



## **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

### **PRESS STATEMENT**

**8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2020**

### **KENYA BEGINS DIGITAL VERIFICATION OF COVID-19 CERTIFICATES.**

The COVID 19 pandemic has adversely affected global travel impacting negatively on trade, tourism and other economic activities. To mitigate against these effects and to allow for economic activities dependent on international travel, many governments are requiring travellers to present negative COVID-19 certificates at various ports of entry.

To ensure integrity of presented certificates, the Ministry of Health has collaborated with the African Union and Africa CDC, with the technical support from PanaBIOS ([www.panabios.org](http://www.panabios.org)), to implement an online system to authenticate and verify travelers' COVID-19 certificates in line with the guidelines of the Trusted Travel Initiative (TT) ([www.africacdc.org/trusted-travel](http://www.africacdc.org/trusted-travel)).

I therefore wish to notify travelers to first visit an authorized laboratory to take an RT PCR COVID-19 test and be issued with Trusted Travel (TT) codes that can be verified by airlines and Port Health authorities. The travelers will receive a text message (SMS) from PanaBIOS and in addition

an email from the testing laboratory and/or from [admin@panabios.org](mailto:admin@panabios.org) with a link to guide the traveler to generate a Travel Code at [trustedtravel.panabios.org](http://trustedtravel.panabios.org). If a test result meets the exit and entry requirements of Kenya and the traveler's destination, a Travel Code (TC) is then issued to the traveler online.

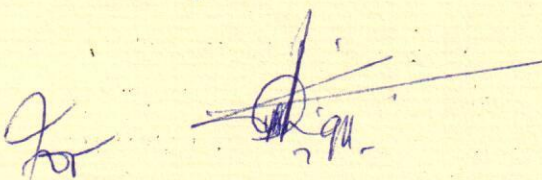
In Kenya, all RT PCR COVID-19 testing laboratories have been onboarded to the TT system.

In-bound travelers from countries yet to onboard to the Trusted Travel Initiative will use a tool made available through the UNDP-supported Global Haven partnership ([www.globalhaven.org](http://www.globalhaven.org)) for Covid-19 test results and vaccine certificates verification.

All travelers departing from Kenya will be expected to have the TT code on them test result certificates. Starting this Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, NO traveler will depart from Kenya without verification of their certificates using the TT process. No laboratories are permitted to issue COVID-19 certificates without TT codes from 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

These novel digital services are delivered at no cost to citizens or related government agencies as a result of collaboration with AU bodies, UN institutions, technology companies, telecom operators and standards organizations. All citizens and organizations are hereby strongly encouraged to cooperate and comply to guarantee the safe reopening of Kenya to the rest of the world.

Thank you.



**SEN. MUTAHI KAGWE, EGH,**  
**CABINET SECRETARY.**