

## Thailand situation update on 1 March 2020

### 1. International Situation

On 1 March 2020, there were a total of 86,993 confirmed cases, 7,567 patients were in critical condition (a decrease from yesterday) and there were 2,980 deaths from COVID-19 around the world in 62 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China and on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. There have been 79,932 confirmed cases in the People's Republic of China (including the Hong Kong and the Macao Special Administrative Regions of People's Republic of China), 3,526 confirmed cases in South Korea, 1,128 confirmed cases in Italy, 593 confirmed cases in Iran, 241 confirmed cases in Japan, 102 confirmed cases in Singapore, 100 confirmed cases in France, 79 confirmed cases in Germany and 39 confirmed cases in Taiwan.

#### Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 1 March 2020

- The governor of Washington state in the U.S. declared a state of emergency after they confirmed one death from COVID-19 and two additional confirmed cases. Two schools in Oregon and Washington were closed for cleaning and to contain the spread. The U.S. limited travel from the Islamic Republic of Iran, some parts of Italy and some parts of South Korea.
- Ireland's Department of Health reported the first death from COVID-19 in a case who had travel history to northern Italy where there have been COVID-19 cases. The national public health emergency team is following up the close contacts of the first death.
- An infectious disease expert in Singapore stated that although they have special measures restricting entrance and exit channels for people who travel from countries with ongoing local transmission and prohibit travel to certain countries, the important factor to stop the spread of COVID-19 is the cooperation of the people.
- South Korea reported an infection in a 45-day-old infant and the infant's father believes the Shincheonji Church of Jesus has infected people. There was an announcement that found additional patients in Daegu, which is the center of the disease epidemic and the location of the Shincheonji Church.
- The Australian government announced to prohibit entrance of travelers from the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran to Australia after they confirmed the first COVID-19 death in Perth, a patient who was a passenger on the Diamond Princess cruise ship.
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria reported the first confirmed case of COVID-19 and the chief executive officer of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control stated that preparation and management has ceased past epidemics from spreading i.e. Ebola Virus Disease and Lassa Fever. Nigeria has a strong and efficient team and emphasizes personal hygiene by washing hands with soap and water often.

### 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

#### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 29 February 2020, showed that among 19,132 flights, there were a total of 2,876,040 passengers screened. Among those, 93 people met the case definition criteria of PUI. For the screening protocol outside the airports, 101,787 people from 515 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 29 February 2020. There were two PUI

among that group. There were 679,527 people screened at ground ports from 1 to 29 February 2020. A total of 67,922 people renewing their passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road were also screened from 30 January to 28 February 2020.

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

On 1 March 2020 at 18.00, Thailand announced that 134 additional people met the criteria for patients under investigation, and 101 additional people (data on 28 February 2020) and 64 additional people (data on 29 February 2020) from the Institute of Urban Disease Prevention and Control (IUDC) the PUI criteria, raising the total to 3,252 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>	3,252
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 61, Don Mueang: 23, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 1)</li> </ul>	93
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from seaports</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (Private hospitals: 1,531 cases, Government hospitals: 1,468 cases, Unknown hospitals: 130 (source from IUDC))</li> </ul>	3,129
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	28
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	3,252
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under ongoing treatment (Private hospitals: 628 cases, Government hospitals: 613 cases, Unknown hospitals: 139)</li> </ul>	1,380
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered from their illnesses and discharged from the hospitals</li> </ul>	1,831
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home</li> </ul>	41

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	42
Recovered and discharged from hospitals	31
Being treatment	10
Severe case	1
Death	1

### 3. Thailand Precautions

The Ministry of Public Health has announced COVID-19 as the 14th dangerous communicable disease and the announcement came into effect on 1 March 2020. If anyone finds a suspected case or people who meet the criteria of COVID-19, reporting within 3 hours to disease control officers is mandatory. Any person who violates or fails to comply with the order shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-thousand Thai baht.

### 4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) can be prevented using the principles for respiratory disease prevention, i.e. washing hands, wearing masks and avoiding contact with patients who have a respiratory disease.
  - People should avoid traveling to China and countries with local transmission, and it is recommended to avoid visiting crowded places and making contact with patients who have respiratory symptoms. If this is unavoidable, people should wear a mask.
  - Travelers who departed from China (including Macau and Hong Kong) and countries with ongoing local transmission (e.g. Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Italy and Iran) are recommended to implement self-quarantine and check their body temperature for 14 days. It is also recommended to avoid visiting public or crowded places, not share personal stuff with others and keep at least 1 meter away when making contact with others. In addition, if anyone has symptoms including coughing, sneezing, sore throat, panting and runny nose, please wear a mask and seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding the travel history.
    - It is recommended to avoid visiting markets selling carcasses or live animals. If touching or handling live animals, people should wear gloves.
    - Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. It is also recommended to avoid using your hands to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.
    - 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.
    - It is recommended to avoid eating uncooked food.