‘Africa is not a poor, helpless continent in the face of Monkeypox’

The first case of Monkeypox has been recorded in Gauteng, South Africa, according to a statement released by the National Department of Health. The first case in South Africa is the first in the region, and it is the second case in the country this year.

Minister of Health Joe Phaahla, also said in a briefing, that Monkeypox is usually a mild disease in humans, but it can sometimes be severe. However, if the disease is not treated early, it can cause a high fever and rash, which can be life-threatening.

Phaahla added that the case involves a 26-year-old man residing in Gauteng, with no history of recent travel history.

Contact tracing has commenced, identifying any additional linked cases of monkeypox in South Africa, said Phaahla. The country has recorded more than 5,000 cases of the disease in recent months.

Heath Minister, Dr. Joe Phaahla, said, “Africa is not a poor, helpless continent, when it comes to the way we deal with pandemics.”

He said that the outbreak of Monkeypox in South Africa is a serious concern, and the government is working closely with the World Health Organization to contain the spread of the disease.

The case marks the first time Monkeypox has been diagnosed in South Africa since the outbreak began in May 2021. Since then, the number of cases has risen to more than 1,500 globally, with the majority of cases reported in Europe and the Americas.

Phaahla also emphasized the need for continued vigilance and action to prevent further spread of the disease. “We urge all South Africans to take the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of Monkeypox,” he said.

Africa is not a poor, helpless continent in the face of Monkeypox.