



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

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

Current Status in Malaysia

Up to 25 February 2020, samples from 1,548 individuals have been taken for COVID-19 testing. They are amongst Patients-Under-Investigation (PUI), contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and individuals evacuated through the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) missions. Of these, there were a total of 22 confirmed COVID-19 cases; 12 amongst the PUIs, eight (8) were close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and two (2) amongst the HADR evacuees.

The last confirmed COVID-19 case in Malaysia was reported on 15 February 2020. Of the 22 confirmed cases, 20 cases have fully recovered and discharged well. The remaining two (2) cases are still receiving treatment in hospitals and are in stable condition.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) has strengthened COVID-19 surveillance amongst patients diagnosed with severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) and influenza-like illness (ILI). This is to detect sporadic cases and local cases with no travel history to China or close contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases. Up to 25 February 2020, a total of 122 samples have been tested; 77 samples amongst SARI patients and 45 amongst ILI patients. Till present, no SARI and ILI patients have tested positive for COVID-19.

On 25 February 2020, the Singapore-Malaysia Joint Working Group for Coronavirus convened for the first time to discuss bilateral collaboration for COVID-19 prevention and control activities, following up from the Malaysia-Singapore teleconference meeting on 11 February 2020. The agreed activities included:

1. Information sharing on the clinical management of patients involving clinical specialists from both countries to ensure that optimum quality care is provided to COVID-19 patients;
2. To strengthen entry screening at the Malaysia-Singapore land points of entry, that functions as a shared cross-border screening;
3. To share and coordinate the health screening protocols at the land points of entry of both countries;
4. Malaysia and Singapore will share health advisories and public health messaging that are used for health promotion to their respective populations; and
5. To activate the Malaysia-Singapore Bilateral Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN) for sharing of surveillance data and results of the analysis.

MOH continues to monitor developments of the COVID-19 infection throughout the world, and the public will be continuously updated on the latest development. The public is also advised to obtain the latest information from the MOH website.

DATUK DR NOOR HISHAM ABDULLAH
Director General of Health Malaysia

26 February 2020