

COVID-19 Highlights and Situation Overview

- The WHO-China joint mission concluded on 24 February. The team has made a range of findings about the transmissibility of the virus, the severity of disease and the impact of the measures taken. Some of the information/findings from this mission are:
 - the epidemic peaked and plateaued were between the 23rd of January and the 2nd of February, and has been declining steadily since then.
 - there has been no significant change in the DNA of the virus.
 - fatality rate is between 2% and 4% in Wuhan, and 0.7% outside Wuhan.
 - people with mild disease, recovery time is about two weeks, while people with severe or critical disease recover within three to six weeks.
 - It was estimated that the measures taken in China have averted a significant number of cases.
- A joint **WHO and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)** mission arrived in Italy on 24 February to support Italian authorities on the COVID-19 situation
- According to ECDC, all previously reported cases in the EU/EEA and UK have clearly established epidemiological links; contact tracing measures have been in place to contain further spread. Extraordinary public health measures have been implemented in northern Italy and strong efforts are being made to identify, isolate and test contacts in order to contain the outbreak. The probability of further transmission in the EU/EEA and the UK is considered to be low, but cannot be excluded because a high level of uncertainties with several unpredictable factors and a situation that is still evolving.
- **New country with COVID-19 case/s**
 - **KUWAIT (8 cases)**
 - The first individual is a 53-year-old Kuwaiti citizen, the second is a 61-year-old Saudi Arabian citizen, and the third is a 21-year-old with undisclosed nationality. All individuals have been placed under isolation and are in stable condition.
 - All of these cases are in returning travellers from Iran.
 - **BAHRAIN (8 cases)**
 - All cases have been in returning travellers from Iran
 - The new 5 cases were identified through screening upon their arrival from Iran through Dubai into the Bahrain International Airport. Local health authorities have quarantined close contacts and are continuing contact tracing.

- **IRAQ (5 cases)**
 - All cases to date have a recent travel history to Iran. The newly confirmed cases are members of an Iraqi family who recently returned to Kirkuk province in northern Iraq from Iran. The first case in Iraq, which was reported on Feb 24, was an Iranian student who recently returned from Iran to the holy city of Najaf, located south of Baghdad.
- **OMAN (2 cases)**
 - Health authorities confirmed the first two cases of COVID-19 in Oman as of February 24, 2020. Although there are limited details available, the report indicates that the individuals are Omani citizens who had recently travelled to Iran. They are currently in stable condition and have been placed under isolation.
- **AFGHANISTAN (1 case)**
 - the individual had a recent travel history to the city of Qom in Iran. Iran has reported more than 60 cases as of February 24, with many located in Qom or linked to Qom through travel.
- **CROATIA (1 case)**
 - the report indicates that the male individual is in Zagreb, Croatia's largest city and capital and that he had travelled to Milan from February 19 to 21. The individual is currently isolated at a medical center and close contacts have been placed under quarantine.
- **AUSTRIA (2 cases)**
 - the report indicates that both individuals are Italians who live in Innsbruck, Tyrol (Tirol) in Austria. Tyrol is near the border with northern Italy where there is currently a COVID-19 outbreak
- **ALGERIA (1 case)**
 - the affected individual is an Italian citizen who arrived in Algeria on February 17 and is under isolation
- **SWITZERLAND (1 case)**
 - the affected individual is a 70-year-old man from Ticino, near the northern Italian border where there is currently an outbreak of COVID-19. This individual had visited Milan on February 15 and developed symptoms on February 17. He is under isolation at a local hospital and close contacts will be quarantined and tested.
- **Increasing Cluster Cases in South Korea**
 - 460 are epidemiologically linked to the Shincheonji religious group in the city of Daegu including 6 deaths
 - The majority of the cases are concentrated on the following locations within the country: the southern city of Daegu (543

cases), North Gyeongsang province (248 cases) and the port city of Busan (43 cases)

- **Increasing Cluster Cases in Italy**

- As of 25 Feb 2020, there are 206 confirmed cases in Lombardy (31 new), 38 in Veneto (11 new), 21 in Emilia-Romagna (5 new), 3 in Piemonte (Piedmont) region, 3 in Rome and a new case was recorded in Sicilia. There are 11 cases (6 new) with limited details as to their locations. Contact tracing to determine the initial source(s) of infection(s) and epidemiological links for non-travel associated cases is still underway.
 - According to ECDC, the current event in Italy indicates that local transmission may have resulted in several clusters for which an epidemiological link to areas where ongoing transmission is presumed, was not apparent. The accumulated evidence from clusters reported in the EU/EEA and the UK indicates that once imported, the virus causing COVID-19 can transmit rapidly. This may emanate from cases with mild symptoms that do not provoke healthcare-seeking behaviour. The increases in cases and the number of countries outside China reporting those cases increases the potential routes of importation of the infection into the EU/EEA and the UK.
 - Italian authorities have implemented draconian measures to try to halt the coronavirus outbreak in the north of the country, including imposing fines on anyone caught entering or leaving outbreak areas.
- Singapore will ban visitors arriving from Cheongdo and Daegu in South Korea from 26 February 2020, after cases increased rapidly in these two cities. Singapore citizens, permanent residents and long-term pass holders returning from Cheongdo and Daegu within the last 14 days will be issued a Stay-Home Notice (SHN) for 14 days.
 - Hong Kong bans travellers arriving from South Korea starting from 25 February at 6am. This comes after the number of cases in South Korea have increased drastically
 - Iraq banned travellers from China, Iran, Thailand, South Korea, Japan, Italy and Singapore from entering the country as of 25 February 2020

Cases and Deaths as of 26 February 2020

- As of February 26 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **80,463** confirmed cases, including **2,712** deaths.
- In **China**, there were **77,905** confirmed cases with **2,669** deaths (including deaths in Hong Kong and Taiwan). Confirmed cases in China include confirmed cases in Hong Kong (79), Macau (10), and Taiwan (31)

- **Deaths outside mainland China** were reported in the Philippines (1), Hong Kong (2), Taiwan (1), Japan (3), France (1), Iran (8), South Korea (5), and Italy (2).
- **2,558 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **37 countries** (other than China):

REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	CONFIRMED CASES / (LOCALLY ACQUIRED)
ASIA PACIFIC	Thailand	13 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	37 (10)
	Vietnam	23 Jan 2020	13 Feb 2020	16 (7)
	Singapore	23 Jan 2020	21 Feb 2020	86 (59)
	Malaysia	25 Jan 2020	16 Feb 2020	22 (4)
	Cambodia	27 Jan 2020	27 Jan 2020	1
	Philippines	30 Jan 2020	5 Feb 2020	3
	Japan	16 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	160 (41) 691 from quarantined cruise ship
	South Korea	20 Jan 2020	23 Feb 2020	977 (650)
	Nepal	24 Jan 2020	24 Jan 2020	1
	Australia	25 Jan 2020	22 Feb 2020	22 ¹
	Sri Lanka	27 Jan 2020	27 Jan 2020	1
	India	30 Jan 2020	3 Feb 2020	3
	Afghanistan	24 Feb 2020	24 Feb 2020	1
AMERICAS	USA	21 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	53 ² (2)
	Canada	25 Jan 2020	24 Feb 2020	10 (1)
EUROPE	France	24 Jan 2020	16 Feb 2020	12 (7)
	Germany	27 Jan 2020	12 Feb 2020	16 (13)
	Finland	29 Jan 2020	29 Jan 2020	1
	Italy	30 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	283 (272)
	Russian Federation	31 Jan 2020	31 Jan 2020	2
	Spain	31 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	5 (4)
	Sweden	31 Jan 2020	31 Jan 2020	1
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 Jan 2020	24 Feb 2020	13 ³ (3)
	Belgium	05 Feb 2020	05 Feb 2020	1
	Switzerland	25 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	1
	Austria	25 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	2

	Croatia	25 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	1
MIDDLE EAST	UAE	29 Jan 2020	25 Feb 2020	13 (3)
	Iran	19 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	95
	Israel	21 Feb 2020	23 Feb 2020	2 ⁴
	Lebanon	21 Feb 2020	21 Feb 2020	1
	Oman	24 Feb 2020	24 Feb 2020	2
	Kuwait	24 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	8
	Bahrain	24 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	8
	Iraq	24 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	5
	AFRICA	Egypt	14 Feb 2020	14 Feb 2020
Algeria		25 Feb 2020	25 Feb 2020	1
				2,558

¹ 6 cases are from returning passengers repatriated from the quarantined cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan

² 36 cases are from returning passengers repatriated from the quarantined cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan

³ 4 cases are from the returning passengers repatriated from the quarantined cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan

⁴ 2 cases are from the returning passengers repatriated from the quarantined cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan

Map of COVID-19 Affected Countries: ASEAN Region



Figure 2. ASEAN Region with COVID-19 confirmed cases as of February 26, 2020 (2 PM GMT+8)

Wuhan coronavirus: Timeline (continuation*)

- Additional cases in Canada (1), South Korea (169), Italy (73), UK (4), Hong Kong (4), Iran (15), Israel (1), Taiwan (2), UK (4 evacuees from Diamond Princess) and Japan (57 from Diamond Princess)
- Additional deaths reported: South Korea (4), Italy (1), Iran (3) and Japan (1 from the cruise ship)

- **Additional cases in South Korea, Italy, UK, Hong Kong, Iran, Israel, and Japan**
- **Additional deaths reported: South Korea, Italy, Iran and Japan**

23 FEBRUARY 2020 (erratum)

- First confirmed cases in Algeria (1), Austria (2), Croatia (1), Switzerland (1)
- Additional cases Bahrain (7), Iran (34), Iraq (4), Italy (54), Kuwait (5), South Korea (144), Spain (3), Thailand (2)
- Additional deaths reported: Italy (4), South Korea (3), Iran (3)

- **First confirmed cases in Algeria, Austria, Croatia, Switzerland**
- **Additional cases Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kuwait, Oman, South Korea, Spain, Thailand,**
- **Additional deaths reported: Italy, South Korea, and Iran**

25 FEBRUARY 2020

- **First confirmed cases in Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, and Oman**
- **Additional cases in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Iran, Italy, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, US**
- **Additional deaths reported: Iran, Italy, South Korea**

24 FEBRUARY 2020

- First confirmed cases: Afghanistan (1), Bahrain (1), Iraq (1), Kuwait (3), Oman (2)
- Additional cases: Hong Kong (7), Taiwan (2), Iran (18), Italy (74), Singapore (1), South Korea (231), Spain (1), US (18)
- Additional deaths reported: Iran (4), Italy (4), South Korea (1)

- **Global COVID-19:**
 - **80,463 confirmed cases**
 - **2,712 deaths**

26 FEBRUARY 2020

- As of February 26 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **80,463** confirmed cases, including **2,712** deaths.



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