**MoHS Statement on COVID0-19 (4.1.2020 – 18.3.2020) (18 March 2020, 8:15PM) (**[**Link**](https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar/posts/3257673627595253?__tn__=-R)**)**

***(Unofficial translation by OCHA)***

1. **Global Situation Update on COVID-19**

**World Health Organization (WHO) updated as below (as of 15:30 Myanmar Standard Time on 17 March 2019**).

* Countries with confirmed cases - 159
* Laboratory-confirmed cases globally - 179,112
* Deaths globally - 6,426
* Death rate globally - 4.1%
* **Countries with high cases/deaths**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Country | Since the outbreak | |
| Laboratory-confirmed | Death |
| 1 | China | 81,116 | 3,231 |
| 2 | Italy | 27,980 | 2,503 |
| 3 | Iran | 14,991 | 853 |
| 4 | Spain | 9,191 | 309 |
| 5 | Republic of Korea | 8,320 | 81 |
| 6 | France | 6,573 | 148 |
| 7 | Germany | 6,012 | 13 |
| 8 | American | 3,503 | 58 |
| 9 | Switzerland | 2,200 | 14 |
| 10 | England | 1,547 | 55 |
| 11 | Netherland | 1,413 | 24 |
| 12 | Norway | 1,169 | 3 |
| 13 | Austria | 1,132 | 3 |
| 14 | Belgium | 1,058 | 5 |
| 15 | Sweden | 1,059 | 3 |
| 16 | Denmark | 960 | 4 |
| 17 | Japan | 829 | 28 |

* According to the WHO Situation Report 57 on 17 March 2020, there were 88 Countries, outside China, where local transmission of COVID-19 were found.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No | Regions regarded by WHO | Countries |
| 1 | Europe | 37 |
| 2 | America | 15 |
| 3 | The West Pacific | 11 |
| 4 | The Middle East | 11 |
| 5 | Africa | 6 |
| 6 | Southeast Asia | 6 |
| 7 | Territories | 2 |

* 75% of global cases and 93% of global deaths outside China are found in Italy, Iran, Spain, Republic of Kora, France and Germany.
* Currently, the COVID-19 has not been detected in 35 UN member states including Myanmar.

1. **Situation of COVID-19 in Myanmar (from 31 January to 18 March 2020, 4:00 PM)**

* PUI – **157** (including two suspects)
* Tested negative – **151**
* Pending – **6**
* People discharged from hospitals – **101**
* **7** died of other diseases, despite being tested negative for COVID-19

Of them, 2 died of chronic diabetes and heart disease, 1 died of TB and chronic kidney disease, 1 died of chronic kidney disease, 1 died of chronic pneumonia, and 2 died of blood poisoning due to bacteria.

1. There were a total of **157** patients – **64** in Yangon Region, **25** in Shan State, **31** in Mandalay Region and **37** in other states/regions, between 31 January 2020 and 18 March 2020.
2. COVID-19 spreads through the respiratory droplets, and by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it. Hence, to stop transmitting, be advised as below:
3. Cover your mouth and nose using tissues or your elbow;
4. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or with hand sanitizers unless soaps are available;
5. Visit doctors when suffering from cough, exhausion, and/or with fever;
6. Being quarantined as soon as symptoms occur. By doing so, transmission to other families and the public can be stopped. Hence, the public is encouraged to collaborate with MoHS.
7. The Government of the Union of Myanmar has been speeding up prevention, control and treatment of the COVID-19 at the national level, with an intention to prevent the outbreak of the pandemic from Myanmar and to reduce the impacts of the global outbreak on the social and economic lives of Myanmar people as much as possible. Cooperation of civil service organizations, think tanks at all levels and the public play a critical role in responding the COVID-19. Despite no confirmed cases yet found in Myanmar, the people are advised to strictly follow the guidelines by the MoHS to prevent the outbreak of the COVID-19.

[THE END]