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## **KENYA PROGRESSIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION**

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### **PRESS RELEASE FROM KENYA PROGRESSIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION ON CORONAVIRUS**

Kenya progressive nurses association has observed the going on around coronavirus and the response by the powers that be concerning this deadly disease and wish to state as follows;

Whereas coronavirus has been declared out of control in China and there are worrying outbreaks in various countries including South Korea, Italy, and Iran, the Kenya government does not seem to notice this, to an extend of allowing Chinese flight into Kenya and not taking necessary steps to quarantine those on board. This means that if incase any of them was under incubation period, we may experience outbreaks also in Kenya. The first contact to those who may develop the disease are nurses.

This will mean that many nurses will be working long stressful shifts during which they are exposed to a great deal of human suffering and the disease itself. As things look, as nurses we are concerned about the availability of personal protective equipment for nurses who may work in close contact with infected patients. No nurse or healthcare worker has been trained to deal with this menace. We will continue to monitor the situation to ensure that nurses are not put at risk during the course of their work

We also wish to remind nurses about looking after themselves and the importance of teaching their patients and colleagues about good infection control and the need to take care of themselves if there is any chance that we could be at risk of contracting this dangerous infection, simply and more effectively hand washing. Nurses are the frontline officers in health care and may also be frontline to exposure to infection and are also frontline of defense in the fight against this new and deadly virus. We ask our government to provide nurses with the vital resources and training they need in the kind of situation we may get into.

The authorities must work round the clock to prevent and prepare for any eventuality at a public health scale, it is only sensible that we should start

preparing ourselves at individual and government level for the arrival of the new and dreadful virus. This will ensure that we are not taken by surprise because if so, the outcome may be more catastrophic.

I therefore call upon all nurses around the country and the globe to be vigilant and to ensure their environment are safe and free from the deadly virus and to take all precautionary steps to limit contracting and the spread of this virus.

**Michael Nyongesa**

**National chairman**

**Kenya Progressive Nurses Association**

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