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MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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**Daily Press Briefing of the Minister of Public Health on the
Management of COVID-19 Pandemic**

Public Health Emergency Operations Centre Yaounde

14 April 2020

- Media professionals;
- Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the Minister of Public Health, Dr. MANAOUDA Malachie, I wish to welcome you once again at the conference room of the Public Health Emergency Operation Centre for our daily press briefing.

I will begin by appreciating all the Cameroonians who have been observing the very high instructions of His Excellency the President of the Republic, through the Prime Minister, Head of Government regarding the 13 and 7 measures for the prevention of the current pandemic response plan in our country, and I urge those who are still resistant to these measures to comply with immediately.

As the pandemic entered the community transmission phase, we continue to call on the maximum collaboration of the population to respect all preventable measures as well as contacting our services for their assistance.

With regard to the prevention of the pandemic, I would like to insist on the proper use of personal protective equipment, especially the usage of face masks that is unavoidable at this time, as clearly stipulated by Government measures.

I have observed unacceptable increase in prices of some pharmaceutical products since the onset of COVID-19 cases in our country, especially with face masks and other products. I wish to insist that it is intolerable with such practices and dishonesty to our population. Our team will continue to hunt for this dishonest pharmacists in collaboration with brigades made up of competent technical services of the Ministry of Commerce which will focus on the evaluation of prices levied on products.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Au personnel de santé qui est au centre de la gestion des patients atteints de COVID-19, j'adresse toute ma gratitude pour tous vos efforts quotidiens inlassables pour sauver les vies de nos populations. Grâce à votre expertise, nous avons pu enregistrer deux accouchements successifs de

bébés sains nés de mères positives à la COVID-19, à l'Hôpital Central de Yaoundé.

Bien que nous ayons enregistré **02** décès, le nombre de personnes guéries ce jour est de **28**. ce qui est une bonne nouvelle pour nous. J'interpelle une fois de plus chaque camerounais à signaler au **1510**, toute personne présentant les symptômes de COVID-19 pour un dépistage rapide et une prise en charge appropriée.

Cependant, la population doit s'abstenir de tout comportement qui l'empêche de se rendre dans les formations sanitaires lorsqu'elle souffre de pathologies autres que la COVID-19 pour des raisons erronées. De telles attitudes contribuent à la détérioration de leur état de santé. Je voudrais préciser ici que la COVID-19 n'est ni une maladie honteuse, ni invalidante. Elle n'élimine non plus la présence d'autres maladies qui continuent de tuer les patients.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would not end this press briefing without reminding our population to continue to respect measures that protect us and our love ones. These include:

- **systematically wear masks in public spaces;**
- **regularly wash hands with clean running water and soap or use an alcohol-based solution;**
- **covering your nose and mouth with a disposable tissue when coughing, sneezing or using a bent elbow;**
- **complying with social distancing measures.**

In conclusion, I urge Cameroonians to continue to use appropriate and suitable masks as they get to public milieu, while I recommend maximum staying a home as the best preventive measure.

Thank you for your kind attention,

God bless Cameroon.