**A REPORT ON THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND ITS EFFECTS**

**INITIATION**

The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-Related Coronavirus 2, known as Covid-19, famously known as just Corona Virus emerged in the wet markets of Wuhan, China, December 2019. The virus requires a living host to reproduce itself. The virus may be contracted when an uninfected person makes contact with his/her eyes, nose or mouth and after being exposed to an infected person’s body fluid(sputum). From there the virus will go straight to the epithelial cells of the lungs where it injects its genetic codes and the virus is constantly reproduced till it overwhelms the immune system.

Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and may recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness that may even lead to death.

Due to the fact that there are no vaccines for the virus, we will all have to socially engineer our behavior to act as a ‘social vaccine’, which may include washing of our hands regularly or the use of an alcohol based rub, maintaining a social distance amongst ourselves (at least 2metres) and not touching our faces.

**CORONA VIRUS IN AFRICA**

Though the Covid-19 virus has been in circulation since December, 2019, there was no confirmed case of the virus in Africa until February 14, 2020 in Egypt. Due to the infectivity of the virus the World Health Organisation has to issue a Global Pandemic which has caused the partial and total lockdown of many nations of the world, Nigeria included. Currently the virus stands at a sum of 2,531,804 confirms cases worldwide with 23,517 from Africa. At this number the World Health Organization has advised nations of the world to adhere to a strict quarantine in order to aid the hospitals of the world from being overwhelmed which currently may cause an increased death rate which already stands at 174,336 with 1,160 from Africa. Due to Nigeria’s poor health infrastructure adherence to this advice may be our only hope with the of Africa being the next epicenter of the virus.

**CORONA VIRUS IN NIGERIA**

**Nigeria’s** first case was on the 28th of February, 2020, the infected patient being an Italian citizen who worked in Lagos, Nigeria had just flown back from Milan. Subsequently, Nigeria tried to control the situation until the situation escalated when infected foreign Nigerian returnees which forced the Federal Government to declare a two weeks lockdown and compulsory self-isolation on 30th March, 2020 which was extended by two more weeks on 13th April.

The **Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)** is the nation’s leading public health institution, under the Ministry of Health and is headquartered in Abuja. Their main aim is to protect the health of Nigerians by evidence based prevention, integrated disease surveillance and response activities guided by research and by a skilled workforce. So far the NCDC has been able to announce a total of 665 confirmed cases, 188 recovered and 22 deaths, which would have been good figures if not for the fact that only 8003 citizens have been tested in a nation of 206.14 million citizens. This only proves the prediction of Nigeria’s lack of competence in handling this pandemic.

**EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN ON NIGERIA**

The entire effect of the corona virus has been immensely felt by the developed nations of the and nonetheless it has been heavily felt by Nigerians nationwide. These effects include:

* Demand will fall but general expenditure will rise

By this I mean that certain markets in Nigeria will have to face a huge loss due to the loss of consumer demands for that those products. This fall in household consumption has led to mass frustration. One of the markets affected includes the aviation sector, where it has been project the aviation market has been said to have a loss of at least $9,000,000 per day and so far the aviation sector has already lost about half a trillion in managing the planes. This problem on a governmental level means declining net exports and increased government expenditure in trying to curb/flatten the corona curve.

* Disruption of the Nation’s Economy

The outbreak of the Covid-19 has led to a great drop in net exports in Nigeria, with the price of oil being one of the most felt falling from $65 per barrel to -$15 and also a great drop in exports of agriculture due to enforced borders to across nations. The **IMF** has forecasted that the GDP of Nigeria may fail by 2.0 to 2.5 percent causing Nigeria to face one of its worst felt inflation in history with overflow of money with little to no available resources due to closed businesses.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the Covid-19 has terribly impacted the lives of various Nigerians living the below average to suffer and possibly starve to death. Also, causing the ignorant youths of this nation to be at an all-out brawl with the Nigerian army and police force causing the loss of lives even more than the corona outbreak.

We can only wait and hope for a means of curbing this viral disease while we try our best to uphold the rule of this lockdown period so as the labour of our heroes past shall never be in vain.