PRESS RELEASE - SECOND CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 IN THE NORTH WEST REGION

The Governor of the North West Region, President of the Regional COVID-19 Pandemic Response Committee, announces to the General Public that the North West Region recorded its second confirmed case of COVID-19 today the 23rd of April 2020. The said case is one of ten members of a family which arrived Bamenda from Douala by night in a White MOGHAMO 70-seater bus matriculated NW 960 BC on the 17th of April 2020 breaking the 18th of April 2020, for a symbolic funeral ceremony of their father who died of COVID-19 in Douala and was immediately buried under strict medical supervision. On arrival, they were identified by the medical team in Matazem/Santa, who immediately informed the North West Regional Delegate of Public Health that the group was heading to NSONGWA Village. The Regional Delegate thus dispatched a team which succeeded in locating the compound where the funeral ceremony was taking place. After a lot of resistance from the family and with the collaboration of the traditional authorities as well as other community members, all 10 family members where conveyed to the hospital, where their samples were collected for COVID-19 PCR confirmatory testing. They all opted for self-confinement at home.

The results came out on the 23rd of April 2020, and unfortunately one of them tested POSITIVE for COVID-19, while the nine other tested NEGATIVE for COVID-19. The positive case is presently being managed by the health authorities of the Region.

The Governor of the North West Region therefore calls on all those who attended the said funeral ceremony in NSONGWA, as well as all passengers of the said bus, to report to Azam Hotel as from Friday the 24th of April 2020 at 9 am for testing and confinement, until their results are out. He also calls on the entire Population to remain calm, while respecting the following hygienic measures to prevent the spread of the disease.

- Stay at home as much as possible and always wear a face MASK when leaving the house
- Hand Washing with clean running water and soap or use an alcohol based solution (Hand Sanitizer)
- Covering the nose and Mouth with a disposable tissue when coughing, sneezing or use a flexed elbow
- Avoiding close contact with anyone presenting with flu symptoms
- Maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres between two or more persons

Lastly the Governor advises the population to remain vigilant and report any suspected case of COVID-19 by dialling any of the following numbers: 233361503, 233361506, 233361507, 233361508, 677564650, and 677032723, while avoiding unnecessary travelling and gatherings as much as possible, especially by those who might have been exposed to the Corona Virus (COVID-19).

Bamenda the 23 AVR 2020

The Governor

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