

MoHS Statement on COVID-19 (4.1.2020 – 1.3.2020) (1 March 2020, 8:15PM)

([Link](#))

(Unofficial translation by OCHA)

1. Global Situation Update on COVID-19

World Health Organization (WHO) updated as below (as of 15:30 Myanmar Standard Time on 1 March 2020).

Countries with confirmed cases - 54
Laboratory-confirmed cases globally - 85,403
Deaths - 2,924

- It is learned from the WHO statements that there are increasing reports of imported cases and local transmission.
- 17 Countries where local transmission of COVID-19 found are:

| N | Regions regarded by WHO | Countries |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | The West Pacific | The Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam |
| 2 | Europe | Italy, Germany, France, Spain, England, Croatia, San Marino |
| 3 | The South East Asia | Thailand |
| 4 | The Middle East | Iran, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) |
| 5 | America | The United States of America |

- Hence, China, the regional countries and those around the world were regarded as very high as per COVID-19 Risk Assessment issued by the WHO on 28 February 2020.

2. Situation of COVID-19 in Myanmar (as of 1 March 2020, 6:00PM)

| | No. of Patients | Laboratory Test | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|
| | | Positive | Negative | Testing |
| Monitored Patient | 43 | - | 43 | - |
| Suspected Patient | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| Total | 45 | - | 45 | - |

- There were a total of 45 patients – 14 in Yangon Region, 12 in Shan State, 8 in Mandalay Region and 11 in other states/regions.
- The MoHS has been speeding up on monitoring and preventive measures on COVID-19, by
 - putting those who have in close contact with suspects (including families and medical staff) under surveillance;
 - identifying, quarantining and offering effective medical treatments to the suspects and patients being monitored;
 - distributing instructives for proper and effective preventions to medical staff;
 - uploading up-to-date situations in Myanmar and other countries on state-run media and the MOHS's website (www.mohs.gov.mm) and Facebook pages

(<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar>

and

<https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC>) and react to the misinformed media; and

- E) collaborating with respective departments to mitigate potential adverse impacts on the public
5. Despite no confirmed COVID-19 cases were found in Myanmar, it is known that the virus has been spreading countries outside China - Singapore, South Korea, Italy and Iran at an alarming speed. It is possible that passengers from the infected countries will likely to enter Myanmar via different travel routes. The Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) is working hand in hand with respective ministries to reinforce the monitoring and preventive measures. Likewise, MOHS is controlling the entrance of suspects from international gates, monitoring the hotels and houses. Local transmission cases are found in those who have direct contacts with COVID-19 patients (or) those who have not recently visited countries where there is a spread of virus. The COVID-19 can be spread from an asymptomatic carrier to others in mass gatherings.
6. Potentially Myanmar can face with massive spread of the virus at some points. Hence, citizens and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) should
- void mass social gatherings;
 - host only the most-required ones;
 - include strict preventive measures to filter the sick, those suffering from respiratory diseases and to follow the instructives issued by MOHS.

[THE END]