



Embassy of the Republic of Kenya

Tel-Aviv

KENYA IS EBOLA FREE – GOVERNMENT REASSURES

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has noted with regret that some travelers who had made prior arrangements to visit Kenya for diverse purposes reportedly cancelled or postponed their travels due to fears of the Ebola scourge.

From the outset, the Government of the Republic of Kenya would like to state that not a single case of Ebola infection has been detected in Kenya. However, alive to the fact that the scourge in West Africa is now a global concern, Kenya put in place measures to mitigate the possible entry of the scourge in the country:

1. The Ministry of Health has constituted a Multiagency Ebola Task Force comprising of public health experts and other stakeholders to assess the situation at local, country, regional and global levels and advise the Ministry on response activities. The Task force has been in place for the past four (4) months.
2. In addition, the Ministry has been working with airlines to screen travelers who come from or transit through West Africa. For such travelers, a minimum package of information (including personal details, exact location of origin/transit and presence of any suggestive signs and symptoms) are collected to aid personal risk assessment and daily follow-up for 21 days, if they will still be resident in the country.
3. A Diagnostic laboratory for Ebola and other hemorrhagic fevers has been established at the Kenya Medical Research Centre (KEMRI).

4. Ebola fact sheets and travelers' information sheets indicating mode of infection, signs and symptoms, prevention and appropriate health seeking behavior have also been provided to health workers, incoming and outgoing travelers and to all airlines operating on West African routes.
5. On 19th August, 2014, the Government of Kenya temporarily suspended entry into Kenya of passengers traveling from and through the three West African countries affected by Ebola, namely, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. This suspension applies to all Kenya ports of entry. The suspension excludes Health Professionals supporting efforts to contain the outbreak and Kenyan citizens returning home from those three countries. However, such passengers will undergo extensive screening and thereafter close monitoring and where necessary shall be quarantined.

The foregoing notwithstanding, it is instructive to also note that Kenya has joined the rest of the International Community to fight the Ebola scourge by extending both financial, material and expertise support to Ebola stricken epicenter region of West Africa, which is some 5000 Km away from Kenya.

The Government of the Republic of Kenya therefore wishes to reassure all visitors planning to visit Kenya that the country is safe and Ebola free and that adequate measures have been put in place to ensure the situation remains unchanged.