

PRESS RELEASE

UN staff in Ghana work remotely to ensure continuity of our support to the country

Accra, 13 March 2020 – At the global, regional and country levels, the United Nations is working closely with governments to support preparedness and response to address the global COVID-19 outbreak. The UN team in Ghana, through the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) is working with the government to strengthen preparedness and response efforts.

As many organizations and businesses worldwide, the UN has also taken measures to ensure it can continue its work to support countries towards peace, stability and prosperity for all the people we serve—and to continue addressing health-related or other types of emergencies. Such preparedness plan has also been set for UN team in Ghana, even before the first cases of COVID-19 was confirmed by the Government on 12 March.

One of the two cases of COVID-19 announced by the Government is a UN staff member who worked in one of the UN buildings up until the morning of 12 March 2020. To ensure the safety of all staff in that building and the continuation of our work for sustainable development, the United Nations in Ghana has decided, as a precautionary measure, that staff on those premises should work from home. This measure is taken temporarily, and decisions are taken in coordination with the national authorities. This supports containment of COVID-19 and is in line with United Nations worldwide standard Business Continuity Procedures. Other staff working in other UN entities' premises continue working in the office normally.

As United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres [says](#), the World Health Organization's characterization of a pandemic “is a call for action – for everyone, everywhere” adding that as we fight the virus “we cannot let fear go viral.” The United Nations is [actively addressing the global COVID-19 outbreak](#) on several fronts - from situation reports and technical guidelines, through funding and partnerships, to advice for the public. We continue working closely with global experts, governments and partners to rapidly expand scientific knowledge on this new virus, to track the spread and virulence of the virus, and to provide advice to countries and individuals on measures to protect health and prevent the spread of this outbreak. In this effort, the United Nations in Ghana stand by the Government and people of Ghana, as it has done for the past 62 years.

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