

# **NATIONAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS PROTOCOLS DURING THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC**

---

## **Protocols and Guidelines for Food Transporters**

### **Introduction**

The global outbreak of Corona virus (COVID 19) has raised concerns regarding the likely impact on regional and national food supply chains. In response, the country has set measures to limit factors that may exacerbate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. To address the emerging food security concerns, there is need to manage the food supply chain by ensuring availability, accessibility and affordability of safe, adequate and nutritious food for all Citizens. The food supply chain in the country consists of players in input provision, production, trade, processing, transport, logistics, handling and consumption. Key institutions involved in management of the food supply chain are;

- Input suppliers (distributors and agro-vets)
- Farmers, Pastoralists & Fisher folk
- Farmers, pastoralists and fisher folk organizations
- Community food storage facilities
- Government food storage facilities (NCPB, KNTC)
- Food and feed processors
- Food transporters
- Food markets
- County Governments
- National Government ministries, departments & agencies
- Major food retailers and supermarkets
- Food supply chain service providers
- Development Partners & NGOs

To minimize interruptions within the food supply chain, the following protocols and guidelines have been developed to facilitate operations within the food supply chain. County Governments can domesticate the protocols and guidelines for implementation.

## **PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES FOR FOOD TRANSPORTERS**

1. County Governments should create awareness for commercial transport operators to fumigate and sanitize trucks and food grade packaging materials used in food distribution in accordance with existing Ministry of Health regulations and East African Community Guidelines on free movement of goods.
2. County Governments should create awareness for commercial transport operators to use recommended food grade packaging materials for food handling and distribution in accordance with the Food Drugs and Chemical Substances Act Cap 254 and Horticulture standard (KS 1758) on produce transportation and storage.
3. County Governments should waive cess charged on road blocks & erected barriers to ease transportation to reduce the cost of food.
4. County Governments should collaborate with other relevant organizations and sensitize motorcycles, animal draught power operators & hand carts operators on use of recommended equipment to transport food commodities
5. Commercial transporters should ensure that fresh produce is transported in an enclosed/covered vehicles to maintain hygiene, prevent damage and contamination
6. County Governments should create awareness for motorcycles, animal draught power & hand carts operators to observe hygiene including sanitizing personnel & equipment used in food handling and transportation.
7. County Governments should enforce the requirement that all commercial transportation trucks have a maximum of two (2) staff consisting of the driver and the loader.
8. County Governments should create awareness for commercial transporters to ensure screening of the staff from the point of departure or in designated screening points along the transit routes.
9. Livestock and fish processed products to be transported in approved transport vehicles to avoid contamination and spoilage.
10. Vehicle used to transport food commodities should have the necessary NTSA requirements and proper documentation for food commodities e.g. delivery order, invoice etc

11. Commercial transporters should ensure that the vehicle route and market destination is documented to avoid diversions to unintended destinations
12. Commercial transporters should ensure that the vehicle carry only one type of food commodity to avoid commingling of food products which lead to contamination.
13. All the guidelines issued by Ministry of Health on COVID 19 must be adhered to (*see Annex I and II*).

## **ANNEX I: MINISTRY OF HEALTH GUIDELINES ON COVID-19 MANAGEMENT**

Considering that the COVID-19 disease has now been classified as a pandemic we are taking precautionary measures. All Kenyans should observe the following:

- i. Regularly and thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ii. Maintain a distance of at least 1 meter (5 feet) between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- iii. Persons with a cough or sneezing should stay home or keep a social distance, but avoid mixing with others in a crowd.
- iv. Maintain good respiratory hygiene by covering your mouth and nose while coughing and sneezing with a handkerchief, tissue, or into flexed elbow.
- v. Stay at home if you feel unwell with symptoms like fever, cough and difficulty in breathing.
- vi. Suspend all public gatherings, meetings, religious crusades games events etc. Normal church services can go on provided they provide sanitizing/and hand washing.
- vii. Suspend all inter – school events, but keep schools open.
- viii. Public transport providers are directed to provide hand sanitizers for their clients and regular cleaning of the vehicles. Matatus should carry the required passengers to maintain social distance, provide sanitizers and their vehicles should be disinfected regularly.
- ix. Temporary suspension of prison visits for the next 30 days.
- x. Kenyans must not abuse social media platforms or indulge in spreading misinformation that can cause fear and panic.
- xi. Travel restrictions outside the country unless absolutely necessary and no travel to disease epicenter countries.

xii. All persons visiting public places such as supermarkets, open air markets, public transport should at all times wear a face mask to reduce the chances of transmission of the virus.

xiii. Utilize the call line facility number 719 to report on any cases regarding the disease and \*719# to receive the correct messages.

## **Annex II: East African Guidelines of Free Movement of Cargo**

The Guidelines are to facilitate the movement of cargo across official border points as follows:

- 1.1. Fumigation of all containers and trucks at point of departure in line with Ministry of health existing directives.
- 1.2. Monitoring of Cargo Crew moving cargo across the border -
  - a) All trucks to have a maximum of two (2) cargo crew consisting of the Driver and the Loader.
  - b) Designating Government recommended hotels/ Lodges within designated trading centers along the transit route for the Cargo Crew.
  - c) Fumigation of Designated hotels/ Lodges and its environments.
  - d) Provision of sanitizers, disinfectant and clean water to enhance hygiene.
  - e) Screening of the Cargo crew from the point of departure, designated screening points along the transit route and point of exit by Port Health officials or such other designated officials.
  - f) To address the fourteen (14) day quarantine requirement and facilitate a quick turn-around of the Cargo crew, designate hotel destinations in other countries.
- 1.3. Designation of fuel collection points from Kenya to other countries destinations shall be limited to Kisumu and Eldoret fuel depots.
- 1.4. Ensure Twenty-Four (24) hours operations at all official border points and enhance resources of the Agencies at the borders for increased efficiency. Where possible, agencies are encouraged to undertake advance processing and clearance of cargo.
- 1.5. In collaboration with the private sector, ensure training of cargo crew on safety precautions to be taken to avoid any spread of Corona (COVID 19), self-monitoring of symptoms and reporting mechanisms.

- 1.6. Enhance information dissemination strategies on Corona (COVID 19) through various media platforms.
- 1.7. Ensure strict enforcement of relevant Health Declarations by Ministry of Health especially for COVID 19 at all official border points.