

MoHS Statement on COVID-19 (4.1.2020 – 2.3.2020) (2 March 2020, 8:15PM)

([Link](#))

(Unofficial translation by OCHA)

1. Global Situation Update on COVID-19

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

Countries with confirmed cases - 58
Laboratory-confirmed cases globally - 87,137
Deaths - 2,977

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

No	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, Norway and Netherlands
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 2 March 2020, 6:00PM)

	Laboratory Test			Total Patients
	Positive	Negative	Testing	
Monitored Patient	-	43	5	48
Suspected Patient	-	2	-	2
Total	-	45	5	50

- There were a total of 50 patients – 17 in Yangon Region, 12 in Shan State, 9 in Mandalay Region and 12 in other states/regions, between 31 January 2020 and 1 March 2020.
- 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;

- D) 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 in Singapore, South Korea, Italy and Iran, in addition to China, 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 no 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. Myanmar is at risk of an outbreak at some points. Hence, citizens and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are advised to
- void mass social gatherings;
 - hold only inevitable events;
 - to exactly follow the MoHS's health guidelines, when holding inevitably, and to take care of preventive measures, including reducing the number of participants and filtering the sick people who have respiratory diseases.

[THE END]