

## Special Announcement of COVID-19 On 16 May 2020

Regarding today's COVID-19 situation in Thailand, one case recovered and was discharged (a total of 2,855 cases have recovered or 94.38% of the total number of the confirmed cases) and 114 were being treated in hospitals (3.77% of the total number of confirmed cases). Today, there were no reports of new COVID-19 cases or deaths, as the total number of confirmed cases remained at 3,025 and deaths at 56 cases.

The government has begun phase 2 on relaxing the restriction measures. They are allowing more additional businesses/activities to reopen tomorrow (17 May 2020) such as restaurants/beverage shops in the office's buildings, gyms, sports stadiums, dental clinics, some beauty clinics (specifically for skin and laser works, but not face-related) and department stores/shopping malls. Therefore, for safety, when going out people must wear face masks/cloth masks, frequently wash their hands, keep 1-2 meters of space between other people, and strictly comply with the facility's requirements.

The current COVID-19 situation is getting better as shown from the incident case reports. Today, Thailand has the 68th most cumulative cases in the world. This is due to the government and the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) releasing measures to prevent the spread of the disease, such as the establishment of state quarantine to observe people who returned from abroad and implementing active case finding in risk communities. With the successes, they would like to appreciate everyone who strictly follows and gives cooperation. Do not let your guard down: keeping social distance, wearing a face mask/cloth mask, and frequently washing hands can decrease the number of opportunities of COVID-19 infection as well as for other communicable diseases also. The MOPH strongly recommended the general public to keep implementing those measures until it becomes the new normal behavior to be safe from communicable diseases.