are at the point of death. This development undermines the fight against the pandemic.

On the same table 1.0, the number of recoveries of zero as at 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 increased significantly to 13,550 on the 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. This is due to the new discharge policy introduced by WHO after further research on COVID -19 adopted by Ghana.



Author’s construct, 2020

Figure 1: Conceptual framework of the study

The figure 1.0 above show the conceptual framework for the study. The letter A indicates the main theme COVID -19 pandemic which is a global health crisis. The B also shows the negative social, political and economic impacts emanating from the COVID -19 pandemic. Whilst the C further defined socio – economic impacts in the area of Education, Economy, Health, Politics, Religion and Religious activities and Entertainment. And the D is the management measures put in place by government to contain the pandemic.

In short, the COVID -19 pandemic has created serious negative economic impacts in the area of education, health economy, politics, entertainment and religion and religious activities due to the lock down, restrictions and unconventional protocols. Due to the severity of the pandemic, government had put management measures to contain the plague. Therefore, when these measures achieve full results, the pandemic will be contained thereby minimizing the potential impacts on socio – economic lives of the people. However, many people are not able to follow the protocols and the COVID -19 continue to thrive in Ghana.

### III. DISCUSSING THE IMPACTS OF CORONAVIRUS

#### A. EDUCATION

A large body of academic literature is available discussing the suspension of educational activities to reduce the spread of COVID -19 which is an infectious disease, spreading in the community, by breaking the chains of transmission (Sahu, 2020). International community in efforts to contain the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, 107 countries had implemented national school closures by March 18, 2020 according to Russell et. al., 2020 Studies of UK children and young people report that the mean numbers of daily social contacts during school holidays are approximately half that of school term days; (Russell et. al., 2020). Recent modeling studies of COVID-19 predicted that school closures alone would prevent only 2–4% of deaths, though much less than other social distancing interventions. Further research reveal that early childhood education and foundational learning in early primary school, in particular, are likely to be negatively impacted. As most households and education systems will prioritize continued learning for older children while schools are closed, emphasis on early childhood education may decline (Russell et. al., 2020).

To date, COVID19-driven school closures have impacted over one billion students (World Bank Group Education Report, (2020). The group warn of dire consequences unless countries mount major efforts to respond together else, the shocks will exert long-run costs on human capital and welfare (World Bank Educational Group Report, 2020). Taking into consideration the potential long term effects of closures of schools on human capital production, governments across the globe including Ghana have put in place mitigation measures. Some of the measures to lessen the potential adverse effects of school closures on education included enhanced distance learning, teaching on televisions and improved e-learning

system for students to study at home under COVID -19 lockdown. These mitigation measures are good enough but far reaching. Research by Sahu (2020) indicates that many universities do not have enough infrastructure or resources to facilitate online teaching with immediate effect let alone senior high schools and primary. What about students without access to television, laptops, internet facilities, and above all, electricity at home..? There are also lots of courses that cannot be taken online. All these put together, it is estimated that when schooling restarts, disadvantaged children will find themselves even further behind their peers (Russell et. al., 2020).

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2020, president of Ghana eased COVID -19 restrictions to allow final year students of our educational and training institutions – Universities, Colleges of Education, Nursing colleges, Senior High School, Junior High Schools and others to resume. The president announced new protocols on school reopening as follows:

- ✓ Disinfect and fumigate all schools
- ✓ All teachers, students and non – teaching staff to wear nose mask mandatorily
- ✓ No sports or sporting events
- ✓ Schools will be unavailable for religious activities
- ✓ Schools will have enhanced daily health protocols
- ✓ No visitors allowed in SHS

All these new protocols are design to ensure the safety of students returning to school however, breach of safety protocols or exhibition of normal students culture may lead to a surge in coronavirus cases since it thrives well in crowded places like school.

## B. ECONOMY

Uncertainties of the Wuhan 2019 novel coronavirus is not only a health related challenge, but also economic. Bloomberg (2020) estimates that the coronavirus pandemic could cost the world economy \$2.7 trillion. They also added that emerging economists like Ghana will be significantly impacted without support of development assistance. Ghana's economy has been hit hard by the pandemic in the area of;

- ✓ disruptions in global supply chains with drops in value creation and delays in shipments of major goods and services
- ✓ widespread shortages (including food, pharmaceutical, and manufactured goods) and attendants price increases
- ✓ slowdown in investment and mass lay-offs
- ✓ unprecedented volatility and collapse of stock market
- ✓ tighter global finance conditions
- ✓ decline in international price of crude oil with significant revenue loss
- ✓ decline in tourism
- ✓ significant job losses
- ✓ Decline in remittances
- ✓ Unanticipated increases in health spending
- ✓ Higher debt portfolio

To mitigate the above devastating impact of the pandemic, the government of Ghana has formulated an appropriate economic response to sustain the economy. Thus, one million Ghana cedis have been borrowed from IMF, 600m stimulus package for small businesses. Others are government

absorbing of water bills of Ghanaians, absorbing of electricity bills and building of 94 hospitals. This unbudgeted expenditure has very dire consequences on the government planned Programme of the year. Ghana stable inflation of 7.8% in march is now 10.6% in April (GSS,2020). Though government is doing a lot to contain both health and economic impact of the pandemic but the reality is that major players in the economy such as government, private sector, civil society and individuals are negatively affected by the cumulative effects of COVID -19 in Ghana.

## C. GENERAL HEALTH

In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the demand for health services increased phenomenally especially in the highly hit countries. Italy, China, and Spain for instance, had their hospitals, doctors, nurses and other staff overwhelmed with cases of patients infected with the virus. Due to the inability of the health professionals to attend to all cases of COVID -19, there was selective treatment of patients. In this case, what happens to patients without COVID -19?

In Ghana, as part of the measures to contain the outbreak, Korle – Bu teaching hospital suspended all non – emergency surgeries and OPD services. What happens to people in dire need of health services who fall within that category? The COVID -19 pandemic in Ghana is making it difficult for hospitals to give adequate attention to non – COVID -19 cases. To focus seriously on coronavirus means to ignore the treatment of traditional diseases which also claim lives daily.

Moody's reported (2020) as cited by Ozili (2020) that the health sector was likely to see less cash flow in 2020 compared to 2019 and decrease revenue due to the suspension of elective surgeries and OPD attendance which are traditional source of income for hospitals. The reputable international ratings entity also stated that if COVID -19 pandemic could be managed, NGOs in healthcare were already experiencing rising widespread uncertainty. The implication of the outbreak on the general health was the overwhelmed cases coupled with lack of known vaccine and cure culminating in deaths, inadequate ventilators in hospitals to manage critically ill patients, and inadequate isolation centers to host the rising cases of COVID-19 patients.

## D. CULTURAL NORMS AND SOCIAL GATHERING

The ravaging coronavirus worldwide which WHO confirms to be transmissible from person – to – person demand greater behavioral change to conform to the new social order (Mishagina, Sonia and Erin, 2020). Social norms in Ghana are informal rules of behavior that governs interactions in society in years without number. Social norms prescribe actions that produce socially beneficial outcomes, even when those actions have costs for individuals such as monetary expenses, psychological costs or extra effort. These accustomed behavioral style now have to be changed in an effort to contain the coronavirus pandemic. Hitherto, there existed long standing social norms that were practiced in society without problems such as handshaking as a form of greetings. However, preliminary scientific investigations into COVID -19 proved that, the virus was transmissible from



person - to - person through human contact. This development led to the composition of novel recommendations and greater behavioral change to contain the pandemic. These WHO recommendations which Ghana adopted includes;

- ✓ Regular and thorough washing of hands with soap under running water and use of alcohol – based hand sanitizers
- ✓ Avoid shaking of hands
- ✓ Keep a distance of at least two meters from a person with fever, cough, sneezing and difficulty in breathing
- ✓ It is advisable to be physically active, drink plenty water, eat healthy, avoid stress and have enough sleep
- ✓ Stay home if you feel unwell with system of fever, cough and difficulty in breathing and call health official.
- ✓ Lockdown
- ✓ Compulsory wearing of nose masks.

To contain the rapid spread of COVID-19 in Ghana, we have all been asked to practices social distancing (Mishagina, Sonia and Erin, 2020). Its wider social benefits are clear: reduced disease transmission, less stress on the health care system, and fewer deaths. However, Nicholas Christakis (2020) said “the coronavirus spreading around the world is calling on us to suppress our profoundly human and evolutionarily hard – wired impulses for connection: seeing our friends, getting together in groups, or touching each other” he added that social distancing also tests the human capacity for cooperation. Though research scientist are still scrambling to understand the crippling effects of coronavirus restrictions, but Lunstad (2015) meta – analysis of scientific literature reveal that over long period of time, isolation can increase the risk of a variety of health problems, including heart disease, depression, dementia, and even death. It therefore means that the coronavirus restrictions are not a panacea and should be done with the reliance on science and data.

#### E. RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

In Ghana, churches, mosques and other places of worship were some of the first institutions to be banned. This was because, coronavirus pandemic had proved to be spreading faster at crowded places and hence the closure of places of worship such as mosques and cathedrals, in order to contain the common enemy. Though recalcitrant churches and places of worship insisted that religious people, in pandemics, are always busy confronting afflicted, praying for divine intervention, and looking for means of miraculous deliverance, crafting theological explanations of why the evil is at work and sometime finding blame for the mess (Morgan, 2020). Religious leaders in Ghana who defied the ban on churches were arrested and prosecuted in line with COVID -19 order. For instance, the head pastor of the Open Arms Ministry, Apostle Kofi Nkansah – Sarkodie in Kumasi was arrested for defying COVID -19 ban on public gathering. This characterized World historically known pandemics where the central role of religious people has been duly acknowledged.

However, in COVID -19 pandemic, same cannot be said because of movement restrictions, social distancing and lockdowns. In fact, churches who defy health directives in combating coronavirus endanger people well beyond congregational boundaries. The collective worship is an effective mechanism for its spread. For instance, in South

Korea, as of the end of first week of March 2020, almost two – third of COVID – 19 infections (nearly 5,000 cases) were traced to “patient 31,” an individual who worshipped at Shincheonji church of Jesus in Daegu. We must therefore note that standard epidemiological models of pandemics do not consider human factors such as religious beliefs and values systems. This in effect called for stricter compliance to the health protocols of COVID -19 to contain the plaque. But Salve (2020), belief that the long break of religious activities and connectivity at the end, humanity as a whole, can take a spiritual leap forward. This will weaken spiritual power of man which is the bases for our existence.

In Ghana, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2020, the president of Ghana announced the reopening of religious service with some specific guidelines and regulations as follows:

- ✓ Congregants at church or mosque at a time should not be more than 100
- ✓ Veronica buckets and hand sanitizers are to be provided for congregants to enable hand washing
- ✓ Nose masks must be worn by all worshipers
- ✓ All services are to last for a maximum of one hour
- ✓ Religious leaders must disinfect, fumigate and put in place measures needed to guarantee safe opening.

To ensure compliance, religious leaders desirous to open their churches are mandated to ensure proper observation of the new protocols however, some churches and mosques have chosen to remain closed to rely on online services to evaluate and observe the appropriateness of the protocols in other churches. This will enable them formulate new strategies to completely guarantee the safety of their members. Also, they find the online services to be substitutes for the manual services and less costly. Easing of restrictions on religious services will satisfy the religious needs of people without compromising the health of people if the new protocols are observed strictly.

#### F. TOURISM AND ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment industry was another area severely affected by the COVID -19 pandemic. As part of restrictions to control crowd in Ghana, the government of Ghana also banned key areas of entertainment from operating. Thus, drinking spots, theatre, night clubs, beaches, concert parties amongst others. This ban has negative effects on revelers who pursue that as their source of happiness and livelihood for key players.

#### G. POLITICS

The coronavirus pandemic has also affected the political timetable ahead of elections. The ban on public gathering in Ghana also included political rallies, which means that no political party can organize rally to sell their messages to the electorates. The Ghana independent electoral commission tasked with the constitutional mandate to provide free, fair and transparent elections also has its electoral timetable severely disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The commission initially scheduled 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2020, for the compilation of a new voters register ahead of elections but announcement of coronavirus restrictions by the president of Ghana has stalled the process pending a new date only known by God.

Also, the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP) has been hit badly by the pandemic because the major internal democratic processes that will produce parliamentary candidates for areas with sitting Member of Parliament on the ticket of the party is yet to be held. This critical activity on the party's timetable cannot be taken for granted since it has the tendency to make and unmake the party.

The major opposition party is not left out of the global health crisis as is it not able to name its vice presidential candidate which is a constitutional requirement.

The characterization of Ghanaian politics under coronavirus pandemic has created a lot of uncertainty to political scientists who are not able to predict the electoral direction of electorates. The new voters register's controversies remained unresolved but despite all the restrictions, controversies, disagreements ahead of elections, what is so certain and non – negotiable is the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 elections. The question is how do we manage all the issues created by the novel coronavirus pandemic to achieve credible electoral outcome?

Fortunately, on 31<sup>st</sup> may, 2020, Ghanaian president eased restrictions on social gathering to allow 100 people at a gathering. This new announcement had helped the electoral commission to renew its calendar for 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 elections starting with mass registration. With COVID -19 in mind, EC also announced the following guidelines:

- ✓ Wear face mask
- ✓ Temperature checks on each registrant
- ✓ Hand wash or hand sanitizing to be strictly practiced before joining the queue and after registration.
- ✓ Social distancing to be followed strictly
- ✓ Scanners will be wiped before and after each registrant
- ✓ All Electoral Officials to be in PPE

All the above protocols if strictly observed at various registration centers will guarantee the safety of electoral officials and registrants. However, just one day into the registration, the Ghana Medical Association which is an important stakeholder in the health sector is warning of a potential surge in coronavirus cases due to the breaches of safety protocols at registration centers. They want stricter compliance to the standard safety prescriptions. Thus the electoral commission must straighten the protocols at various polling stations in the days ahead to curtail a potential surge in coronavirus cases.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The global coronavirus pandemic has affected every facet of life – economy, health, education, lifestyle, entertainment, religion, and politics, among others with the restrictive measures to contain it. However, the basic necessities of life such as food, water, power supply amongst others which are required on daily basis are under threat. With this, government, development partners, Non – Governmental organizations and others should formulate new models to sustain life under COVID -19.

#### V. RECOMMENDATION

- ✓ Intensify public awareness education to combat stigmatization and denial of the disease.
- ✓ The coronavirus which thrives well in crowded places, needs all educational institutions to remain closed while installation of internet and virtual platforms are strengthened, encouraged and made flexible for all students. Information and communication technology should be made a core subject so that students who are not familiar with internet usage can learn.
- ✓ The increase in digital services in the provision of goods and services is highly encouraged. The supply of goods and services online will reduce human contact which will limit the spread of the virus.
- ✓ Construction of satellite clinics which should be evenly distributed across the country. Mobile clinics services are also encouraged to reach out to people at home to reduce the concentration of people on the few hospitals. Nursing homes where doctors will attend to patients in the homes should be adopted by hospitals.
- ✓ Symbolic expression of greetings, appreciations, and congratulations as alternative social interaction order should be adopted. Enforcing the social distancing protocol at funerals, festivals and other social gathering should be strictly applied.
- ✓ The adoption of virtual concert by artist is crucial in sustaining the tourism and entertainment industry under coronavirus.
- ✓ The use of traditional and social media such as facebook, twitter, whatsapp, among others to replace political rallies and other campaign activities which require crowd. Also, bill boards with posters of candidates to canvass for support are encouraged.
- ✓ Sensitization encouraging people to avail themselves for test when they suspect symptoms of COVID -19.

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