Annex 1: summary of key interventions recommended to ECOWAS member states for preparing to respond COVID-19 response [11]	
Activity	**Recommendations**
Vaccination	Set up/Consolidate a proactive national immunization technical advisory group (NITAG) to accelerate national authorization of new vaccines
	Provide evidence-based recommendations on immunization
	Coordinate and scale up mass vaccination campaigns to rapidly to protect the most vulnerable
	Setting up ad hoc vaccination centers in prisons, nursing homes, or public markets, and outreach strategies with mobile vaccination teams
	Support the operationalization of the ECOWAS regional vaccines platform and permit exchange of vaccines among Member States
	Training of adequate Workforce for supporting vaccines roll-out both in countries and at regional level
	Need to think of a stock of vaccines and/or stand by agreements with companies for emergency use
	Incentivize and support local manufacturing capacity in Member States
	Demand generation via mass public sensitization campaigns
	Setting up electronic pre-registration portals
	Prelisting eligible frontline workers and high-risk groups
	Prepositioning essential commodities such as ultra-cold freezers and refrigerated vehicles,
Surveillance/Containment Strategy	In-depth data analysis and efficient alert management for early identification of hotspots
	Enhancing Facility and Community surveillance including private sector
	Strengthen Data management systems through Digitalization for enhancing Real-time reporting ET prompt
	Expand RRT capacity at national and sub-national (recruitment, training, equipment deployment and supervision) for improving case investigation and contact tracing
	Adopt appropriate strategy for supported Quarantine
	Monitor performance indicators & continuous re-assessment of surveillance functions
Coordination	Maintain and strengthen technical and political coordinating bodies in place and promote whole-of government and whole-of-society approach
	Develop national contingency plans taking into consideration various scenario in managing a surge of cases based on One Health Multi sectoral approach
	Accelerate decentralization of essential health services by empowering sub national bodies
	Ensure Dynamic managerial & leadership roles Management of human resources - re-distribute, re-assign & task sharing
	Maintain essential logistics & supplies
Laboratory[12]	Scale up antigen based RDT to supplement PCR testing at all levels according to the agreed algorithm
	Update Testing strategy based on the epidemiological trends and the local context
	Scaling up Genomic sequencing of SARS-COV 2 both at national and regional level – Ramping up genomic sequencing to 5% of all tests
	Improve quantification and management of laboratory consumables and reagents
	Strengthen systems for Sample Referral & Quality Assurance including provision of funds
	Surveillance and monitoring SARS-COV-2 variants
	Training and deployment of laboratory experts for on-site support
Case Management	Conduct Hospital readiness assessment at national and subnational level
	Strengthen Home based care through adaptation of international guidelines and translation in official and local languages
	Use of appropriate technologies to streamline the management of resources (Supplies, hospital beds, oxygen, ambulances and funeral resources)
	Set up temporary, dedicated COVID-19 facilities in partnership with the private sector
	Improving the management of severe COVID-19 patients through adoption of medical and nursing care (team approach), Early identification of severe disease, development of Pre-hospital care and referral pathways, use of effective triaging and monitoring of patients with appropriate responses to changes in patient condition
	Mobilize all available human resources across all sectors of the health system including surge staff and also support staff
	Promote the use telemedicine and telemonitoring to decrease pressure on hospitals
Risk Communication	High level leadership overseeing public awareness on the situation and containment measures
	Mobilize and engage community through use of various multimedia platforms
	and Involve key influencers in mobilizing the public
	Organize High-profile Risk Communication campaign with clear, consistent, and forceful messaging of evidence-based content
	Coordinate communication between national and subnational level and engagement with civil society and non-governmental organizations
	Group-specific communication on behaviour change, tailored to specific targets Expand pool of Community health workers and social mobilization actors at local level (leaders, religious leaders, journalists and community volunteers) Trace and mitigateCOVID-19 infodemic in real time

Non Pharmaceutical Interventions	Promote Personal NPIs, including handwashing, respiratory hygiene, physical distancing, self-isolation, household quarantine, and protecting vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly) within the household
	Enhancing Environmental NPIs, including regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and ensuring ventilation in public buildings.
	Promoting Community NPIs, such as physical distancing, closure of schools and universities, the closing of non-essential businesses, and bans on mass gatherings.