

CITIZENS



ALLIANCE



A CA government would not have let things escalate, but since this is where we are, these are some of the things we would have done and we are offering them as suggestions to the government. They are free to adopt some or all of it and implement on their own. We are not asking for any credit for it. We are also ready and willing to assist them if needed.



1

Take it seriously.

Accept that COVID-19 is real and give it the due attention it deserves as having the potential to wreak major havoc on our nation. The President needs to engage the people. This is an emergency. The citizens will follow your lead.

2

Protect Frontline Workers.

Ensure that our frontline workers are properly equipped with the necessary PPE to protect them. Doctors, Nurses and other healthcare workers are our most important resources in this fight. Without them we are doomed.

3

PAY Frontline Workers.

Compensate our frontline workers for their service and the additional risk they're exposed to.

The funds have already been allocated, **PAY THE FRONTLINE WORKERS!**

4

Allocate Emergency Resources.

Allocate resources for additional emergency hospitalization facilities. Tents, beds, treatment centers (The Independence Stadium could be used for this exercise for a centralized and spacious emergency area with multiple entrance and exit locations)

5

Secure The Borders.

Properly restrict movement of people across the borders. Provide mandatory testing with quick turnaround for results at all border posts where citizens must be allowed to enter.

Gambians who insist on coming home for no emergency reasons should be responsible for the cost of their own quarantine.

6 Put Politics Aside.

Invite the opposition leaders, business leaders and clergy to help because this is a war we will win only if we are united. Welcome their ideas and join hands especially in sensitizing the masses. We must put all differences aside.

7 "Masks for Everyone."

We commend the Gambia Government for making masks mandatory in public places. However a huge chunk of the population still do not have access to protective masks. Create a "Masks for Everyone" Campaign, source local tailors to create 500,000 masks to be distributed by local officials, councils and community groups.

8

Be Compassionate

Orchestrate a compassionate, community-driven lockdown and curfew. No need for excessive force, beating and harassing citizens. The key is to have a compassionate approach that takes into account the difficulties our people face daily, and to ensure their daily feeding are met while we ask them to participate in fighting COVID-19.

Provide Economic Assistance

9

As the COVID-19 Pandemic is measured to place at least a 3 Billion Dalasi loss in our economy, most of which will be suffered by small business owners who make up the vast majority of the local economy, economic stimulus plans need to be worked on right now to help mitigate the burden on the average Gambian.

Create a plan that involves, but not limited to, tax incentives for eligible businesses; Deferment of eviction notices for at least 6 months; A compensation package to landlords and local market stall operators who pay to the Municipality it serves in. This is the time to engage economic advisors to guide you on the path of bringing meaningful change to our plight as well as stimulate the economy once it reopens.

10

Sensitize, Sensitize, SENSITIZE

Use every and all platforms at your disposal to sensitize the people about the serious threat this virus poses as well as motivate their participation to bring an end to it.

Use, radio, TV, Social Media, Donkey Carts with loudspeakers on them, moving within rural and suburban neighborhoods; Whatever platform, SENSITIZE!!

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