

## Thailand situation update on 8 October 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 8 October 2020, there were a total of 36,430,317 confirmed cases with 67,479 patients in critical condition and 1,061,152 COVID-19 deaths across more than 214 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 (7,776,224), India (6,835,655), Brazil (5,002,357), Russia (1,260,112), Colombia (877,683), Spain (872,276), Argentina (840,915), Peru (835,662), Mexico (799,188), and South Africa (685,155). The 47th is the People's Republic of China (90,690 cases, as well as 5,144 and 46 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 as of 7 October 2020 showed that 7,497,806 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,199 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI), as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Screening passengers at ports of entry

Ports of Entry	Total number of screened people	Total number of PUI
<b>Total number</b>	7,497,806	3,199
• Airport screening* (47,216 flights)	4,634,601	3,179
• Seaports**	177,197	2
• Ground ports***	2,367,567	18
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	318,441	0

Remark: Includes data starting from \*January 3<sup>rd</sup>, \*\*January 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*February 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*\*January 30<sup>th</sup>

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

On 8 October 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 888 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 458,540 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19**

Situation	Total number of PUI
<b>Total number of laboratory tests</b>	885,950
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who met the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	458,540
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the Active Case Finding</li> </ul>	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returnees under state quarantine</li> </ul>	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who did not meet the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	329,900
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	458,540
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detected from ports of entry</li> </ul>	3,199
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (143,502 cases in private hospitals, and 311,751 cases in public hospitals)</li> </ul>	455,253
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	88
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	3,622
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	3,439
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	124
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deaths</li> </ul>	59
<b>Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	3,622
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Transmission</li> </ul>	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imported Cases</li> </ul>	1,177
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Designated Quarantine Places*</li> </ul>	684

Notice: \*Quarantine measures for travelers from abroad have been in effect since 3 April 2020

The median age of the confirmed cases is 36 years old (ranging from 1 month to 97 years old). 2,050 cases are male, and 1,572 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.3:1). In terms of nationality, 3,195 cases are Thai, 418 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

215 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,407 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,588 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 684 cases were positive from the state quarantine supported by the government. A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- The Department of Disease Control brought 3 vehicles, provided by the King Rama X, to the X-Terminal Building of Phuket International Airport. Each will be used for swab testing up to 3 persons at a time. In addition, the Office of Disease Prevention and Control 11, Nakhon Si Thammarat has a laboratory which can provide testing up to 2 persons at a time and can swab 6 people in a minute. The province is also ready to bring people into the screening process and entering the Alternative Local State Quarantine (ALSQ). There are 9 hotels that are approved as ALSQ with a total of 1,000 rooms. the remaining rooms are reserved. Phuket province has also reserved approximately 5,000 rooms to accommodate tourists. It is planned that Phuket will be re-opened for foreign tourists at the end of this October after the Vegetarian Festival.
- Ranong province has strengthened agencies to strictly monitor along the Thai-Myanmar border areas to prevent smuggling of illegal aliens who are at risk of COVID-19 spreading. Thus, it ordered immigration inspector of Ranong province to cooperate with the Naval Area Command Region 3, the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Task Force, the Border Patrol Police Unit 415 and Ranong Province Govern Officers in 3 missions: 3 patrol marine boats, land patrol in risky areas and prepare 5 investigation and suppression officer together with smart patrol car, and Show of Force teams to support a special task 24 hours. In case of any suspicious illegal smuggling, the public is asked to promptly inform concerned officers at Hotline 1178.
- The Permanent Secretary for Public Health along with Director-Generals of the ministry's departments held a press conference on the situation of COVID-19 and the COVID-19's second wave model scenarios showing 3 possible scenarios which are 1) There are only 1 or 2 persons infected and the disease is promptly controlled, 2) The first infected person was detected and followed by a small outbreak with 10 - 20 cases reported and the outbreak is under control within 2 weeks or at most 4 weeks, and 3) The most unwanted scenarios, in which the virus is widely spread with 100 - 200 cases. In this scenario the ministry is determined to speed up the contact tracing and get the outbreak under control within 3 - 4 weeks. The press conference also emphasized the needs that people must wear face masks and always register by scanning the ThaiChana application every time when visiting public places.

- The Prachuap-khirikhan Provincial Committee on Communicable Diseases still had not yet ceased the use of POE for import-export channels of goods at Dan Singkhon Special Relief Point but to strengthen the control measures against the spread of COVID-19 into the country. However, the goods are to be transported to only the No-man-land border as usual. Vehicles or persons from Myanmar are not allowed to enter Thailand. All people involving in transportation are to wear protective clothing, have their temperature checked and the closed circuit cameras are used to record every step of transportation for checking back.

#### 4. Risk Communication to the Public

- In case of traveling to areas and across areas by public transport, the public transport operator must prepare the system and comply with the disease control measures, i.e. cleaning the vehicle, screening passengers, encouraging passengers to wear a mask, limiting bus services during certain periods, arranging distance between seats, and limiting the number of passengers. Customers must wear a mask at all times while traveling, refrain from talking and eating on public transport, and register each time they enter/leave the service area.

- For other business places/enterprises, operators are recommended to keep the areas clean, encourage people to wear a mask, limit the number of customers in accordance with the COVID-19 control measures.

- For people visiting crowded places or closed areas such as meeting rooms, department stores, and movie theatres, they are recommended to wear a mask, keep a distance of at least 1-2 meters from other people, and limit contact with other people to be only for a short period of time.

- 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.