MoHS Statement on Novel Coronavirus (22 February 2020, 8:00AM) (Link)  
(Unofficial translation by OCHA)

1. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been spreading in 26 countries including China, and the World Health Organization (WHO) updated as below (as of 15:30 Myanmar Standard Time on 20 February 2019).
   - Globally
     - Confirmed cases - 75,748
     - Deaths - 2,129
   - China
     - Confirmed cases - 74,675
     - Deaths - 2,121
   - Other countries outside China - 26 countries
     - Laboratory-confirmed cases - 1,073
     - Death - 8 (Philippines, Japan, France, South Korea, Iran, Diamond Princes Cruise)
   (Note: In Hubei Province of China, the centre of coronavirus outbreak, clinically diagnosed cases in addition to laboratory-confirmed cases were counted.)

2. COVID-19 in Myanmar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person Under Investigation (PUI)</th>
<th>38</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suspected patient</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

   | Patients tested negative for COVID-19 | 39 (37 PUIs and 2 suspected patients) |
   | Waiting for test result from a designated laboratory | 1 |
   | Cases under the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon | - |
   | Cases to be sent to NHL in Yangon | - |
   | Total | 40 |

   The 40 PUIs and suspected patients included:
   - People who had travelled to China - 36
   - People who returned from Singapore - 2
   - People who had not travelled to China - 2

3. According to the laboratory results by the National Health Laboratory (NHL) in Yangon on the evening of 20 February 2020, a total of three patients (two patients from Weibargi Hospital and one patient from Mandalay Hospital) tested negative for COVID-19. Therefore, one patient from Magway Hospital continued to be monitored and treated as of 6:00 PM on 21 February 2020, and all the patients were in good health.

4. Regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and spread in China and other countries, the MoHS has been working on;
(a) monitoring and preventive measures at international gates/entrances such as Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, as well as ports and,

(b) border gates- especially in Pang War-Chipwi, Waingmaw, Momauk towns in Kachin State and Muse, Namhkam and Laukkai towns in northern Shan State that border with China’s Yunnan Province, where as,

- ensuring the filling-in of Health Declaration Cards,
- monitoring suspected cases, investigating and contact tracing by relevant Region/State Health Department, General Administrative Department and other departments concerned, in cooperation with hotels and guest houses;

(c) conducting hospital-based surveillance,

(d) conducting community-based surveillance,

(e) cooperating with private hospitals and

(f) cooperating with other ministries concerned.

(g) In addition, the MoHS is adopting a contingency plan, in case of COVID-19 and other epidemics.

5. Public/General Hospitals at central level and Region/State levels

(a) has prepared Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Isolation Ward medicines and medical equipments as required.

(b) has defined the Kandawwadi Hospital in Mandalay City of Mandalay Region as a designated hospital and prepared ICU and Isolation Ward at the hospital in case of epidemic-prone disease.

(c) has defined hospitals close to border gates- District General Hospital (Muse Town), General Hospital (Lashio Town), Sao San Tun General Hospital (Taunggyi Town), General Hospital (Myitkyina Town), and General Hospital (Kengtung Town)- as designated hospitals.

(d) plans to deliver ventilators to designated hospitals and conduct a training for hospital administrators, assistant doctors and nurses how to use the medical equipments on 28 February.

6. The NHL in Yangon has started independent testing for COVID-19 since 20 February 2020, and is working to keep on it in connection with international organizations.

7. The MoHS has been conducting public health awareness through State-run media and radio, updating regularly on the MoHS’s website (www.mohs.gov.mm) and social media (https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar and https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC), as well as disseminating leaflets, stickers, posters at public places, especially at schools, hotels and guest houses, pagodas, cinemas, factories and workplaces, bus stops and markets.

8. In each Region/State, the MoHS conducts;

(a) active surveillance and contact tracing of suspected patients,

(b) prohibition and limiting on travels as quarantine measures,

(c) referral of suspected patients and PUI to designated hospitals,

(d) health education,

(e) daily and immediate reporting about cases, and

(f) coordination with relevant ministries and stakeholders.

9. In addition, the MoHS has ensured that the hospitals in each Region/State are prepared and have adequate medical equipments- ventilators, humidifiers, pulse oxymetres, defibrillators, electrocardiograms, non-contact thermometers, PPEs, N-95 masks, surgical masks and hand gels.
10. The MoHS has been speeding up on monitoring and preventive measures on COVID-19, in cooperation with other relevant ministries, and national and international organizations.

THE END