

## Thailand situation update on 29 April 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 29 April 2020, there were a total of 3,147,626 confirmed cases with 56,915 patients in critical condition and 218,187 COVID-19 deaths across more than 207 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (1,035,765), Spain (232,128), Italy (201,505), France (165,911), England (161,145), Germany (159,912), Turkey (114,653), Russia (99,399), Iran (92,584), and the People's Republic of China (83,936 cases, as well as 1,038 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively).

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 28 April 2020 showed that among 37,868 flights, there were a total of 4,412,955 passengers screened. Among those, 889 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 139,928 people from 1,952 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 27 April 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,854,701 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 28 April 2020. Between 30 January to 29 April 2020, a total of 165,898 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is currently 901 people.

#### 2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 29 April 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 4,096 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 62,018 PUI, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	62,018
• Detected from the airport screening	899
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	61,029
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	2,947
• Recovered and discharged from hospitals	2,687
• Undergoing Treatment	206
• Deaths	54

Situation	Total number of PUI
<b>Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	2,947
● Local Transmission	2,443
● Imported Case	504
- Designated Quarantine Places*	78

Notice: \*The quarantine measures for travelers from aboard have been in effect as of 3 April 2020

In Thailand, there have been 2,947 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,687 patients have recovered and returned home, and 54 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 29 April 2020, no additional cases were reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas remained at 78 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, nine cases from America, four cases from the United of Arab Emirates, two cases from England, and one case from the Netherlands. All Thai people returning from abroad are required to comply with State Quarantine measures, meaning they have to quarantine in specific provinces; in total there are 5 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 19 cases in Satun, 3 cases in Krabi, 4 cases on Chonburi, and 9 cases in Bangkok.

On 25 April 2020, 42 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (34 cases were Burmese, 3 cases were Vietnamese, 2 cases were Malaysian, 1 case was Yemeni, 1 case was Cambodian, and 1 case was Indian).

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 month to 99 years old). 1,613 cases are male, and 1,334 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.21:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,546 cases are Thai, 51 are Burmese, 34 are Chinese, 24 are French, 23 are British, 12 are Russian, 11 are Japanese, 10 are American, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, eight are Indian, six are German, six are Swedish, five are Danish, five are Belgian, five are Swiss, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, four are Filipino, four are Malaysian, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Portuguese, two are Spanish, two are Albanian, two are Kazakh, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), one is Uzbek, one is Iranian, one is Finnish, one is Ukrainian, one is Taiwanese, one is Serbian, one is Liberian, one is Vietnamese, one is Hungarian, one is Mexican, one is Tunisian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Dutch, one is Brazilian, one is Israeli, one is Palestinian, one is Malian, one is Yemeni, and data is not available for the remaining 123 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (27 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (19 cases), diabetes (10 cases), other NCDs (13 cases), asthma (8 cases), dyslipidemia (3 cases), thyroid disease (3 cases), psoriasis (2 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (27 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (2 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), HIV (2 case), depression (2 cases), anemia (1 case), migraine (1 case), liver cirrhosis (1 case), breast cancer (1 case), Hepatitis B virus (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,814 cases reported without any underlying disease. 41 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,751 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,016 cases were tracked via case

investigation and defined as “close contacts”. Total of 20 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- The Bangkok Communicable Disease Committee approved the reopening of eight types of venues/activities as follows:
  1. Customers may consume food at restaurants but they must be 1.5 metres apart in the dining area. Alcohol sales remain halted as per the emergency decree.
  2. Markets and flea markets will be allowed to sell all types of products.
  3. All exercise facilities, sports centers, including the Sport Complex Bangkok Youth Center can reopen but only non-mass gathering sports such as walking, running, badminton, tennis and table tennis. Sports that require teams, or players in close contact will continue to be closed such as football, softball, volleyball, basketball, and also fitness classes.
  4. Parks can reopen, but visitors are prohibited from gathering together.
  5. Barbers and hairdressers can reopen their shops, but only hair washing, cutting, and drying services will be available. It is required that these shops temporarily stop services every two hours to perform thorough disinfection. Customers must make appointments, and are not allowed to wait inside shops. Staff must wear face masks and face shields.
  6. Pet grooming shops and pet clinics or pet hospitals can reopen, but customers can only bring one pet at a time. It is required that these shops temporarily stop services every two hours to perform thorough disinfection.
  7. Hospitals, health clinics, and healthcare centers will reopen.
  8. Golf courses and driving ranges will reopen. Visitors are prohibited from gathering together.

However, there must be strict prevention measures including temperature measurements, wearing masks, and washing hands with soap or alcohol gel before entering these places. Practices to maintain distance between people must be provided.

- The Governor of Songkhla Province made an announcement to extend the closure of the Sadao Point of Entry since there are still people entering who have COVID-19; at this time, trucks are the only vehicles allowed to pass. Thai people returning from Malaysia who have already registered are allowed to enter through the Padang Besar Point of Entry in Sadao District. Truck services and people will enter through separate entry points to ensure more careful and clearer screening.
- The Department of Land Transport is strengthening the operating measures for all types of public transport, including service providers at all terminal stations of public transport. Under the authority of the government and the Ministry of Transport, policies and measures are carried out to prevent and control the spread of the COVID-19 in public transport systems. People who travel with all types of public transport must wear surgical masks or cloth masks at all times, not talk on the phone while traveling, and wash hands with alcohol gel or water every time after touching any surfaces in the public.

- There are some basic safety health practices that can be implemented if using public transportation. It is recommended to sit in the back seat of all taxi cabs. For the driver of all kinds of public transportation, they are recommended to self-observe their symptoms. If anyone develops symptoms including a fever, cough or sneezing, they must stop providing services, and implement self-quarantine at home. For drivers providing a service, it is recommended they frequently wash hands with alcohol gel and wear a mask throughout the service period. If the driver notices that passengers are coughing and sneezing in the car, it is strongly advised that they turn off the air conditioner and open the windows to improve air-flow to prevent the spread of the virus in the car, leading to safety of the driver and the other passengers. Regarding the upkeep of hygiene practices across all public transportation methods, it is recommended that all services provide alcohol gel in the vehicle, keep the windows open at least sometimes for good ventilation, and clean the vehicle before and after each service, especially in the areas frequently touched by passengers and drivers.
- Thai Airways International Public Company Limited revealed that due to the company's financial status and the ongoing transmission of COVID-19, they are preparing to temporarily reopen domestic flights for 4 months and aim to resume full service by 1 October 2020. Cessation of all international flights will extend for an additional month, and is intended to resume on 1 July 2020. Therefore, the downgraded plans of the international flight network include the cancellation of 17 flight destinations from 48 cities in the Asia-Pacific region and 3 flight destinations from 13 cities in Europe.

#### 4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The measures including disease screening, isolation, quarantine or quarantine for observation to control and prevent the disease are implemented among passengers departing from areas or countries affected by COVID-19.
- In cases where it is necessary to make contact with other people, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter between yourself and the other person when interacting with others. It is also recommended to only make contact with people for a short period.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- Avoid eating raw food.