



**JAMHUURIYADDA FEDERALKA SOOMAALIYA  
MAAMULKA GOBOLKA BANAADIR  
DOWLADDA HOOSE EE XAMAR**

**PRESS RELEASE:**

13 April 2020

Office of the Mayor and Governor of Benadir Region

H.E Omar Mohamud Mohamed

**Benadir Regional Administrations COVID-19 Strategy:**

The Benadir Regional Administration (BRA) is preparing for Covid19 outbreak predicted to take hold by mid-April to May 2020 in Somalia. BRA has established a COVID-19 Task Force and developed a framework to improve public health management, preparedness and response to the virus. The framework supplements the existing BRA 5-year Strategic Plan and prioritizes vulnerable groups that may be more susceptible particularly, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and urban poor.

The BRA's response framework aligns with WHO guidelines, Global Humanitarian Response Plan and COVID-19 Guide for Local Decision-Makers. At the present time, with only 25 confirmed cases and confirmed reports of community transmission, Somalia is in the 'sporadic' category of infection. The immediate priority is to slow and stop transmission, prevent outbreaks and delay spread. Thus, the strategy encompasses the following objectives:

1. Activate an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and establish a whole-of-community incident management structure;
2. Understand the real-time spread of COVID-19 in the community;
3. Slow and reduce transmission;
4. Focus protection on high risk-groups;
5. Reinforce and expand health system surge capacity to sustain healthcare operations and avoid high mortality and morbidity;
6. Expand risk communication and community engagement; and
7. Mitigate economic and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within the BRA's response framework, there are targeted and concrete activities the framework sets in motion. BRA plans to host a virtual platform in which representatives of local government, private sector, and international partners can gather online with civil society and to operationalize local strategy and exchange experiences on the planned response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**All COVID-19 related activities and programming in the Benadir Region will be facilitated through the EOC. All partners are directed to ensure they coordinate with EOC leadership to improve response and timely delivery.**

**For all COVID-19 related coordination contact EOC leadership :**

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**#KaHortagCOVID19**

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