GLOBAL SITUATION OVERVIEW

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is closely monitoring an ongoing pandemic of a coronavirus disease which is affecting over 180 countries globally. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on January 30, 2020, designated its official name as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on February 11, 2020, and characterized it as a pandemic on March 12, 2020.

As of May 29, 2020:

- At least 5,803,416* confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, including 172*** in Guam, 22 in the Northern Mariana Is. (CNMI), 647 cases in Hawaii, 60 in French Polynesia, 19 in New Caledonia, 18 in Fiji, and 8 in Papua New Guinea.
- 177,460** confirmed cases within the Western Pacific Region.
- 359,791* deaths reported globally – 6,957** deaths in the Western Pacific Region, 5*** deaths on Guam, 17 in Hawaii, 2 in CNMI.
- 2,413,576* people have recovered from COVID-19 globally.

PALAU READINESS AND RESPONSE

As of May 29, 2020:

- There are NO SUSPECTED or CONFIRMED CASES of COVID-19 in Palau.
- MOH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated on Jan. 22, 2020 to implement preparedness and response measures to minimize the risk of importation and potential local transmission of COVID-19 to Palau.
- Belau National Hospital (BNH) has reduced non-essential services and clinics and is prepared to receive and care for critically ill suspected cases.
- BNH ventilators: 26 total capacity, 1 portable vent, 2 pediatric vent, 18 adult vents (0 in use), 5 in calibration.
- On-island PCR testing for COVID-19 commenced on Apr. 14 for targeted priority groups including frontline workers (providers and first-responders).
- COVID-19 testing (since Apr. 14): 663 tests conducted, 0 total positive, 663 total negative, 0 pending results.
- Alternative Care Site (ACS) is currently being prepared to receive and care for critically ill suspected cases.
- Health screening continues at Palau International Airport for chartered and private aircrafts; health screening at Malakal seaport continues for incoming vessels. Screening data:
  - Past 24 hours: 0 flights screened, 0 travelers; 1 vessel screened, 25 travelers; 0 secondary screening.
  - Since Jan. 23: 169 flights screened, 15,180 travelers; 48 vessels screened, 1,555 travelers; 338 secondary screening.
- All commercial air travel to Palau is temporary suspended as of Mar. 26 until further notice as airlines temporarily halt services. Air mail and cargo service continues on a weekly basis through chartered services.
- Executive Order No. 440 signed on Apr. 29 2020 extending travel restrictions from Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China to the Republic of Palau until June 30, 2020.
- The public is urged not to panic and to continue practicing public health measures to prevent respiratory infections:
  - Hand Hygiene: Frequent handwashing with soap and water or hand rub with 70% alcohol-based sanitizer.
  - Respiratory Etiquettes: Cover cough and sneeze with clean tissue or shirt sleeve.
  - Avoid close contact with sick people and stay home if you are sick.

More information can be obtained by calling MOH EOC Liaison - Komtil Ngirmang +680 775-3100.