

## Thailand situation update on 8 March 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 8 March 2020, there were a total of 106,482 confirmed cases, with 6,040 patients in critical condition, and 3,600 COVID-19 deaths across more than 100 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, and on the Diamond Princess cruise ship. There have been a total of 80,701 confirmed cases in the People's Republic of China. In the Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, there have been 108 confirmed cases in Hong Kong, and 10 confirmed cases in Macau. There have been 7,313 confirmed cases in South Korea, 5,883 confirmed cases in Italy, 5,823 confirmed cases in Iran, 949 confirmed cases in France, 847 confirmed cases in Germany, 461 confirmed cases in Japan, 138 confirmed cases in Singapore, and 45 confirmed cases in Taiwan.

### Notable Issues in Foreign Countries on 8 March 2020

- The People's Republic of China - A building that was used for quarantining suspected cases of COVID-19 and close-contacts with these cases collapsed. There were 70 people inside the building at the time of the collapse, and 34 people were rescued. There has been no reported cause of the collapse thus far.
- Socialist Republic of Vietnam - Since their last COVID-19 patient was discharged from the hospital on 25 February 2020, the Ministry of Health has confirmed 21 more cases. One patient had a history of traveling to Daegu, South Korea and was immediately admitted in the hospital after arriving in Vietnam.
- Kingdom of Cambodia - The Ministry of Health reported Cambodia's first COVID-19 case of a Cambodian national. The patient has a history of close contact with a 40-year-old Japanese man. This patient has traveled to many countries in Southeast Asia, but can neither remember the first country he visited, nor the amount of time he spent in each country. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport commanded to temporarily close all schools in Siem Reap province for the safety of students and teachers.
- Italy - Italy's government announced a law to limit the travel of people in Region Lombardia. Activities and meetings will be ceased. Schools, museums, pools and theatres will be closed. Bars and restaurants must either check that their customers are one meter apart from each other, or close their shops. It is required by law that people follow these measures. The law applies to areas including Region Lombardia and 14 provinces surrounding Lombardia such as Venice, Modena, Parma, Rimini and Treviso.
- The United States - The government declared a state of emergency because of the increasing number of COVID-19 patients. There were 89 additional confirmed cases. There are currently no announcements for closing schools nationwide.

## 2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

### 2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 7 March 2020, showed that among 26,136 flights, there were a total of 3,415,660 passengers screened. Among those, 210 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). For the screening protocol outside the airports, 111,853 people from 637 ships were screened at sea ports between 1 January and 7 March 2020 and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,010,457 people screened at ground ports from 1 February to 7 March 2020. Between 30 January to 6 March 2020, a total of 87,189 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 212 people.

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

On 8 March 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 152 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 4,518 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>	4,518
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from the airport screening (Suvarnabhumi: 158, Don Mueang: 41, Phuket: 8, Chiang Mai: 3)</li> </ul>	210
<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: 2,136 cases, Government hospitals: 2,119 cases)</li> </ul>	4,255
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	51
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	4,518
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing treatment (Private hospitals: 989 cases, Government hospitals: 800 cases)</li> </ul>	1,789

Situation	Total number of PUI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered from illnesses and discharged from the hospitals</li> </ul>	2,675
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of symptoms at OPD/PUI's home</li> </ul>	54
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	33
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing treatment</li> </ul>	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	1
<b>Severe cases</b>	1

There are 50 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Thailand. Among the confirmed cases, 33 patients have recovered and returned home, and one patient has died. Of the 4,468 PUI cases, laboratory results revealed that 2,641 cases returned negative for the COVID-19 virus, and results are pending for remaining 1,827 PUI.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 38 years old (ranging from 3 to 74 years old). Twenty-nine cases were male, and 21 cases were female (ratio of male to female: 1.4:1). In terms of nationality, there are 26 cases are Chinese, 22 are Thai, one is Italian, and one is British.

Underlying diseases were found in some of those cases including hypertension (4 cases), hypertension with cardiovascular disease (1 case), stroke (1 case), hepatitis B viral infection (1 case), and osteoporosis (1 case). There were 42 cases reported without any underlying disease. Four cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports, 29 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 16 cases were tracked from case investigation and defined as close contacts, and one case was detected from the group of Thai people who returned from Wuhan.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- 59 Thai workers returning from South Korea have been screened and detained at a naval reception facility in Sattahip district of Chon Buri for observation for 14 days according to the COVID-19 response plan.
- The Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of the Kingdom Thailand, General Prayut Chan-o-cha, has instructed the Internal Security Operations Command at the provincial level to reinforce support for local public health agencies, including screening, referring and taking care of disease control facilities that were set in each province to strengthen the screening and measures at all international airports in the country.

### 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 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), Republic of Korea, Italy, and Iran are required for self-quarantine at designated areas or at residences. Travelers from areas with ongoing local transmission (e.g., Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany, France, etc) are recommended to implement self-monitoring at residences 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, shortness of breath and runny nose, please wear a mask and seek medical care at the hospital immediately and inform the doctor regarding your 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.