

SECRET

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MEMORANDUM OF THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR HEALTH, BORNO STATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (PHEOC) IN THE STATE.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to inform the Council on the Establishment and Operationalization of the Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) in the State in response to the health and humanitarian crisis.

BACKGROUND:

Borno State Ministry of Health has established a Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) to enhance coordination of information and resource for managing public health emergencies such as infectious diseases, floods, fires, landslides, drought, structural collapse, utility failure, terrorism, internal conflicts, road carnage and chemical, biological, nuclear, radiological & explosives, among others.

The concept of operation of the PHEOC is heavily inclined to Incident Management System (IMS) which is the common and globally recommended model for executive, strategic, operational, and tactical management of all hazards. It provides structures and organization of response and highlights key responsibilities of PHEOC staff as well as designated response agencies. The framework establishing the PHEOC outlines key concepts and essential standards to ensure that the PHEOC achieves its objectives, some of which include:

- Real-time information for timely decision-making;
- Time and coordinated acquisition & deployment of key personnel;
- Communication and coordination with response partners;
- Collection, analysis and dissemination of information and data; and
- Factual and reliable communication with the public and media.

The Center is located at Maiduguri Eye Hospital, off Damboa road. The Center has been furnished with monitoring and surveillance equipment, including computers installed with appropriate systems, conference facility and other emergency coordination tools. It has adequate security for data, personnel and equipment and is manned by technical personnel with various professional skills in public health, disaster management, information technology, resource mobilization and communication.

CONTENT:

Twenty-two (22) Development Partners in Health sector, Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC), Federal Ministry of Health are in the Center.

There is a weekly Health Bulletin for Health awareness and enlightenment of general public.

The Center serves as capacity building and training ground for health professionals.

It is well equipped with modern ICT materials such as video conferencing, surveillance system

Coordination of meetings with Development partners and other stakeholders twice every month.
The State has supported the Center with venue in collaboration with W.H.O.
A M.o.U agrees that W.H.O. should run the Center for one (1) year and then hand it over to the State Government.

ACHIVEMENTS SO FAR:

The Center has successfully managed Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (suspected lassa fever in 2017).
Managing outbreak of Hepatitis E across the State in places like Monguno, Kala-balge and Damasak.
It has also managed the outbreak of Cholera in five (5) LGAs of the State.
Managing another Cholera outbreak in Kukawa.

PRAYERS:

Council is invited to note that the Borno State Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO has established a functional & effective Public Health Emergency Operation Center; first of it's kind in the country.

Council is also invited to urge other States to emulate this best experience.

Honourable Commissioner for Health, Borno State

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