



Prepared by: **WHITE & CASE**

IFRC COVID-19 Emergency Decree Pro Bono Research: Tanzania

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- ***Questions to be answered by close of business Friday, 27 March are listed below.***
- ***Please be sure to include English translations of relevant text where possible.***

1. Is there coordination between state and non-state actors, e.g. through a national emergency response mechanism?

At the time of writing, there does not appear to be any regimented coordination between state and non-state actors or a formal national emergency response plan in place. That said, the Government of Tanzania indicated that it is coordinating with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other stakeholders in continuing to implement strategies to address COVID-19.¹

- The Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children is the principal governmental body responsible for Tanzania's COVID-19 response.
- The African Union (of which Tanzania is a member) has endorsed the guidance of the African CDC, in collaboration with the WHO, with respect to COVID-19.
- The African CDC is regularly publishing statistical and advisory information on COVID-19.
- There is no official national emergency response mechanism coordinating programs with non-state actors. However, the WHO has reported that it is supporting local authorities to put in place appropriate surveillance measures for early identification of cases and follow-up of contacts.² The WHO is also providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to affected African nations.
- The World Bank and Government of Tanzania are developing the Tanzania Urban Resilience Program (TURP). One of TURP's pillars is Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Response. One of the projects under TURP is DarMAERT Radios, which will assist emergency declarations by equipping Dar es Salaam (Tanzania's most populous city) with emergency radio equipment and related training to expand radio coverage for emergency communication.

2. Is there mention of the role of Red Cross (RC) or humanitarian actors? In what areas/sectors? What responsibilities are ascribed to RC?

- There is no direct mention of the role of the RC with respect to Tanzania's response to COVID-19.

¹ Letter from Ummy Mwalimu, Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children, addressing the nation dated March 16, 2020. [Translated using Google Translate on March 26, 2020]

² <https://www.afro.who.int/publications/situation-reports-covid-19-outbreak-18-march-2020>



- The Government of Tanzania noted that it is coordinating with the WHO in implementing strategies to address COVID-19, and the United Nations Information Centres is sharing global learning platforms provided by UNESCO.
- There is press coverage of Jack Ma of Alibaba's donation of PPE to all African nations.

3. Are there exceptions to travel restrictions that will facilitate the movement of RC/humanitarian relief teams and/or aid across borders? What (if any) quarantine requirements or other conditions are attached?

At the time of writing, Tanzania's borders remain open.³ All entrants will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms.⁴

All travelers (foreign or returning residents) arriving from "COVID-19 most affected countries" will be subject to mandatory isolation for 14 days at their own cost at designated facilities identified by the Government of Tanzania.⁵ After the 14-day quarantine, passengers who have not developed symptoms may leave the facilities but will be required to register personal information for future tracking purposes.⁶

- News outlets and airlines report that all flights to Zanzibar are suspended. The suspension appears to affect tourist flights only,⁷ but there is no publicly-available official document confirming the scope of the suspension.
- There are no official reports or publications concerning exceptions to travel restrictions.
- Chinese billionaire Jack Ma has donated 20,000 testing kits, 100,000 masks and 1,000 protective suits to each of the continent's 54 countries. Ethiopian Airlines is to deliver the masks to each African nation. It is unclear whether these have yet been delivered to Tanzania.⁸

4. Are there exceptions to quarantines, curfews and other restrictions on movement that allow RC/humanitarian organizations access to vulnerable populations (including for psychosocial or non-medical aid)?

All public gatherings (other than for prayer activities) are banned,⁹ but there are no official reports or publications concerning restrictions on movement imposed (e.g., no quarantine or curfews) on persons that have been present in the country for at least 14 days. As such, the current restrictions on movement is not likely to significantly impede RC/humanitarian organizations' access to vulnerable populations (including for psychosocial or non-medical aid) so long as the relevant personnel is already located in Tanzania.

- Tanzania's President has refused to close churches.

³ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003240453.html>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ <https://tz.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003210066.html>; <https://www.flymango.com/en/news-room/all-inbound-flights-to-zanzibar-under-embargo>

⁸ <https://www.nst.com.my/world/world/2020/03/575242/coronavirus-arrives-tanzania-regional-cases-rise>; <https://www.nation.co.ke/news/East-Africa-records-surge-in-coronavirus-infections/1056-5500798-wtao1y/index.htm>

⁹ <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/03/24/coronavirus-tanzania-africa>



5. Have any special legal facilities or exemptions been put in place for the importation of medical aid or other relief items or personnel (International Disaster Response Law)? What (if any) quarantine requirements or other conditions are attached?

There does not appear to be any special legal facilities or exemptions put in place for the importation of medical aid or other relief items at this time. It should be noted that the Government of Tanzania is urging for increased importation of hand sanitizers, disinfectants and face masks and the Tanzania Bureau of Standard has vowed to ensure that the importation and production of such products meet quality standards.¹⁰

6. Is the RC (or humanitarian organizations) categorized as 'essential' or 'emergency' services, for the purposes of exemptions to restrictions on business operations and opening hours?

Presumably not applicable. Though all schools (from primary schools to colleges) have shut down, public gatherings have been banned, and sports competitions have been suspended, there does not appear to be any restrictions on business operations or opening hours on other types of services or businesses.¹¹

7. What other measures are provided in the emergency decrees? (for governmental actors, for communities, for health workers, etc).

The Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children has directed non-state owned institutions to provide the general public with equipment and supplies for washing hands and hand sanitizer.¹² As noted above, the Government of Tanzania is urging for increased production and importation of hand sanitizers, disinfectants and face masks.¹³ Furthermore, the President of Tanzania has directed the supply of screening equipment and protective gear to public workers who are stationed at the country's border posts.

To limit the spread of misinformation about COVID-19, the Prime Minister has directed that information regarding COVID-19 will be released by the Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children, the Prime Minister and the country's top officials.¹⁴ Regional authorities may strengthen public education by use of advertisement, social media and other means.¹⁵ Legal action may be taken against persons who mislead the public or "engage in perversion through social networks" about COVID-19.¹⁶

- The Tanzanian government has banned public gatherings, closed schools and universities, and suspended sporting competitions. Religious institutions remain open and the President has actively encouraged citizens to attend religious services.

8. Have restrictions been adopted or put in place that ban the export of protective medical equipment?

¹⁰ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003220010.html>

¹¹ <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/web-features/coronavirus/how-covid-19-changing-lives-tanzanian>

¹² Letter from Umyy Mwalimu, Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children, addressing the nation dated March 16, 2020. [Translated using Google Translate on March 26, 2020].

¹³ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003220010.html>

¹⁴ <https://moh.go.tz/sw/86-news-and-events/399-waziri-mkuu-aonya-wanaopotosha-kuhusu-corona>

¹⁵ <https://moh.go.tz/sw/86-news-and-events/399-waziri-mkuu-aonya-wanaopotosha-kuhusu-corona>

¹⁶ Ibid.



- The President “directed the supply of screening equipment and protective gear to public workers who are stationed at the country's border post” on 23 March 2020.¹⁷
- There is reported price gouging of PPE and hand sanitizers. The Tanzanian government's response on 22 March 2020 was to urge for more production and importation to control the situation.¹⁸ The government has also indicated in vague terms that it would punish price gouging.
- There are no official restrictions on the export of protective medical equipment

¹⁷ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003240453.html>

¹⁸ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202003220010.html>