Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report
Palau Ministry of Health - External Situation Report
15 March 2021 - 02:00PM PWT

GLOBAL SITUATION OVERVIEW
The Ministry of Health (MOH) is closely monitoring an ongoing pandemic of a coronavirus disease which is affecting over 190 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 March 15, 2021:
● At least 119,848,281* confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, including 7,767** in Guam, 154 in the Northern Mariana Is. (CNMI), 4 in the Marshall Islands, 1 in the FSM, 28,554 in Hawaii, 621,498 in Philippines, 447,287 in Japan, 985 in Taiwan.
● 2,653,641* deaths reported globally – 133** deaths on Guam, 450 in Hawaii, 2 in CNMI, 12,829 in Philippines, 8,587 in Japan, 10 in Taiwan.
● 67,895,864* people have recovered from COVID-19 globally.

*JHU CSSE COVID-19 Dashboard/**Guam Homeland Security

PALAU READINESS AND RESPONSE

As of March 15, 2021:
● There are NO SUSPECTED or CONFIRMED CASES of COVID-19 in Palau.
● COVID-19 Vaccination (since Jan. 3, 2021): 7,051 1st dose administered; 3,098 2nd dose administered; 3,098 total persons fully vaccinated (2 doses); 17% of population fully vaccinated (estimated 18,000 total population)
● Isolation & Quarantine:
  ○ Currently in Isolation & Quarantine: 8 in quarantine facility, 0 in self-monitoring, 16 in restricted movement, 0 in BNH isolation, 0 in alternative care and isolation site
  ○ Total since Apr. 17, 2020: 0 isolated, 1,103 quarantined (inbound travellers and PUIs)
● COVID-19 Testing (since Apr. 14, 2020): 4,049 tests conducted, 0 positive, 4,049 negative, 0 pending results.
● International Points of Entry Screening:
  ○ Total since Jan. 23, 2020: 209 flights screened, 15,868 travelers; 109 vessels screened, 2,897 travelers; 1,096 secondary screening
● Belau National Hospital Ventilators: 0 in use, 30 total capacity: 5 portable, 2 pediatric, 18 adult vents, 5 in calibration

General Updates:
● 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.
● MOH received 4rd batch of Moderna COVID-19 vaccines (5,400 doses) on March 4, 2021. Mass vaccination commenced on Jan. 3, 2021 and is ongoing with targeted priority groups.
● As COVID-19 mass vaccination is ongoing, the public is urged to continue practicing the following measures to prevent respiratory infections:
  ○ 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 away from others if you are sick. Call your doctor or hospital for advise.
  ○ Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces/objects.

More information can be obtained by calling MOH EOC Liaison - Verna Kyota +680 775-4665.