

# POLITICS OF CORONAVIRUS IN AFRICA: AN ANALYSIS OF KENYA AND NIGERIA

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## ABSTRACT

The world has experienced several epidemics posing serious threat to public health across the globe, the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic continues from December 2019 till date in Asia, America, Europe, and Africa in general. In Africa, particularly Kenya and Nigeria as the low number of cases is increasing on daily basis which affect the economy of the two countries. This paper achieved the following objectives to examine the genesis of Covid-19, to analyze the political and economic undertones of Covid-19, to investigate the affect of Covid-19 on social lives and to examine measures taken in addressing Covid-19 between Kenya and Nigeria. This research adopted a descriptive research design as it was found appropriate for the study. A secondary data was considered as the main instrument for data collection. Data was collected from Newspapers, Journals and Reports among others. The data collected was analyzed based on the thematic content analysis. The conceptual data was transcribed and categorized in line with the objectives of the study. The findings of this paper revealed that COVID-19 outbreak creates substantial additional strain on already overburdened social service delivery systems, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of the populations affected. World Bank is bringing out a quick-track \$14 billion plan to improve the reaction to COVID-19 in developing countries and shorten the time for recovery. Another finding showed that Kenya and Nigeria banned public gathering in churches, Mosque, Schools and restriction of traveling from one state to another to curtail the spread of the COVID-19. This paper is important as it enriches the politics of COVID-19 not only in Kenya and Nigeria but also across the globe.

**Keywords:** Corona Virus, COVID-19, Economy, Disease, Politics.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The origin of human viruses such as SARS, EBOLA, SPANISH FLU, HIV, YELLOW FEVER call for various countries across the globe to pay attention on their spatial spread in cooperating national health disaster emergency response as part of political will. A range of human viruses follow each of these patterns, reflecting the relative rates of viral gene flow, time of association with human populations, and the precise mode of transmission. It is also possible for single viruses to possess multiple phylogeographic patterns depending on the spatial scale under consideration [21] [26] [56].

Relatively strong spatial subdivision is characteristic of the hepatitis C virus, in which genetic diversity is partitioned into a series of types and subtypes, each of which has a distinct geographical distribution and is often associated with particular risk groups [63]. The global transmission of human influenza A virus might therefore follow a source-sink model. Under this scenario, viral transmission is highly seasonal in temperate regions, where influenza is strongly associated with the winter season, such that these geographical regions act as sink populations, with local viral extinction in the summer season. Conversely, influenza has a more annual pattern of transmission in tropical regions, including Southeast Asia, which might act as global source populations [73]. The influence of the slave trade on the global spread of human viral infections is even more clearly in the case of Yellow fever virus (YFV).

Some have claimed that yellow fever may have been resident in the New World long before European colonization, but recent molecular analyses provide compelling evidence that YFV moved from Africa to the Americas during the slave trade, with a subsequent east-to-west transmission wave across the Americas [8].

The epidemic of SARS corona virus (SARS CoV) over 8000 people were infected globally during 2003 and more than 800 people were approximately death. Thorough epidemiological investigations have discovered that the ultimate source of SARS-CoV is a group of related viruses that widely circulated in terms of bat species [37]. However, the spread of the virus in humans was most likely facilitated by exposure to secondarily infected civet cats on sale in markets in Southern China [27].

The Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918 was very severe, because more than 20 to 30 million people worldwide were killed with unusually high death rates among young, healthy adults [14]. The influenza summer of 1918 was extremely contagious although caused few deaths. In late August, a dangerous form of the disease emerged and swept the entire world within 10 weeks, more than 10,000 people were killed within one week across the United State cities as a result of this pandemic [14].

In West Africa between 2013 to 2016 epidemic of Ebola virus disease was magnitude and changed our perspective on this lethal but sporadically emerging virus. This outbreak also marked the beginning of large-scale real time molecular epidemiology. A total of 28, 616 cases of EVD and more than 10,310 deaths were reported in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. More than 36 cases and 15 deaths people were occurred when the outbreak spread outside the aforementioned countries above [21].

The whole covid-19 issue began with a drama according to BBC Mr. Li the first doctor to discover covid-19 in China warn the medical community about the disease by telling them that in December 2019 he saw a cases, but he was told to keep quite by the Chinese authority before weeks later was infected with the disease. Subsequently he died in February 6, 2020 at 2130 local time [4]. According to (WHO) director general we don't know the source of the outbreak we don't know what the natural reservoir is and don't properly understand its transmissibility or severity [68]. BBC health editor hug pym reported that UK chief medal officer professor Chris Witty added as long as covid-19 stays like that other countries including UK should be able to get prepared to death with few dozens cases if it became a pandemic before the extensive global travel interactions and the availability of medical equipment's by nations states around the world [4]. Professor Raina Macintyre from Kirby institute said obviously the world are watching closely, How WHO handle the Covid-19, that WHO has delayed in declaring the disease a world pandemic, this is because people are hacking their experiences from Ebola pandemic [4].

According to WHO director general covid-19 could pose a greater global threat than terrorism and if the world don't consider this enemy virus as public enemy number one I don't think we will learn from our lessons [4]. Peter Stefanovic sky news reporter revealed that Chinese authorities Lies about covid-19 that they knew about it even before it was admitted. This information was deliberately withheld, that the communist party has continue to cover-up its impact and the death of people in Wuhan china [64]. Within 28 march 2020, the outbreak of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19), more than 2,000, 000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported across the world with hundreds of thousands were deaths. On the other hand, Over the years government have directly or indirectly battling with different types of viruses which has enormous consequences on social, political and economic sphere of lives. Yet, our understanding of how to plan and contain future assurances is far from reality hence corona virus [3]. This study investigates the politics behind Corona Virus an analysis of Kenya and Nigeria as a case study.

### **1.1 Statement of the Problem**

The prevalence of corona virus pandemic in Kenya and Nigeria has cause public outcry. Globally, more than 4 million people were confirmed cases with corona virus and over 250 thousand people were deaths as result of COVID-19 pandemics [75]. In Nigeria more than 4,000 people were affected with the Corona Virus and 200 people were deaths [49]. While in Kenya more than 600 people were confirmed affected with COVID-19 and over 25 people were deaths [42]. These COVID-19 have disrupted the Churches, mosques, industries, shops, malls, and social centers across the world, streets deserted, families, friends and associates are no longer in contact. The Corona virus has adversely affected the economic development and political institutions of Kenya and Nigeria.

Several studies have been conducted on the Corona virus across the globe. For instance, [14] [21] [63] [52] [54] [26][56]. However, none of such studies was conducted in Kenya and Nigeria. This study therefore, sought to fill the

knowledge gap on the genesis of Covid-19, political and economic undertones of Covid-19, effect of Covid-19 on social lives and the measures taken in addressing Covid-19 between Kenya and Nigeria from the political point of view.

## 1.2 Research Objectives

- i. To examine the genesis of Covid-19
- ii. To analyze the political and economic undertones of Covid-19 between Kenya and Nigeria countries
- iii. To investigate the affect of Covid-19 on social lives between Kenya and Nigeria countries
- iv. To examine the measures taken in addressing Covid-19 between Kenya and Nigeria

## 2. RELATED LITERATURE

Many studies have found that population health, as measured by life expectancy, infant and child mortality and maternal mortality is positively related to economic welfare and growth [28]. There are many channels through which an infectious disease outbreak influences the economy. Direct and indirect economic costs of illness are often the subject of the health economics studies on the burden of disease. The conventional approach uses information on deaths (mortality) and illness that prevents work (morbidity) to estimate the loss of future income due to death and disability. Losses of time and income by careers and direct expenditure on medical care and supporting services are added to obtain the estimate of the economic costs associated with the disease. This conventional approach underestimates the true economic costs of infectious diseases of epidemic proportions which are highly transmissible and for which there is no vaccine (e.g. HIV/AIDS, SARS and pandemic influenza). The experience from these previous disease outbreaks provides valuable information on how to think about the implications of COVID-19 [39].

The HIV / AIDS virus impacts families, companies and governments by affecting labor supply decisions; labor productivity and family income; increased business costs and foregone investment in corporate staff training; and increased public spending on health services and public sector programs for disabled and orphaned children. By much more infectious than HIV is the influenza virus and the advent of an outbreak can be sudden and unpredictable [28]. The COVID-19 virus tends to be very infectious too. The fear of Spanish influenza 1918-19, the "historically deadliest plague," with its extreme severity of clinical symptoms, is still present in research and the general community. The fear factor affected the world's response to SARS-a corona virus that was not previously identified in humans [61].

Studies of the macroeconomic impact of the SARS outbreak in 2003 found major impacts on economies through substantial reductions in the production of different products and services, an rise in company operating costs and a re-evaluation of country risks reflected in increased risk premiums. Shocks were transmitted to other economies according to the degree of exposure, or vulnerability, to the disease of the economies. Given a relatively low number of cases and deaths, the global costs were substantial and not limited to the countries directly affected [37]. There were only a few economic cost analyses of large-scale infectious disease outbreaks is an instance of an early study of influenza's economic impact [60].

[40] Analyze the possible economic consequences of the influenza pandemic in the US and evaluate various measures based on the vaccines. At a gross attack rate (i.e., the number of individuals contracting the virus from the overall population) of 15-35%, the number of deaths from influenza is 89-207 thousand, and an estimated cumulative economic cost for the US economy is \$73.1-\$166.5 billion. Using Oxford's economic forecasting model to estimate the possible economic effects of a pandemic as a result of avian influenza strain mutation. They expect a mild pandemic with an attack rate of 20 percent and a case-fatality rate of 0.5 percent, and a 3 percent consumption shock. Scenarios involve two-quarters of demand deflation in Asia alone (combined impact 2.6 per cent of Asian GDP or US\$ 113.2 billion); a longer-term shock with a longer outbreak and a greater shock to consumption and export produces a loss of 6.5 per cent of GDP (US\$ 282.7 billion). Global GDP is down by 0.6 percent, worldwide contracts for goods and services by \$2.5 trillion (14 per cent) open economies are more vulnerable to international shocks [40].

## 2.1 Theoretical Framework

### Biological Weapons Theory

Biological weapons theory intentionally release of any agents such as germs, bacteria, and other viruses used to cause people illness or death in animals, or plants [9] [38]. These biological weapons are classified into three agents. First agent concentrated on person to person transmitting or contact. The result of this virus can cause high mortality rates and most likely can also cause public health impact. They might cause public panic and social disruption across the globe, and require special action for public health awareness. Second agent is very easy to spread. They result deal with moderating the condition of the disease rates and reducing the level of death which require detailed improved diagnostic capacity and disease surveillance. Third agent deals with emerging agents that could be engineered for mass spreading in the future because of their availability. They are easy to produce and disseminate. They were potentially linked to high morbidity and mortality rates, and major health impact [9]. BWs are relatively easy and inexpensive to produce, cause death or disabling disease, and can be distributed over large geographic areas across the globe [38].

This theory concentrates on the first agent that disseminates or transmits the virus to cause illness from one person to another toward achieving their own goals. For instance, during 1754-1767 the French-Indian War the British commander ordered the distribution of infected blankets with smallpox disease to defy the population of Indian tribes hostile to the British. The distribution of infected blankets occurred in the summer of 1763, and the recovery of the virus among the indigenous population lasted for more than 220 years [6].

Actually, over the past century, there is only one confirmed case of a biological weapons attack by one country on another, Japan's arresting against China within 1930s to 1940s. It has been suggested that reasons for this may stem from fear of retaliation or the difficulties of controlling effects on civilians and combatants. Most countries possessing biological weapons claim their purpose is to deter attacks or use biological weapons against others countries [23].

Currently, the people claim that corona virus was man-made. Zhao Lijian, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, has repeatedly promoted the idea without evidence that covid-19 might have originated in the United State. On 12, March 2020, he said in a tweet that it might have been the United State army that brought the virus to Wuhan. A day later, he tweeted an article by the Website Research headlined "Further evidence that the virus originated in the United State" [62].

President Trum recently announced that he was going to halt funding for the World Health Organization (WHO), accusing it of being "very China-Centric". In response, Director- General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said it was "not the time" to cut funds to the United Nations Agency. But a number of United State politician and commentators have also made unfounded claims about the origin of the virus. Fox News Primetime host Tucker Carlson cited a study raising the possibility that the corona virus "accidentally escaped from a lab in Wuhan" [62].

Botao Xiao and Lei Xiao from Guangzhous South China University of Technology concluded that "the killer corona virus probably originated from a laboratory in Wuhan". But Mr. Xiao has since told the Wall Street Journal that he subsequently withdrew the study. "the speculation about the possible origins in the post was based on published papers and media and was not supported by direct proofs". The Wall Street Journal quoted him as saying [62]. The Biological Weapon theory emphasis that the first agent (proponent) transmits the virus to cause illness from one person to another toward achieving the specific goals.

## 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Research Design

This research adopted a descriptive research design as it was found appropriate for the study. More so, the choice of this research design was because it enabled the study to use in depth information within the studied area.

### 3.2 Data Collection Instrument

A secondary data was considered as the main instrument for data collection in the study. Data was collected from Newspapers, Journals and Reports among others.

### 3.3 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data collected was analyzed based on the thematic content analysis. The conceptual data was transcribed and categorized in line with the objectives of the study.

## 4. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

### 4.1 Origin of corona virus

According to Josephine MA china editor morning post, what we have found is that there are actual cases of covid-19 in November, 2019 [65] [32]. The market which was said to have been where the disease emanated is still operating in Wuhan. Similarly, covid-19 according to Sylvia Braind World Health Organization the virus is transmitted through droplets; you need a close contact before you get infected. Moreover, a member for the federal house of representative (deputy minority leader) Toby Okechukwu said that corona virus has been forced on Nigeria and it has gotten to community transmission [10].

Mr. Li was the first doctor to discover corona virus in China warn the medical community about the disease by telling them that in December 2019 he saw a cases, but he was told to keep quite by the Chinese authority before weeks later was infected with the disease. The Chinese police called doctor Li and warn him “if you keep being stubborn, with such impertinence and continues this illegal activity, you will be brought to justice. Is that understood.”? Doctor Li signed “*Yes I do*”. Subsequently Doctor Li died in February 6, 2020 at 2130 local time. The news of his death triggered a worse of reaction by many Chinese on social media, shortly government officials then decided to control the flow of information by ordering the doctor to be put back in life support and to change all official media report from death to in critical condition. Shortly, after few days 20/1/2020 China declare a state of emergency of the virus. On the other hand official in china insist that the virus is transacted to only those that get in contact with animals which was not true [4].

Taiwain Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Joanne Ou added that China is putting political interest over people health [4]. However, according to Stephen McDonnell BBC China Because of information flows surveillance and politics of information in China they refused to traced the virus or checked it not until after four weeks from the first infection in Wuhan china when China notifies WHO and things are about to get worse at a time when China are about to celebrates their luna year where millions of Chinese around the world begin to travel for the festivity [4].

Life seems to go back to normally in Wuhan by official declaration by the china authorizes on Wednesday, April 2020, but we are now learning the cover- up of china cases, the virus which was said to have been originated from animal bat market in Wuhan to human, tens of hundred were infected within days like a wild fire, doctors who tried to alert officials are harassed or ignored some have even disappeared. Chinese authorities said the first case of covid-19 was discovered in 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019 which was a lie [64].

According to Peter Sky news there is panic and anger in US on fights against the covid-19 pandemic, because US president repeatedly dismiss the US outbreak but it is a ravaging other nations, blaming the democrat party of politicizing covid-19 that it is a new “Hoax” [69]. However, expert predict covid-19 will kill hundreds of thousands of Americans life because they may not Have the supplies to meet demand that they would soon be force to decide who gets treated and who gets left to die [65].

Chris chapo reported that according to Tedros WHO boss there is no reasons for measures that are unnecessary interfere with international travel and trade he added that “*the least intrusive measures possible and strong protection for freedom of movement and other human rights*” [65]. Chris Chapo reported that, US is the biggest funder of WHO, but it’s rife with corruption and it has done some sketchy things when it comes to Chinas corona virus outbreak thereby putting lives at risk [12].

According to Natasha Kassam “Taiwains exclusion from WHO leaves its population vulnerable during this covid-19 crisis, a lack of direct and timely channels to the WHO have already resulted inaccurate reporting of cases in Taiwan” [48]. “These have also been surge in internal corruption allegations across the whole of the organization, with the detection of multiple schemes aide at defrauding large sums of money from the international body. The internal risk assessment documents also reveal an upsurge of internal complaints of corruption, fraud and even

sexual harassment from across the, 7000-strong organization, overwhelming an internal team of four- full time investigators and two consultants. Yet, the WHO division leading the global response to the corona virus outbreak is so chronically underfunded it has repeatedly been found to pose a “severe” and “unacceptable” level of hazard some people are in WHO are scarring a lot of money and getting rich, while the corona virus team is way underfunded [1].

Professor Lawrence Gostin said “we were deceived myself and other public health experts, based on what the WHO and China were saying, reassured the public that This was not serious that we could bring this under control” [27]. According to Aljazeera US president Trump opposes WHO for cover- up over covid-19 and not supporting travel ban and the general holding of covid-19 pandemic that WHO is China centric until WHO activities is reviewed [70]. Trump call World Health Organization decisions are dangerous over covid-19 pandemic [69]. Tension and mixed reaction as protesters in the US popped into the streets in some cities calling for the government the ease restrictions supported by Donald trump amidst the covid-19 crisis, built some governors are against the action [1]. According to sky news China is set to construct center for disease prevention and control in Addis Ababa where must people see it as a payback to Tedros co-operation and blending with China [12].

#### 4.2 Politics of Corona Virus in Nigeria and Kenya

Just like any other African country Nigeria and Kenya are struggling to manage corona virus in a channels TV program hard copy. Terry Kumi reported that the secretary to the government of Nigerian federation is not aware of the devastating conditions of the healthcare facilities in Nigeria until he is call to work in covid-19 presidential task force cities. If Italy, Spain, France in Europe cannot contain this virus I’m afraid for Nigeria [45]. Similarly a member for the federal house of representative (deputy minority leader)Toby okechukwu said that virus has been forced on Nigeria and it has gotten to community transmission, he added that they are not satisfied with what the ministry of humanitarian and disaster is doing we are therefore, asking for a reform [53].

The stimulus bill pass by the government seems not working, two months, free electricity also seems not forthcoming in respect to covid-19 relief, the salary donations decided by the House of Representatives leadership is facing mixed reactions by the PDP law makers [53].

According to Chinese ambassadors to Nigeria zhou pingjian china has brought a team of medical doctors to support Nigeria in the fight against covid-19 because of the mutual test between the two countries in area of trade and diplomacy co-operations [46]. Similarly, Nigerian minister of conformation, Lai Mohammed in an interview with TVC news said that Chinese doctors are not in Nigeria to treat any covid-19 patients but rather they came to install and coach Nigerian doctors and technicians on how to use 256 items brought by group of Chinese companies operating in Nigeria [46].

#### 4.3 Politics and Economy of COVID 19

As the global response, state reaction is influenced by what is known in critical health sociology as a 'risk environment thesis' characterized by the view that a pandemic is so terrifying and of such a severe nature that the nation-state should take any and all steps to secure the nation without intervention of the people. For instance, in Sierra Leone the government provided multiple alerts and also separated heavy-risk areas in the provinces in an effort to counter the Ebola outbreak in the region. For instance, a curfew was enforced in the Kailahun district starting at 7 pm daily and motorcycles and cars across the nation were permitted to run only on a temporary basis during the day. Assembly places such as pubs, cinemas, classrooms, and markets across the world were closed. Travelling in and out of the remote villages was often heavily hampered by police and military officers controlled road blocks [52]. Throughout the Ebola outbreak and subsequently, the World Health Organization regularly published data on the number of cases and deaths on its official country-level website. Overall, these numbers indicate a similarly troubling effect on the West African region from the Ebola crisis [52].

Disasters are not physically disastrous they occur at the crossroads between earthquakes, typhoons or disease outbreaks and the detail social, economic and political environment in which these events occur. In contemporary times, with a \$23 billion program of humanitarian assistance and considerable national and global public health resources, the magnitude of hurricanes is increasingly determined by a second interaction between distressed populations and the efficacy of response to their crisis [74].

The states participate a significant role in the prevention, regulation and eradication of possible public health risks. Productive capacity and basic infrastructure investments are also key to positive health initiatives. It is also necessary for governments to ensure an effective distribution of public resources, despite the financial constraints [66].

Nevertheless, needs-based targeting in culturally diverse and divided societies can be difficult. There has been data, for instance, that distributive policy prevalence can deny many of a fair share of public goods and raise susceptibility to psychopathy-economic shocks [25] [7] [35]. The above assertion echoed the opinion of a UNICEF Report:

A cluster of cases of unknown aetiology of pneumonia was reported in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, on 31 December 2019. China CDC identified a new corona virus as the causative factor of this epidemic that is phylogenetically present in the SARS-CoV clade, on 9 January 2020. The virus-related illness known as the novel 2019 coronavirus illness COVID-19. As of 11 March 2020, more than 100 countries globally reported 118598 cases of COVID-19. Since late February, the majority of these cases identified are from beyond China, with a rising number coming from EU/EEA countries and the UK. COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on 11 March 2020 by the Director-General of the World Health Organization [72].

UNICEF [72] Articulated that for several countries, particularly those suffering from ongoing humanitarian crises, the COVID-19 outbreak creates substantial additional strain on already overburdened social service delivery systems, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of the populations affected. The urban poor, migrant, internally displaced and refugee communities are especially at risk because they continue to live in overcrowded environments, rendering the practice of social distancing extremely difficult. Such environments too frequently lack consistent access to water facilities and sanitation. Populations on the move will be further exposed to the disease, as vital basic and life-saving services are disrupted by control measures, restricting movement [72]. The report of UNICEF assertions was similar to those of Standard Digital which revealed that:

On the day that Europe's finance ministers accepted a bailout package of \$470 billion (Sh49.8 trillion) for factory workers, corporations and governments, former PM Raila Odinga on Citizen Radio declared that Covid-19 would not "stop reggae" as he prepared the country for a referendum on BBI proposals. Within the same week, the U.S. Congress put an extra touch on another \$2.3 trillion (Sh243.5 trillion) to help the U.S. economy cushion jobs, the poor, and save American businesses from failing [67].

[54] Suggested that the Nigerian government had been struggling with a weak recovery from the oil price shock in 2014 before the pandemic, with GDP growth falling by around 2.3% in 2019. Due to extremely low oil prices and insufficient fiscal space, the IMF updated the 2020 GDP growth outlook from 2.5 percent to 2 percent in February. Counter intuitively, the deficit profile of the country has become a cause of concern for political leaders and development practitioners as the latest estimate places the debt-to-revenue ratio at 60 percent, that is likely to exacerbate in the face of the severe decline in income associated with falling oil prices. These constraints will exacerbate the economic impact of COVID-19 epidemic, Nigeria's state and federal governments should ensure that people going bankrupt or income during the COVID19 pandemic have the privileges to groceries, refuge, and other basic amenities.

[30] Noted that the economic support announced by the government in reaction to the virus has revealed inadequacies in the social security programs in Nigeria, and risks excluding the poor and vulnerable citizens in the country. In relation to this, the above information assents with people going bankrupt or income during the COVID19 pandemic have the privileges to groceries, refuge, and other basic amenities upheld: Human Rights Watch report revealed that:

The Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) Director-General was one of ten international health representatives invited by the World Health Organization to visit China and understudy their approach to response. On behalf of all Nigerians, I am personally very proud of Dr. Ihekweazu for doing so. On April 13, 2020, President Muhammadu Buhari announced that a lockdown in place since March 30 in the neighbouring state of Lagos, Ogun, and the nation's capital, Abuja would continue for

another 14 days. As of 12 April, there were 343 confirmed cases in Nigeria. Many other state governments have also declared absolute or partial lockdowns, including Rivers, Kaduna and Ekiti [30].

The Board of Directors of the World Bank Group today approved \$50 million in urgent funding to support Kenya's response to the global COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic under a new program-the Kenya COVID -19 Emergency Response Project. The project will include financial assistance for diagnostic imaging, monitoring and response facilities, capacity building, quarantine, isolation and treatment centres [77]. World Bank in its emergency response project observed:

This new rapid-track project will support Kenya in its attempts to prevent, identify and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and improve national public health readiness systems, the project will be implemented in all 47 counties of Kenya, with the primary benefits being infected people, at-risk communities, medical and rescue workers, medical and screening facilities, and national health agencies [77].

On April 1, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs started paying Naira 20,000 (US\$ 52) to households enrolled in the 2016 Buhari administration's National Social Registry of Poor and Disadvantaged Households to alleviate poverty. The government said it would provide monthly cash payments for four months for each family on the list. While announcing the shutdown, President Buhari also said that the administration would implemented steps to "maintain the living standards of employees and business owners in order to guarantee that their families get through this very difficult period with dignity. He said that for the next two months, the neediest with our society" will receive conditional cash transfers, while Sadiya Umar Farouq, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, said that food rations would be distributed to vulnerable households. Failure by the government to reveal key information of the cash transfer system has already cast some doubt on how many individuals it covers and who will gain, Human Rights Watch said. On April 4, a nongovernmental organization, the Social and Economic Rights Accountability Project (SERAP), filed a request for freedom of information requesting data about the government's relief funds [30]. This is further supported by HRW who states that:

Nigeria's key significant economic responses to COVID-19 may not sufficiently safeguard people's rights most vulnerable to lack sufficient nutrition, accommodation, and other basic elements, Human Rights Watch said. A 50 billion Naira (USD 128.5 million) focused credit facility has been approved by the Nigerian Central Bank to help households and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic [30].

The funding is the first in a sequence of support to be provided to Kenya by the World Bank in response to COVID-19's unparalleled task. Additionally, US\$ 10 million was caused to fund the National COVID-19 Emergency plan under the Eventuality Emergency preparedness Element of the Transforming Health Systems for Universal Care Project. The World Bank Group is deploying a \$14 billion quick-track package to strengthen the response to COVID-19 in developing countries and shorten the time for recovery. The immediate reaction will include funding, policy advice and technical support to help countries cope with the pandemic's health and financial impact [77]. About this World reaffirmed:

The World Bank Group is bringing out a quick-track \$14 billion plan to improve the reaction to COVID-19 in developing countries and shorten the time for recovery. The initial reaction would include support, policy advice and technical assistance to help countries deal with the pandemic's health and economic impacts. The International Finance Corporation is offering \$8 billion in funding to aid the pandemic-affected private companies and to protect jobs [77].

On March 24, the House of Representatives enacted the 2020 Emergency Economic Stimulus legislation to include a 50 per cent tax refund for workers and company owners who plan not to cut jobs in 2020. Although the legislation could avoid loss of jobs in the formal sector if it goes into effect, it does not contain any provisions for informal jobs [20].



Under international humanitarian law, the state of Nigeria has a duty to uphold the right of individuals to an acceptable standard of life, including sufficient food and education, the highest attainable health quality and the right to social security. Countries must show in economic downturns distress that they may have made a concerted effort to activate all resources available, including foreign assistance, and distribute them in a way that reduces respect for human rights, particularly by considering the precarious position of vulnerable and oppressed individuals or groups. Political leaders are obliged at all times to ensure access to food, water, health care and other essential needs for all, particularly those subject to lockdown and other extreme movement restrictions [24]. Eventually, France 24 was quick to understand the danger of this to which the regrettably affirmed:

A bill titled Emergency Economic Stimulus Act, 2020, was presented and approved by the House of Representatives on 24 March 2020. The proposed law was passed by House of Representatives members as a reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide assistance to Nigerian businesses and individuals. The Bill is part of a concerted effort by the Nigerian federal government to improve the economy and offset the effects of COVID-19 travel restrictions and market disruptions [31].

[33] Noted that bipartisan politics around the globe is becoming the new standard in response to the corona virus pandemic outbreak. The country is having a rendezvous with consensus politics after March 13, when the first case of Covid-19 was identified in Kenya. The desire to see the fight against the pandemic by stability in the country's political leadership is popularizing consensus politics over partisanship and zero-sum models. But compromise democracy has become the new wedge, opening up and amplifying old strongly ideological cleavages and political politics that split rival groups long before the virus struck in the ruling Jubilee coalition. Kenya is fundamentally changed by the Covid-19 crisis. The above narration corresponds of President Kenyatta as far the political impact in Kenya which said:

I applaud our local industry as well, which has stepped into the void. For instance, the Kitui County Textile Company and the National Youth Service represent these efforts and produce large numbers of face-masks. Others such as Shona EPZ Limited and Bedi Investments Limited in Nakuru who produce Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for our frontline medical staff. I urge all those who are in a position to mobilize to supply this need, but we do need to make sure that those involved in this manufacture pay attention to the quality needed for these goods. Other local industries have listened to the rallying cries and turned away their regular commercial products [17].

Nigerian leader Muhammadu Buhari's influential chief of staff has passed away following contracting the novel corona virus, In a leader column, the Nigerian newspaper Daily Trust May,18,2020 wrote that his proximity to the president and Buhari's unshakeable faith in him seen Kyari become the de facto head of government, particularly since the president gave him a complete control. Whether Buhari has undergone a test has not been officially verified, but the president has indeed made repeated broadcast discourses enforcing restrictions to curb the progression of the disease [24]. According to local France 24 revealed that:

The loss of Kyari is a devastating blow to the Buhari presidency. This leaves a gigantic hole in the presidency as it juggles to respond to a coronavirus outbreak which, according to the IMF, is projected to plunge Nigeria's economy into its worst recession in 30 years and fight numerous challenges of terrorism, including a destructive Boko Haram rebellion that left the military strained. The passing of Kyari may also push President Buhari into a fast cabinet shake-up a fact that flies in the face of the president's inclination for slow-paced decision-making. Kyari was among many heavy-profile Nigerian political leaders who contracted the virus. The Bauchi Bala Mohammed and Oyo Seyi Makinde state governors both contracted the virus in March and recovered from it. Kaduna Governor Nasir El-Rufai remains in quarantine [24].

President Kenyatta [17] said looking forward to establishing partners and charities as well as individuals supporting the COVID-19 Fund to support well-structured projects such as these that can provide affordable and nutritious food in the areas of greatest need. An example of such promising efforts includes one being organized between Kenyan distributors of high-tech food and consumer goods and horticultural packages that connect farmers and vendors to

deliver affordable and accessible food to our people. Let us sustain creativity while uniting to provide solutions and organize our actions. Kagwanju also confirmed that:

Effectively demobilizing politics, denying competing political parties, preferences and presidential front-runners in the 2022 election campaign platforms, steps to suppress the virus, including suspension of public meetings, religious services and other social events due to the public health danger. despite this, the political class in Kenya has played a game of hide-and-seek with consensus democracy for decades [33].

Doctors in Nigeria reject the government's invitation to support a Chinese medical team fight coronavirus, local media announced on Monday. On Friday, the government announced an 18-member team of Chinese medical experts would be arriving in Nigeria within days. According to statements by the Daily Post and the Premium Times, the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) criticized the request as poorly-timed and insensitive, raising questions about the effects of a similar team with Italy. The team's primary aim is to provide essential and appropriate medical-care assistance to Nigerian citizens. They always come with appropriate personal protection equipment and medical supplies for the employees [51]. According to Premium time revealed that:

National Orientation Agency (NOA) Director-General Garba Abari further explained the reasons behind the proposed Saturday tour. He said the Chinese medical team had come only to share experiences with the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) and not take direct responsibility for the country's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. According to him, they will share insights about how the pandemic was treated in China, and give our medical teams expert suggestions. Any knowledge the Chinese medical team provides to NCDC will be filtered and implemented to resolve the country's unique difficulties in managing the COVID-19 scourge [58].

[33] Articulated that when the pandemic-related health risks persist, making organizing for the 2022 elections impossible, Kenyatta will have a high order building national consensus around an interim governing arrangement along the lines of the 2008-2013 grand coalition government involving all interests. The advent of the novel coronavirus stopped the political brinkmanship that controlled the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) rallies, which was supposed to pave the way for a referendum ahead of General Elections 2022. Containment of the virus, including cessation of public meetings, worship ceremonies and other social events. President Kenyatta said that:

For several people, the pandemic is still hunting. We've done well in reacting to it so far but we have to continue to remain vigilant. Indeed, as you're President, I will guarantee that we remain vigilant and continue to measure our acts to protect Kenyan lives, our economy and our national peace. I ask all of you to participate me in this critical time to support our families, our communities and our country [17].

Every country needs to act to prepare, respond and recover immediately. The UN program in Kenya supports the government at every level, concentrating on the most vulnerable. Building on our experience with other outbreaks such as Ebola, HIV, SARS, TB and malaria, as well as our long history of working with the private and public sectors, UNDP will help countries respond to COVID-19 as part of their effort to eliminate poverty, reduce inequality [71].

#### 4.4 Social Implication

President Uhuru Kenyatta on his speech indicates that;

The Government is suspending entry into Kenya of all persons travelling from countries that have confirmed cases of Corona virus. Only citizens and foreigners with valid permits will be allowed to enter Kenya provided they proceed to self-quarantine or be quarantined in a government designated facility. This directive will take effect in 48 hours to allow for any passengers who may be en route. This directive will remain in effect for 30 days or otherwise directed by the National Emergency Response Committee [17].

He also added that learning is suspended in all learning institutions with immediate effect. Primary and Secondary Day schools will be closed from 16th March 2020. Boarding schools will close and ensure that students are home by Wednesday, 18th March 2020 and universities and tertiary institutions will close by 20th March 2020. In line with the directive to avoid crowded places, citizens are encouraged to avoid congregating, including in places of worship, minimize attendance in social gatherings including weddings and funerals, and restrict the same to immediate family members. Avoid crowded places such as shopping malls and entertainment premises. Minimize congestion in public transport whenever possible. Limit visitors to hospitalized patients in both public and private hospitals [17]. He added that:

‘Our families, our schools, our way of life, the way we worship, our economy, our businesses, our workers, every single Kenyan stands threatened by this invisible, relentless enemy that is COVID-19 [34].

More so, President Uhuru Kenyatta added that this virus is in nearly all countries and territories on the Globe. It does not care about your religion, the color of your skin or the size of your wallet. Moreover, March 2020 the Kenyan Government banned public gatherings, supermarkets were directed to limit the number of shoppers entering the supermarket at a given time. This directive was meant to ensure social distancing was being observed [47].

Due to outbreak of the Corona virus, the federal Government ordered the closure of all Nigeria institutions to help contain the spread [57]. President Muhammadu Buhari said:

‘As a result of this pandemic the world as we know it was changed. The way we interact with other, conduct our businesses, trade, travel, educate our children and earn our livelihood will be different [57]’.

Public health and social measures to slow or stop the spread of COVID-19 must be implemented with the full engagement of all members of society. WHO has described the levels of COVID-19 transmission with varying public health and social measures depending on the local evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic [76].

NOUN’s Registrar, Felix Edoke, said:

In a statement that Governing Council and Senate of NOUN jointly took the decision in view of the health dangers inherent in the gathering of a large number of people at this time. The National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) wishes to inform the general public, especially our over 25, 000 graduating students, that the 9th convocation ceremonies, scheduled for March 20 and 21, 2020 have been postponed indefinitely [22].

#### 4.5 Measures of Addressing COVID-19 Pandemic

President Uhuru Kenyatta said:

Governments all over the world, including our own, are taking unprecedented steps to arrest the spread of this pandemic and to flatten the curve. Different measures are being taken across the globe depending on every country’s unique circumstances. But what is clear from their experience is that the pandemic is likely to continue spreading with lethal effect without drastic action [34].

He also added that:

Wearing your mask and washing your hands will save lives. Cleaning your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds several times a day, avoiding all areas with people who will be closer to you than 1.5 meters. Heeding and complying with government directives as

well as taking extra care not to expose those who are over 58 Years and have chronic ailments [34].

The Nigeria Minister of State for Health, Mr Olorunnimbe Mamora, said

The government has not lost sight that the country like others is still at high risk. He said following the review carried out by health officials, in Germany, France and Spain had been added to the list of high-risk countries for which Nigeria is paying closer attention on air travels. “We continue to monitor returning travellers that fit our case definition and improve our surveillance, detection and risk communications [22].

President Muhammad Buhari in his speech said:

“Directing the cessation of all movements” in Lagos, Abuja and Ogun for an “initial period” of 14 days. All citizens in these areas are to stay in their homes. Travel to or from other states should be postponed. All businesses and offices within these locations should be fully closed during this period [59]”.

He also added that:

“We will ensure the treatment of confirmed cases while restricting further spread to other states, the restriction would not apply to hospitals and in health care facilities related to manufacturing and distribution [59]”.

As you are aware, the spread of the covid-19 disease is through human contact. On the declaration of the global health emergency, in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines we enhanced surveillance at all points of entry into our country to avert the contact of the disease. Unfortunately, notwithstanding our interventions that included the closure of the Kenyan air space and mandatory quarantine of all inbound passengers, the few persons who had contracted the virus from abroad transmitted it locally [34].

President Uhuru Kenyatta also said that accordingly, to contain and limit the spread of the disease to other parts of the Country, the National Security Council has sanctioned and caused the issuance of the following additional measures, as follows: That there shall be cessation of all movement by road, rail or air in and out of the Nairobi Metropolitan Area; and the counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa [34]. The cessation of movement in and out of Nairobi Metropolitan Area shall be for an initial containment period of 21 days; with effect from 7:00 pm on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. The movement within the Nairobi Metropolitan Area and the Counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa shall continue subject to the nationwide curfew. The cessation of movement within the counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa shall be for an initial containment period of 21 days; with effect from 7:00 pm on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2020. In the intervening period movement in and out of the counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa shall be restricted and supervised by the Kenya Police [34]. The Nairobi Metropolitan Area is designated as Nairobi City County, Part of Kiambu County up to Chania River Bridge (Thika), including Rironi, Ndenderu, Kiambu Town; Part of Machakos County up to Athi-River, including Katani; Part of Kajiado County including Kitengela, Kiserian, Ongata Rongai and Ngong Town; and all other areas as set out in the Order [41].

President Uhuru Kenyatta in his speech added that any person, passenger carrying bicycles, motorcycles, scooters, automobiles, vehicles, vessels, railway wagons or aircrafts shall not be allowed in and out of the Nairobi Metropolitan Area and the counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa. The movement of food supplies and other cargo will continue as normal during the declared containment period through road, railway and air. Any cargo-carrying vehicle or vessel shall be charged to a single driver and designated assistants; all of whom shall be designated as such in writing by the owner or operator of the said vehicle or vessel with reference to that vehicle or vessel [34].

The Nigerian government on Saturday closed all its airports to international flights as authorities try to contain the further spread of the corona virus (Covid-19). It had earlier shut the airports in Port Harcourt, Kano and Enugu but added Lagos and Abuja with effect from March 23 [15].

President Muhammadu Buhari said:

We are working to ensure such as interstate and intercity movements are restricted to prevent further spread. Based on the advice of the Federal Ministry of Health and the NCDC, I am directing the cessation of all movements in Lagos and the FCT for an initial period of 14 days with effect from 11pm on Monday, 30th March 2020. This restriction will also apply to Ogun State due to its close proximity to Lagos and the high traffic between the two States [13].

He also added that all citizens in these areas are to stay in their homes. Travel to or from other states should be postponed. All businesses and offices within these locations should be fully closed during this period. The Governors of Lagos and Ogun States as well as the Minister of the FCT have been notified. Furthermore, heads of security and intelligence agencies have also been briefed [13]. We will use this containment period to identify, trace and isolate all individuals that have come into contact with confirmed cases. We will ensure the treatment of confirmed cases while restricting further spread to other States. This order does not apply to hospitals and all related medical establishments as well as organizations in health care related manufacturing and distribution [13]. Furthermore, commercial establishments such as; a. food processing, distribution and retail companies; b. petroleum distribution and retail entities, c. power generation, transmission and distribution companies; and d. private security companies are also exempted [13].

President Muhammadu Buhari added that all seaports in Lagos shall remain operational in accordance with the guidelines I issued earlier. Vehicles and drivers conveying essential cargoes from these Ports to other parts of the country will be screened thoroughly before departure by the Ports Health Authority. Furthermore, all vehicles conveying food and other essential humanitarian items into these locations from other parts of the country will also be screened thoroughly before they are allowed to enter these restricted areas [13]. Accordingly, the Hon. Minister of Health is hereby directed to redeploy all Port Health Authority employees previously stationed in the Lagos and Abuja Airports to key roads that serve as entry and exit points to these restricted zones. Movements of all passenger aircraft, both commercial and private jets, are hereby suspended. Special permits will be issued on a needs basis [13].

President Muhammadu Buhari said:

From the first signs that Corona virus or COVID-19 was turning into an epidemic and was officially declared a world-wide emergency, the Federal Government started planning preventive, containment and curative measures in the event the disease hits Nigeria. The whole instruments of government are now mobilized to confront what have now become both a health emergency and an economic crisis. For now, the best and most efficient way to avoid getting infected is through regular hygienic and sanitary practices as well as social distancing [13].

He also added that as individuals, we remain the greatest weapon to fight this pandemic. By washing our hands regularly with clean water and soap, disinfecting frequently used surfaces and areas, coughing into a tissue or elbow and strictly adhering to infection prevention control measures in health facilities, we can contain this virus. Since the outbreak was reported in China, our Government has been monitoring the situation closely and studying the various responses adopted by other countries [13]. Indeed, the Director General of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) was one of ten global health leaders invited by the World Health Organization to visit China and understudy their response approach. I am personally very proud of Dr Ihekweazu for doing this on behalf of all Nigerians. Since his return, the NCDC has been implementing numerous strategies and programs in Nigeria to ensure that the adverse impact of this virus on our country is minimized. We ask all Nigerians to support the work the Federal Ministry of Health and NCDC are doing, led by the Presidential Task Force [13].

President Muhammadu Buhari also said although we have adopted strategies used globally, our implementation programs have been tailored to reflect our local realities. In Nigeria, we are taking a two step approach. First, to protect the lives of our fellow Nigerians and residents living here and second, to preserve the livelihoods of workers

and business owners to ensure their families get through this very difficult time in dignity and with hope and peace of mind [13]. We have introduced healthcare measures, border security, fiscal and monetary policies in our response. We shall continue to do so as the situation unfolds. Some of these measures will surely cause major inconveniences to many citizens. But these are sacrifices we should all be willing and ready to make for the greater good of our country [13].

He further said that accordingly, as a Government, we will continue to rely on guidance of our medical professionals and experts at the Ministry of Health, NCDC and other relevant agencies through this difficult time. I therefore urge all citizens to adhere to their guidelines as they are released from time to time. As we are all aware, Lagos and Abuja have the majority of confirmed cases in Nigeria. Our focus therefore remains to urgently and drastically contain these cases, and to support other states and regions in the best way we can. As a nation, our response must be guided, systematic and professional. There is a need for consistency across the nation. All inconsistencies in policy guidelines between Federal and State agencies will be eliminated [13].

However, we must all see this as our national and patriotic duty to control and contain the spread of this virus. I will therefore ask all of us affected by this order to put aside our personal comfort to safeguard ourselves and fellow human beings. This common enemy can only be controlled if we all come together and obey scientific and medical advice. As we remain ready to enforce these measures, we should see this as our individual contribution in the war against COVID-19. Many other countries have taken far stricter measures in a bid to control the spread of the virus with positive results [13].

President Muhammadu Buhari has expressed his appreciation to the generosity of individuals and corporate organizations that have made donations to the efforts to curtail the spread of COVID-19 in the country. A statement issued by Senior Special Assistant to the President (Media & Publicity), Garba Shehu, in Abuja, said:

Buhari acknowledged, with deep appreciation, the kind gesture of captain of industries, corporate entities, missionaries, musical artistes and individuals who have consistently supported ongoing efforts to mitigate COVID-19 pandemic, which is ravaging the global economy. He said the president thanked a group of oil companies, who partnered with the Nigerian National Petroleum Cooperation (NNPC), to donate \$30 million while appreciating contributions from All Progressives Congress National leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, Dr Mike Adenuga, Modupeola and Folorunsho Alakija of Famfa Oil, and Dr Emeka Offor, who joined a list of other public-spirited Nigerians in contributing health and educational facilities [50].

The President also welcomed generous donations as announced by Zenith Bank PLC, which the statement said, was committed to the public health care system, Keystone bank, First Bank Plc and Senior Pastor of Dunamis International Gospel Centre, Dr Paul Enenche, and his wife, Dr Becky Enenche, who also took to the streets to sensitize citizens on the dreaded virus. President Buhari similarly appreciated the efforts of Stallion Empowerment Initiative of the Stallion Group, and the entertainment industry, particularly renowned musician, Innocent Idibia, Tuface, for contributions [50].

According to the statement, while assuring all Nigerians that the funds will be properly utilized to check the effect of the COVID-19 and reposition the health care system, President Buhari urged all intending donors to channel contributions through the Presidential Task Force for the Control of the Novel corona virus (COVID-19). President Muhammad Buhari also urged Nigerians to follow the guidelines provided by the Ministry of Health, state governments and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), whose officials have been toiling day and night to keep everyone in the country safe. He noted that the situation facing the country, and others across the world, would certainly need the financial, technical and material support of companies and individuals, and collective effort of all Nigerians, to bring the pandemic under control [50].

The cooperative Bank of Kenya has injected 100 million shilling to the COVID-19 emergency fund as part of the lenders efforts to support the containment of the Corona virus crisis. President Uhuru Kenyatta directed the National

Treasury to set up an emergency response fund overseen by a 10-member committee comprising players from both the public and private sector to strengthen the country COVID-19 counter measures [43].

On 4 April 2020, UAP Group old Mutual Faulu foundation committee 6 million Kenyan shilling for humanitarian initiatives in response to the pandemic in Kenya with 5 million shilling going into the support of the national initiative of containing the pandemic [43]. Chinese billionaire and Ali baba co-founder Jack Ma has made a second round of donations of protective and medical equipment to combat the Corona virus pandemic in Africa countries. In addition to, Jack Ma said:

“The second donation include 500 ventilators 200,000 suits and face shields 2,000 thermometers, 1 million swabs and extraction kits and 500,000 gloves [44]”

The Chinese Business mogul issued out a total of 1.1 million testing kits, 6 million masks, and 60,000 medical use protective suits and face shields that were distributed among the 54 Africa nations. Each African country received 20, 000 testing kits, 100, 000 marks and 1,000 medical use protective suits and face shields [44].

The government approved the use of over 40 billion Kenyan shilling to cushion needy households in urban areas from economic shocks following reduced activity in the wake of the Corona virus pandemic [16]. However, Jumia donated 100,000 marks to the Ministry of Health to support community health workers, who are on the frontline responding to suspected and confirmed case of COVID-19 [29].

Medical equipment estimated at about 20 million Naira has been donated to Bauchi State to augment the efforts at containing the spread of the Corona virus epidemic [19]. The chief of Staff to the Bauchi State Governor, Dr. Ladan Salihu said:

The gesture by oil and gas conglomerate, AYM Shafa limited assist the State in alleviating the challenges associated with the management of patients in isolation centre. He further added that we want to register our appreciation to AYM Shafa for this humanitarian gesture, which will assist us to fill in the gaps that will be created in addressing the challenges of COVID-19 [19].

President Muhammadu Buhari has commended Aliko Dangote Foundation (ADF) for donating N200 million to assist in combating the influx of Covid-19 into the country. Buhari made the commendation in a statement by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Mr Femi Adesina, in Abuja [2].

The WHO, UN Foundation and partners launched a first-of-its-kind COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund today. The fund will raise money from a wide range of donors to support the work of the WHO and partners to help countries respond to the COVID-19 pandemic [75].

President Uhuru Kenyatta said:

Similarly, I encourage our traders and farmers in fresh produce to continue with their agricultural activities, so as to ensure continued supply of the farm produce to our markets. Such farm produce embody the diversity of Kenya includes; Rice, Beans, Maize, Potatoes, Cabbages, Miraa, Tomatoes, bananas and other food items. No one should be denied the ability to carry on with their legal trade within the boundaries of the protocols set out by the Ministry of Health [47].

In Nigeria “Relief materials” would be distributed to communities around the states affected, but did not give further detail [59]”. News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that President Muhammadu Buhari had approved the release of 70,000 metric tonnes of assorted food items to vulnerable Nigerians as part of efforts to cushion the effect of the lockdown in some states [18].

President Uhuru Kenyatta revealed that at the National level, He established the Covid-19 Emergency Response Fund. Even as we confront the current health challenge, our war on corruption continues to bear fruit. Indeed, over the last year our state agencies charged with this national endeavor were able to make significant recoveries. In that regard, as we scale up our interventions against the current health pandemic, he direct the National Treasury to utilize the 2 Billion of already recovered corruption proceeds to support the most vulnerable members of our society, especially the needy in our urban areas. Our fight in this area continues. I acknowledge all the State and Public Officers who have followed my lead and taken voluntary pay-cuts in order to support our fight against the Corona virus [47].

President Muhammadu Buhari also added that we provided an initial intervention of fifteen billion Naira (N15b) to support the national response as we fight to contain and control the spread [13]. Furthermore, although schools are closed, I have instructed the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development to work with State Governments in developing a strategy on how to sustain the school feeding program during this period without compromising our social distancing policies. The Minister will be contacting the affected States and agree on detailed next steps [13]. Furthermore, President Buhari directed that a three month repayment moratorium for all Trader Money, Market Money and Farmer Money loans be implemented with immediate effect [13].

For residents of satellite and commuter towns and communities around Lagos and Abuja whose livelihoods will surely be affected by some of these restrictive measures, we shall deploy relief materials to ease their pains [13]. For the most vulnerable in our society, He has directed that the conditional cash transfers for the next two months be paid immediately. Our Internally displaced persons will also receive two months of food rations in the coming weeks. We also call on all Nigerians to take personal responsibility to support those who are vulnerable within their communities, helping them with whatever they may need [13].

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

Just like any other African country Nigeria and Kenya are struggling to manage corona virus. The study found that the actual cases of COVID-19 disease originated from Wuhan in China. The virus which was said to have been originated from animal bat market in Wuhan to human, tens of hundred were infected within days like a wild fire; doctors who tried to alert officials are harassed.

The research revealed that covid-19 has exposed the socio-political and economic strength of the world superpowers struggling to convert the pandemic. Moreover, in Africa, particularly Nigeria and Kenya covid-19 has become a tool for playing politics and economic gain. Politicians fight each other over positions, official entrusted to manned covid-19 funds are accused of corruption and diverting the funds for personal interest. Manned covid-19 funds are accused of corruption and diverting the funds for personal interest.

The study found out that as a result of socio- political and economic downplay in handling covid-19 in Nigeria and Kenya people are left to choose between to stay at home and die of hunger or to return to work and die of covid-19.

The politics behind COVID-19 also revealed that the former PM Raila Odinga on Citizen Radio declared that Covid-19 would not "stop reggae" as he prepared the country for a referendum on BBI proposals.

The study also revealed that the Nigerian government had been struggling with a weak recovery from the oil price as a result of this pandemic due to extremely low oil prices in the international market. The World Bank Group approved \$50 million in urgent funding to support Kenya's response to the global COVID-19 (corona virus) pandemic under a new program the Kenya COVID -19 Emergency Response Project.

The study also found that the Government is suspending entry into Kenya of all persons travelling from countries that have confirmed cases of Corona virus. Only citizens and foreigners with valid permits were allowed to enter Kenya provided they proceed to self-quarantine or be quarantined in a government designated facility. Learning is suspended in all the learning institutions with immediate effect. Mean while due to outbreak of the Corona virus, the federal Government ordered the closure of all Nigeria institutions to help contain the spread. The study findings



also indicate that wearing mask face and washing hands regularly with soap as well as 1.5 to 2 meters for social distance save lives.

The study findings also revealed that to contain and limit the spread of the disease Kenya sanctioned and caused additional measures in cessation of all movement by road, rail or air in and out within the most affected areas such as Kilifi, Kwale, Mombasa within the period of 21 days. Moreover, the Nigerian government closed all its airports to international flights as authorities try to contain the further spread of the corona virus (Covid-19). It had earlier shut the airports in Port Harcourt, Kano and Enugu but later added Lagos and Abuja to curtail the spread of the COVID-19 disease. The study findings also revealed that Government of Nigeria avail all necessary resources to support the response and recovery and also remain committed to do whatever it takes to confront COVID-19 within the country. The Presidential Task Force remains the central coordinating body on the COVID-19 response.

The paper recommend that corona virus has brought the world to a standstill which have a long devastating effects on socio-political and economic spectrum in years to come particularly in Nigeria and Kenya. Therefore, it should be a wakeup call and pertinent for the two regional African superpowers (Nigeria and Kenya) to re-design all its social structures such as political, economic, socio-cultural, religious, educational, health, diplomatic, law among others. Based on African values in order to fits in the contemporary global political sphere, otherwise the future is bleak.

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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