



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH

EMERGENCY NATIONAL COUNCIL ON HEALTH (NCH) MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ONLINE PLATFORM ON TUESDAY, 23RD JUNE 2020

COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

OPENING SESSION

1. An Emergency Meeting of the National Council on Health (NCH) was convened on Tuesday, 23rd June 2020. The meeting commenced at 10:20am. The National Council on Health, as provided for in the National Health Act (2014), is the highest policy making body on matters relating to health in Nigeria. Membership of the Council consists of the Honourable Minister of Health who is the Chairman of the Council, the Honourable Minister of State for Health, State Commissioners for Health of the 36 States, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretariat of the Federal Capital Territory. The Secretary of the Council is the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Health.

2. The Emergency NCH Meeting, which held as a virtual meeting, was chaired by the Honourable Minister of Health, Dr. Osagie E. Ehanire. The meeting was attended by the Hon. Minister of State for Health, Dr. (Senator) Olorunnimbe Adeleke Mamora; Permanent Secretary (Federal Ministry of Health), Mr. Abdulaziz Mashi Abdullahi; State Commissioners for Health from 25 States (Jigawa, Bauchi, Borno, Kebbi, Lagos, Edo, Kaduna, Sokoto, Kano, Kogi, Yobe, Niger, Imo, Rivers, Cross Rivers, Enugu, Anambra, Katsina, Ekiti, Kwara, Plateau, Osun, Ogun, Nasarawa, Gombe); the Ag. Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretariat of the FCT and Representative of Akwa Ibom (PSH) State Commissioner for Health.

3. Heads / CEOs and representatives of Departments, Agencies and Parastatals of the Federal Ministry of Health, State Ministries of Health, and the Health & Human Services Secretariat of the Federal Capital Territory Administration; as well as

representatives of development partners, civil society organizations, and health professional associations were also in attendance.

4. The meeting started with self-introduction followed by a Brief Welcome Remark delivered by the Hon. Minister of State for Health and a Brief Opening Remark by the Hon. Minister of Health. Thereafter, the Permanent Secretary (FMOH) highlighted the Procedure for Conducting the Council Meeting.

COUNCIL SESSION

5. The Draft Agenda of the meeting was amended and adopted based on a motion moved by the Hon. Commissioner (Ogun State) and seconded by the Hon. Commissioner (Bauchi State).

6. Council Session witnessed technical presentations on the Health Sector COVID-19 Pandemic Response Plan and the Community Management Initiative to Reduce Transmission of COVID-19 Through the Establishment of Community Support Centres (CSCs). Each of the presentations was followed by questions and comments from participants. Thereafter, some states gave updates on their COVID-19 response efforts and challenges.

RESOLUTIONS

7. Council noted the development of the Health Sector COVID-19 Pandemic Response Action Plan and the proposed establishment of Community Support Centres (CSCs), in the first instance, in high burden states (Lagos, Kano, and FCT) towards reducing community transmission of COVID-19. Council also noted the progress of work/support by all stakeholders and challenges encountered in the containment of the COVID-19 pandemic across the states of the federation.

8. Based on the technical presentations, states' updates, and deliberations at the meeting, the Council approved the Health Sector COVID-19 Pandemic Response Action Plan

9. Council also made the following resolutions:

- i. The Draft Guideline on Basic Health Care Provision Fund, which was earlier scheduled for presentation to Council, should be stepped down for presentation at a later time after further necessary consultations
- ii. COVID-19 Community Support Centres (CSCs) should not be established as parallel centres but as additional options to relieve the burden of service delivery on existing facilities

- iii. States are to own and lead the implementation of the COVID-19 Community Support Centres (CSCs) where desirable
 - iv. FMOH will share a Template on Needs Assessment and Daily Reporting Format on Case Management to facilitate decision making for federal government support to states
10. The Communique was adopted upon a motion by the Hon. Commissioner for Health (Osun State) seconded by the Hon. Commissioner for Health (Yobe State).

CLOSING

11. The meeting was declared closed at 2:00pm by the Hon. Minister of Health following a motion for adjournment by the Hon. Commissioner for Health (Nasarawa State) seconded by the Hon. Commissioner for Health (Ogun State) and vote of thanks by the Director of Policy and Planning, Federal Ministry of Health.