



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA**

28 February 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) has confirmed two (2) additional cases of COVID-19 that was reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC).

About the additional confirmed cases

Case 24

Case 24 is a 41 year-old Japanese female working in Malaysia. She has a history of travelling to Japan in January and to Indonesia in early February 2020. She developed fever and sought treatment on 17 February 2020. She was admitted into a private hospital on 20 February 2020. She was tested for COVID-19 and confirmed positive on 27 February 2020. She is currently admitted into the isolation ward in Kuala Lumpur Hospital.

Case 25

Case 25 is a 54 year-old Italian male who is married to a Malaysian and living in Malaysia. He has a history of travelling to Italy for business between 15 to 21 February 2020. He started developing fever, cough, joint pain and body ache on 22 February 2020. He sought out-patient treatment for his symptoms for three consecutive days from 23 to 25 February 2020. He was tested for COVID-19 and confirmed positive on 28 February 2020. He was admitted into the isolation ward in Sungai Buloh Hospital for further management.

Current Status in Malaysia

With this two (2) additional cases, cumulatively there is a total of 25 confirmed COVID-19 cases, of which 15 were amongst Patients-Under-Investigation (PUI), eight (8) amongst close contacts and two (2) amongst Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) mission evacuees. Of these, 15 were Chinese nationals, seven (7) Malaysians and three (3) from other nationalities (US, Japan and Italy). Of these 25 confirmed cases, 22 cases have fully recovered and discharged well, while three (3) cases are receiving treatment in hospitals.

Outcome of the Technical Working Committee for COVID-19 Cluster Meeting with other Agencies

The Technical Working Committee for COVID-19 Cluster Meeting with other Agencies was coordinated by the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), involving MOH, Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysian Immigration Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other related agencies. This Committee discussed in detail the current COVID-19 status globally and in Malaysia. Based on the current status of the COVID-19 infection, the Committee has agreed to the following measures:

1. Temporary entry ban for all travellers from the Republic of Korea, including foreign nationals, who have travelled to Daegu city and Cheongdo county within 14 days prior to arrival to Malaysia. This includes travellers in transit through Malaysia;
2. Malaysians, permanent residents and pass holders (long-term social visit and student pass holders) who were in Daegu city and Cheongdo county within 14 days prior to arrival to Malaysia will have to undergo health screening by MOH;
3. To strengthen screening at International Points of Entry, the Malaysian Immigration Department has set up special counters for travellers from the Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy and Iran;
4. MOH will continue to closely monitor the development of the COVID-19 infection in the Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy, Iran and other countries reporting cases. Currently, Malaysians are advised to **postpone travel to**

regions and cities that have been declared with COVID-19 outbreaks in the People's Republic of China (as notified earlier) as well as to the Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy and Iran; and

5. **The above measures will be enforced immediately.** The Malaysian authorities will continuously assess the measures being taken to prevent and control COVID-19 infection. These measures will be removed once circumstances revert back to normal.

MOH advises that all MOH staff to be sensitive and aware of the latest COVID-19 situation to strengthen preparedness and response towards this infection. The public is also advised to inform travel history to the treating doctor when seeking treatment if they develop symptoms of respiratory tract infection within 14 days upon returning from travel to the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy and Iran,

MOH also urges the public to contact the MOH Infoline to seek advise or for further information:

- Telephone : 03-88810200 / 03-88810600 / 03-88810700
- E-mail : cprc@moh.gov.my

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Director General of Health Malaysia

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