

MoHS Statement on Novel Coronavirus (22 February 2020, 8:00AM) ([Link](#))
(Unofficial translation by OCHA)

1. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been spreading in 26 countries including China, and the World Health Organization (WHO) updated as below (as of 15:30 Myanmar Standard Time on 20 February 2020).

- Globally
 - Confirmed cases - 75,748
 - Deaths - 2,129
- China
 - Confirmed cases - 74,675
 - Deaths - 2,121
- Other countries outside China - 26 countries
 - Laboratory-confirmed cases - 1,073
 - Death - 8 (Philippines, Japan, France, South Korea, Iran, Diamond Princess Cruise)

(Note: In Hubei Province of China, the centre of coronavirus outbreak, clinically diagnosed cases in addition to laboratory-confirmed cases were counted.)

2. COVID-19 in Myanmar

No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar as of 21 February 2020	
Situation Update (31.01.2020 – 21.02.2020)	
Person Under Investigation (PUI)	38
Suspected patient	2
Total	40

Situation Update about PUIs and Suspected Patients (31.01.2020 – 21.02.2020)

Patients tested negative for COVID-19	39 (37 PUIs and 2 suspected patients)
Waiting for test result from a designated laboratory	1
Cases under the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon	-
Cases to be sent to NHL in Yangon	-
Total	40

The 40 PUIs and suspected patients included:

- People who had travelled to China - 36
- People who returned from Singapore - 2
- People who had not travelled to China - 2

3. According to the laboratory results by the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon on the evening of 20 February 2020, a total of three patients (two patients from Weibargi Hospital and one patient from Mandalay Hospital) tested negative for COVID-19. Therefore, one patient from Magway Hospital continued to be monitored and treated as of 6:00 PM on 21 February 2020, and all the patients were in good health.
4. Regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and spread in China and other countries, the MoHS has been working on;

- (a) monitoring and preventive measures at international gates/entrances such as Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, as well as ports and,
 - (b) border gates- especially in Pang War-Chipwi, Waingmaw, Momauk towns in Kachin State and Muse, Namhkan and Laukkaing towns in northern Shan State that border with China's Yunnan Province, where as,
 - ensuring the filling-in of Health Declaration Cards,
 - monitoring suspected cases, investigating and contact tracing by relevant Region/State Health Department, General Administrative Department and other departments concerned, in cooperation with hotels and guest houses;
 - (c) conducting hospital-based surveillance,
 - (d) conducting community-based surveillance,
 - (e) cooperating with private hospitals and
 - (f) cooperating with other ministries concerned.
 - (g) In addition, the MoHS is adopting a contingency plan, in case of COVID-19 and other epidemics.
5. Public/General Hospitals at central level and Region/State levels
 - (a) has prepared Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Isolation Ward medicines and medical equipments as required.
 - (b) has defined the Kandawnadi Hospital in Mandalay City of Mandalay Region as a designated hospital and prepared ICU and Isolation Ward at the hospital in case of epidemic-prone disease.
 - (c) has defined hospitals close to border gates- District General Hospital (Muse Town), General Hospital (Lashio Town), Sao San Tun General Hospital (Taunggyi Town), General Hospital (Myitkyina Town), and General Hospital (Kengtung Town)- as designated hospitals.
 - (d) plans to deliver ventilators to designated hospitals and conduct a training for hospital administrators, assistant doctors and nurses how to use the medical equipments on 28 February.
 6. The NHL in Yangon has started independent testing for COVID-19 since 20 February 2020, and is working to keep on it in connection with international organizations.
 7. The MoHS has been conducting public health awareness through State-run media and radio, updating regularly on the MoHS's website (www.mohs.gov.mm) and social media (<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar> and <https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC>), as well as disseminating leaflets, stickers, posters at public places, especially at schools, hotels and guest houses, pagodas, cinemas, factories and workplaces, bus stops and markets.
 8. In each Region/State, the MoHS conducts;
 - (a) active surveillance and contact tracing of suspected patients,
 - (b) prohibition and limiting on travels as quarantine measures,
 - (c) referral of suspected patients and PUI to designated hospitals,
 - (d) health education,
 - (e) daily and immediate reporting about cases, and
 - (f) coordination with relevant ministries and stakeholders.
 9. In addition, the MoHS has ensured that the hospitals in each Region/State are prepared and have adequate medical equipments- ventilators, humidifiers, pulse oxymeters, defibrillators, electrocardiograms, non-contact thermometers, PPEs, N-95 masks, surgical masks and hand gels.

10. The MoHS has been speeding up on monitoring and preventive measures on COVID-19, in cooperation with other relevant ministries, and national and international organizations.

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