**MoHS Statement on COVID0-19 (4.1.2020 – 15.3.2020) (15 March 2020, 8:15PM) (**[**Link**](https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar/photos/pcb.3250234575005825/3250230731672876/?type=3&theater)**)**

***(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 14 March 2019**).

* Countries with confirmed cases - 136
* Laboratory-confirmed cases globally - 142,539
* Deaths globally - 5,393
* Death rate globally - 3.8%
* **Countries with high cases/deaths**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Country | Since the outbreak | |
| Laboratory-confirmed | Death |
| 1 | Italy | 17,660 | 1,268 |
| 2 | Iran | 11,364 | 514 |
| 3 | South Korea | 8,086 | 72 |
| 4 | Spain | 4,231 | 120 |
| 5 | France | 3,640 | 79 |
| 5 Countries in Total | | 44,982 | 2,053 |

* It is learned from the WHO statements that there are increasing reports of imported cases and local transmission.
* 77 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, the Philippines, New Zealand, Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam |
| 2 | Europe | Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, England, Netherland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Austria, Greece, Iceland, Denmark, San Marino, Czech Republic, Israel, Portugal, Finland, Ireland, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Belarus, Slovakia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Poland, North Macedonia, Estonia, Luxemburg, Albania, Serbia, Ukraine |
| 3 | The South East Asia | Thailand, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka |
| 4 | The Middle East | Iran, Bahrain, Iraq, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Lebanon, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Morocco |
| 5 | America | The United States of America, Canada, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, Argentina, Panama, Paraguay |
| 6 | Africa | Algeria, Cameroon, South Africa, Senegal |
| 7 | Territories | Occupied Palestinian Territory |

* 60% of global cases and 84% of global deaths outside China are found in Republic of Korea, Iran and Italy.
* According to WHO, although the cases in China have dropped, the cases of infected people globally outside China have increased 13 times, and the cases of countries to three times within last two weeks.
* Currently, the COVID-19 has not been detected in 71 UN member states including Myanmar.

1. **Situation of COVID-19 in Myanmar (as of 15 March 2020, 4:00 PM)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Laboratory Test | | | Total Patients |
| Positive | Negative | Testing |
| Monitored Patient | - | 121 | 7 | 128 |
| Suspected Patient | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Total | - | 123 | 7 | 130 |

1. There were a total of 130 patients – 51 in Yangon Region, 21 in Shan State, 25 in Mandalay Region and 33 in other states/regions, between 31 January 2020 and 15 March 2020.
2. The MoHS has been speeding up on monitoring and preventive measures on COVID-19, by
3. quaranting travellers from places with high COVID-19 cases (China, Italy, Iran, South Korea, Spain, France and Germany), who enter Myanmar since 15 March;
4. identifying, quaranting and offering effective medical treatments to the suspects and patients being monitored;
5. putting those who have in close contact with suspects (including families and medical staff) under survaillence;
6. distributing instructives for proper and effective preventions to medical staff;
7. uploading up-to-date situations in Myanmar and other countries on state-run media and the MOHS’s website ([www.mohs.gov.mm](http://www.mohs.gov.mm)) and Facebook pages (<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar> and <https://ww.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC>) and react to the misinformed media;
8. collaborating with Myanmar Red Cross Society, Civil Society Organizations and Community Based Organizations to raise awareness of COVID-19 at crowded and public places such as market places and bus stops/terminals in respective regions and states, by using megaphones; and
9. collaborating with respective departments to mitigate potential adverse impacts on the public.
10. The Minister for Health and Sports received individual donation of machines and cash and returned certicates of acknowledgement during a donation ceremony on 15 March.
11. The Yangon Region Government Social Affairs Minister held a region-level coordination meeting for prevention of COVID-19 together with relevant officials at the Yangon International Airport on 15 March.
12. It is possible that passengers from the infected countries will likely to enter Myanmar via different travel routes.

* The MoHS is doing preventive measures such as monitoring, ensuring international passagers have medical certificates and health declaration cards.
* Everyone should be aware that high transmission of COVID-19 can occur in certain places such as closed-rooms or airplanes, ships and highway buses as an asympomatic carrier can transmit to others in mass gatherings.

1. Myanmar is at risk of an outbreak at some points. Hence, citizens and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are advised as below:
2. Avoid mass social gatherings;
3. Hold only inevitable events;
4. As the droplets from people with disease can spread, when they sneeze or cough, prepare or make available of water and soaps or hand santizers so that hands can be washed frequently;
5. Raise awareness or educate about COVID-19 for five minutes before holding an event;
6. Follow the MoHS’s health guidelines exactly, when holding inevitably, and to take care of preventive measures, including reducing the number of participants and filtering the sick people who have resipratory disease;
7. As COVID-19 can cause severe to the elderly people and the people with chronic disease/cancer, they should avoid mass gathering and follow preventive measures.
8. As the public cooperatoin witht health staff plays a critical role in response to the pandemic COVID-19, everyone is urged to to strictly follow the health guidelines to prevent the disease, released by the MoHS.

[THE END]