MoHS Statement on COVID-19 (8 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 globally, at international entrances/gates, at public hospitals and among communities, as well as in cooperation with private hospitals.
- 2. In doing so;
- (a) A 26-year-old in Latha Township of Yangon Region returned from Thailand on 28 February 2020 and started suffering from fever, coughing and headache since 2 March 2020. He arrived at the Yangon General Hospital on 7 March 2020 and was transferred to Weibargi Hospital. He has been treated in an isolation room as a Person Under Investigation (PUI) and his nasal swab will be sent and tested at the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon. No other acute respiratory symptoms were found.
- (b) An 18-year-old woman, who has been studying in Bangkok of Thailand, returned from Thailand to Hpa-an Town of Kayin State on 6 March 2020. As she suffered from fever and coughing on 7 March 2020, she arrived at Hpa-an Township General Hospital on 8 March 2020. She has been treated in an isolation room as an PUI and her nasal swab will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon. No other acute respiratory symptoms were found.
- (c) A 25-year-old man, who is an assistant doctor at the emergency department of the Mandalay General Hospital, has been suffering from fever and tonsillitis since 7 March 2020. Despite no acute respiratory symptoms, as he has been monitoring and treating a 35-year-old PUI patient from Wetlet Town of Sagaing Region, the assistant doctor has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI in Kandawnadi Hospital. His nasal swab will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
- (d) A 24-year-old pregnant woman in Shwepyitha Township of Yangon Region has been suffering from fever, coughing and breathing difficulty since 5 March 2020 and arrived at the Insein General Hospital on 8 March 2020. Despite no travel history to the areas of disease outbreak and no contacts with suspected patient, she currently has acute respiratory symptoms, she has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI on 8 March 2020. Her nasal swab will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
- (e) A 52-year-old man, a citizen of the Republic of Korea living in Soul, arrived Myanmar via Bangkok of Thailand on 4 March 2020. He has been suffering from fever and sore throat on 7 March 2020 and arrived at Yangon General Hospital on 8 March 2020. He has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI and his nasal swab will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon. He has no other acute respiratory symptoms.
- (f) A 38-year-old woman in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Region returned from Jiagao Town, Yunnan Province of China, on 28 January 2020. She has been suffering from fever, obstructive breath and breathing difficulty for a month. As he has hemoptysis on 8 March 2020, he arrived at the Mandalay General Hospital. Despite no travel history to areas of disease outbreak and no contacts with suspected patients, as he currently has acute respiratory symptoms, he was transferred to Kandawnadi Hospital. He has been treated in an isolation room as a PUI and his nasal swab will be sent and tested at the NHL in Yangon.
- 3. According to the NHL results release on the night of 8 March 2020, the following patients tested negative.

- (a) A 30-year-old woman from Hakka Township of Chin State, who has been treated at Weibargi Hospital.
- (b) A 41-year-old man from Minhla Township, who has been treated at Lin Kel Station Hospital in Magway Region.
- (c) A 37-year-old man from Yedashe Township of Bago Region, who has been treated at Yedashe Township Hospital.
- (d) A 35-year-old man in Kandawnadi Hospital of Mandalay Region.
- (e) A 71-year-old man from Mahaaungmyay Township of Mandalay Region, who has been treated at Kandawnadi Hospital.
- (f) A 30-year-old man from Thaketa Township of Yangon Region, who has been treated at Weibargi Hospital.
- 4. A 26-year-old man of Myanmar citizen, who has been treated at the Kyaukpadaung Township Hospital as a PUI as he had close contact with COVID-19 infected patient in Singapore, and his 29-year-old wife tested negative for COVID-19 for the second time of the tests.
- 5. As of 6:00 PM on 8 March 2020, six patients were treated at designated hospitals.
- 6. A total of 13 Myanmar students from Daegu Town of Republic of Korea, the hardest virus-hit city in that country, were in a flight from Republic of Korea that landed at the Yangon International Airport in the morning of 8 March 2020. It was found out that they all have no symptoms of fever and other respiratory disease and no contacts with laboratory-confirmed patient of COVID-19. However, as they had travel history to the hardest-hit Daegu Town of Republic of Korea, 10 of them have been sent to South Okkalapa Women and Children Hospital and other three to Weibargi Hospital. They all have been quarantined in hospital for 14 days and under surveillance.
- 7. The MoHS has been speeding up monitoring although there were no laboratory-confirmed cases as of 8 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 94 countries in the world, including neighboring countries.

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