MoHS Statement on Novel Coronavirus (3 March 2020, 8:00PM) (Link) (Unofficial translation by OCHA)

- 1. The Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) has been working on monitoring and preventive measures of the COVID-19, which has been spreading in China and 64 countries in the world, at international entrances/gates, at public hospitals and among communities, as well as in cooperation with private hospitals.
- 2. In doing so;
 - (a) A 24-year-old man in Sagaing Town of Sagaing Region, has suffered from fever, coughing, chest pain and fatigue since 29 February and went to Mandalay General Hospital on 1 March 2020. The man has symptoms of COVID-19, despite no travel history to the detected countries, so he has been transferred to Mandalay Kandawnadi Hospital on 2 March 2020 (6:30PM). The man has been treated in an isolation room as a Person Under Investigation (PUI). Nasal swab will be sent and tested at the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon.
 - (b) A 25-year-old Chinese woman, who has been working at a factory in Dagon Seikkan Township of Yangon Region, returned from Zhejiang Pronvince of China to Myanmar on 20 February 2020. She has started suffering from fever, headache, unwell and fatigue since 1 March, and went to Weibargi Hospital on 3 March 2020. She has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI as there were symptoms of COVID-19. Nasal swab taken from her will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
 - (c) A 38-year-old Chinese man, who has been working at a factory in Dagon Seikkan Township of Yangon Region, returned form Zhejiang Province of China on 11 February 2020 to Myanmar. He has started suffering from fever, headache, unwell and fatigue since 2 March, and went to Weibargi Hospital on 3 March 2020. He has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI as there were symptoms of COVID-19. Nasal swab taken from him will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
 - (d) A 9-year-old boy living in Jiagao of Yunnan Province of China comes to Muse Town of Northern Shan State in Myanmar every day to attend Grade 2, and on 3 March 2020 the Muse Check Point found out that the boy had fever and sore throat. He has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI in Muse General Hospital. No acute respiratory symptoms were found. Nasal swab taken from him will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
- 3. On 3 March 2020, the NHL has released the results, stating that the following patients tested negative for COVID-19.
 - (a) A 29-year-old man of Chinese citizen in Weibargi Hospital
 - (b) A 37-year-old man of New Zeeland citizen in Weibargi Hospital
 - (c) A 32-year-old man of Myanmar citizen in Weibargi Hospital
 - (d) A 29-year-old man of Myanmar citizen in Sittwe Hospital.

All of them were in good health, but they will be at the hospitals for more 48 hours and will be discharged from hospitals only when they all are in better health.

4. As of 6:00 PM on 3 March 2020, the other four patients continued to be under treatment and surveillance at designated hospitals, and they were in good health.

- 5. Three Myanmar students, who returned from Daegu Town of South Korea to Myanmar on 2 March 2020, have been sent to Weibargi Hospital and quarantined for 14 days, to prevent possible transmission to family members and others and to take early treatment when required, although they currently show no symptoms.
- 6. The MoHS has been speeding up monitoring although there were no laboratory-confirmed cases as of 3 March 2020. The MoHS calls on people to exactly follow the MoHS health guidelines as the COVID-19 has been spreading in China and other 64 countries in the world, including neighboring countries.

THE END