

## **29th February 0800 hrs**

The World Health Organization (WHO) today raised the level of threat of the new coronavirus to “very high”, which has already infected around 79,000 people in China and more than 5,000 in the rest of the world.

"We have now increased our assessment of the risk of spreading Covid-19 and the risk of impact to a very high global level," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at a press conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that containment of the global spread of coronavirus was possible "but the window of opportunity is narrowing". "This not a time for panic - it is time to be prepared - fully prepared," he told reporters in New York.

"Now is the time for all governments to step up and do everything possible to contain the disease. We know containment is possible, but the window of opportunity is narrowing."

PORTUGAL - As at 28<sup>th</sup> February 1800 hrs DGS reported that Portugal has not registered any confirmed cases.

So far, 59 suspected cases have been registered, 57 of which have been negative after laboratory tests, pending results from the rest. Seven new cases were registered in the last 24 hours.

Taking into account the global epidemiological situation, it is necessary to consider the possibility of importing cases of illness from citizens from China or other areas with active community transmission.

According to current information, the risk to public health in Portugal is considered moderate to high.

DIAMOND PRINCESS - Japan's Kyodo news agency said a British man who was on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship has passed away after being infected by the coronavirus. The British national's death, the first of a foreign passenger, brought the death toll aboard the ship to six.

ITALY - A civil protection official in Italy said that four more people have died from coronavirus, bringing the total to 21, while the number of those testing positive for the illness jumped to 888 from 650 the day before. Of those infected, 46 are said to have recovered.

GERMANY - A spokesperson for the German health ministry said nearly 60 people had tested positive for the coronavirus, adding that the number included those who recovered. "At the moment in Germany, we have almost 60 but it's a very dynamic situation, as we keep saying."

RUSSIA will deport 88 foreigners for allegedly violating quarantine measures put in place as a precaution against the coronavirus.

The foreign nationals were caught during raids carried out by Moscow police in order to implement the measures for preventing the infiltration of the deadly virus, Anastasia Rakova, Moscow's deputy mayor said on Friday, adding that cases have yet to be detected in the Russian capital.

## **28th February 0800 hrs**

PORTUGAL has had, in the last 24 hours, 27 new suspected cases of infection with the new coronavirus (Covid-19), totalling 52 to date, of which 16 are awaiting laboratory results, said the Directorate -General for Health (DGS).

The data are contained in the Covid-19 epidemiological bulletin, which did not report any cases of infection with the new coronavirus in Portugal until 19:00 today.

Of the total of new suspected cases, 26 are citizens from northern Italy and one from Japan.

The risk to public health in Portugal is considered moderate to high, according to the Directorate-General for Health, which promises to publish daily the epidemiological bulletin of Covid-19 at 18:00, which did not happen today.

Meanwhile the President of the Republic, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, said that he will follow the "evolution of events" in relation to the Covid-19 epidemic to decide on the need to "cancel one or another trip or commitment" abroad.

We will see the evolution of events to see if it is necessary to change plans and cancel one or another trip or commitment and if it is proportional to cancel everything or if it is necessary to readjust programs ", said Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa.

The coronavirus outbreak has reached a "decisive point" and has "pandemic potential", World Health Organization head Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus said today. Dr Tedros urged governments to act swiftly and aggressively to contain the virus. "We are actually in a very delicate situation in which the outbreak can go in any direction based on how we handle it," he said.

JAPAN and IRAQ have ordered schools to close - a measure already taken in mainland China and Hong Kong

The closures are set to take effect on Monday and will last until the end of spring vacation - typically in early April. The move will affect about 13 million students. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the first weeks of March would be an "extremely critical period" for preventing virus transmission.

### **27th February 0800 hrs**

For the first time, since the onset of symptoms of the first identified case of COVID-19 on 8 December 2019, there have been more new cases reported from countries outside of China than from China.

In the last 24 hrs Algeria, Austria, Croatia, Switzerland, Pakistan, Norway, Georgia, North Macedonia, Greece, and Romania have all reported their first cases.

There are now a total of 82,187 confirmed cases of whom 78,514 are in China.

A total of 50 countries have confirmed cases, with 60 deaths reported. In South Korea there are over 1595 confirmed cases with 13 deaths; Iran with 22 deaths and 141 confirmed cases and Italy with 453 confirmed cases and 12 deaths. Four new Member States (Algeria, Austria, Croatia, and Switzerland) reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

ITALY is struggling to contain the virus in its northern region; several European countries have reported their first cases in recent days, many of which stemmed from people who had visited Italy. Meanwhile, Attilio Fontana, president of Lombardia Region, has gone into self-isolation after one of his staff tested positive.

IRAN - Qatar's ruler Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani ordered the evacuation of Qatari and Kuwaiti citizens from Iran due to the spreading of the coronavirus and its associated disease COVID-19, state news agency reported on Twitter.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said that Iran had no plans to quarantine any "cities and districts" in response to the country's coronavirus outbreak.

SAUDI ARABIA has banned travel to the holiest sites in Islam over virus fears, AP reports. The decision by Saudi Arabia stops foreigners from reaching the holy city of Mecca and the Kaaba, the cube-shaped structure the world's 1.8 billion Muslims pray toward five times a day.

CHINA - Chinese immigration authorities have said regions of the country which are at low risk for the virus should resume visa and passport services for foreign and domestic travellers. They said this would help get the nation back to work, Reuters is reporting.

### **26th February 0800 hrs**

The coronavirus is spreading in Europe, the Middle East and other parts of the world, while parts of China begin to lower their emergency response level as the number of new cases reported there continues to slow.

The total cases stands at 81,132 including 78,064 in China. The number of deaths is 2764 including 2715 in China. A total of 40 countries have confirmed cases. There is considerable concern in South Korea where the number of confirmed cases has tripled in the last few days now standing at over 1261 with 12 deaths; Iran with 19 deaths and 95 confirmed cases and Italy with 325 confirmed cases and 11 deaths. (26th Feb)

Four new Member States (Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iraq, and Oman) reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

PORTUGAL - The analysis of the man suspected of being infected with the new coronavirus (COVID-19), who is hospitalized at the Curry Cabral Hospital in Lisbon, was negative, the Directorate-General for Health said today. A total of 19 suspected cases have been identified all proving negative.

The World Health Organization has said the virus has not reached the level of a pandemic but warned countries to step up preparations to deal with such a scenario,

"For the moment, we are not witnessing the uncontained global spread of this coronavirus, and we are not witnessing large-scale severe disease or death," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters in Geneva.

He added, however, that countries should be "doing everything we can to prepare for a potential pandemic.

ITALY's prime minister has called for calm as the coronavirus continues to spread throughout Italy, away from its original outbreak point in the north.

As of Wednesday morning, there are 325 confirmed cases of the virus and 11 deaths. Towns in the northern region of Lombardy and Veneto remain under lockdown with schools, universities, public venues closed.

TENERIFE – SPAIN - A hotel in Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands has been locked down after a visiting Italian doctor tested positive for coronavirus.

Hundreds of guests at the H10 Costa Adeje Palace Hotel were told to stay in their rooms as medical tests were carried out.

The doctor is reportedly from the virus-hit Lombardy region. His wife has also now tested positive, sources say.

### **25th February 0800 hrs**

A total of 36 countries have confirmed cases. There is considerable concern in South Korea where the number of confirmed cases has tripled in the last few days now standing at over 977 with 10 deaths; Iran with 15 deaths and 61 confirmed cases and Italy with 231 confirmed cases and 7 deaths

The World Health Organization) has said the outbreak has not reached the level of a pandemic but warned countries to step up preparations to deal with such a scenario, as new deaths and infections were reported in the Middle East and Europe.

While the global health agency is very concerned about the spread of the virus within countries such as South Korea, Iran and Italy, its chief said on Monday the infections in China - the country where it originated late last year - have been declining since early February, which proved that the virus can be contained.

NORTH KOREA has quarantined 380 foreigners in an attempt to stop the coronavirus from breaking out.

The foreigners are mostly diplomats stationed in the capital Pyongyang, state media reported.

About 200 foreigners had already been confined to their compounds for the past 30 days - but as that came to an end, the quarantine has been extended.

IRAN has yet to say how many people it has quarantined but the semi-official Mehr news agency said 320 people had been hospitalised in the Shi'ite holy city of Qom, where Tehran confirmed its first two deaths last week.

In ITALY, where there have been more than 200 infections and seven deaths, authorities have set up roadblocks, called off football matches, sealed off the worst-affected towns and banned public gatherings across a wide area.

In PORTUGAL, there have already been 14 suspected cases, which were negative after analysis, with a new case being evaluated. The Portuguese man infected with the Covid-19 coronavirus on a cruise ship in Japan was transferred to a hospital in the city of Okazaki in Aichi province yesterday.

### **23rd February 0800 hrs**

More than 78,000 people around the world have been confirmed to have been infected by the Covid-19 virus, with most cases in mainland China, though clusters that have unclear origins have emerged in Singapore, Iran and South Korea.

A Portuguese national aged 41 years working on the Diamond Princess has been infected with coronavirus. The Directorate-General for Health, says it is aware of the situation, but "was unable to confirm the diagnosis with the official authorities at this time.

Mainland China noted a significant fall in the number of new cases, with 397 reported on Saturday.

The WHO is concerned about the number of coronavirus cases with no clear epidemiological link, its director general said on Saturday.

"Although the total number of cases outside China remains relatively small, we are concerned about the number of cases with no clear epidemiological link, such as travel history to China or contact with a confirmed case," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a briefing.

According to available data, the disease remains mild in 80 percent of coronavirus patients, and is severe or critical in 20 percent of patients, he said.

IRAN - Five people have now died from the coronavirus in Iran, prompting World Health Organization head to say Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus he was especially concerned about the country.

SOUTH KOREA - Thousands of members of a secretive religious sect in South Korea are being screened for the new coronavirus after more than 430 cases were confirmed in the country by officials. This doubles the number in 24 hrs.

Korea's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) designated both the city of Daegu, which has a population of 2.5 million people, and Cheongdo county, home to around 43,000 people, as "special care zones" on Friday as case numbers began to surge upwards.

ITALY - COVID-19 is now confirmed to have infected 52 people across Italy: 39 in Lombardy, 12 in Veneto, 1 in Turin and a suspected case in Umbria.

More than 30 British and European passengers arrived back home in the United Kingdom after spending more than two weeks stuck on a quarantined cruise ship in a Japanese port due to the coronavirus outbreak, UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab confirmed.

### **21st February 2200 hrs**

The window of opportunity to contain wider international spread of the epidemic of the new coronavirus disease is closing, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Friday, and countries must act fast if they are to control it.

Asked whether the outbreak is at a "tipping point" after new cases and deaths from COVID-19 were reported in Iran and Lebanon, the WHO's director-general, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said he still believed the virus could be contained, but added: "The window of opportunity is narrowing, so we need to act quickly before it closes completely."

PORTUGAL - Two residents in Portugal who were passengers of the ship MS Westerdam that was docked in Cambodia were subjected to laboratory tests for the new coronavirus and the results were negative.

ITALY - Has recorded it's first death today from coronavirus, a man age 77 years..

Authorities in northern Italy ordered the closure of schools, bars and other public spaces in 10 towns following a flurry of new coronavirus cases.

Five doctors and nine other people tested positive for the virus in Lombardy, after apparently frequenting the same bar and group of friends, with two other cases in Veneto, bringing the total to 20 confirmed cases authorities said at a press conference.

SOUTH KOREA - The mayor of the South Korean city of Daegu said it was facing an "unprecedented crisis" after a series of coronavirus infections were linked to a single church service, as worries mounted in the country. The number of cases of coronavirus in South Korea has doubled in 24 hours, reaching 204.

IRAN - Iraq and Kuwait, which share borders with Iran, were on high alert for a potential outbreak after banning travel to and from the Islamic Republic although they have not confirmed any cases domestically.

The outbreak in Iran, where 4 people have died, has raised concerns, especially since many of the coronavirus cases involved residents of Qom, a popular destination for Kuwaiti and Iraqi Shiites.

Five Qatar Airways Cargo freighters departed to China today carrying approximately 300 tonnes of medical supplies donated by the airline to support coronavirus relief efforts, QNA news agency reported.

## **20th February 0800 hrs**

Two Iranians have died in hospital after testing positive for the new coronavirus in the central city of Qom, the head of the city's University of Medical Sciences told Iran's Mehr news agency, saying the two had died of "respiratory illness". This brings the total of overseas deaths to eight.

The UK's Foreign Office has advised Britons to stay on the infected Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan - they may not be able to board the evacuation flight later this week if they disembark. Another 79 passengers on board were diagnosed with the infection - taking the total to 621.

In China, where the bulk of cases have been, there have been 2,009 deaths and 14,938 recoveries - out of a total of 74,185 cases.

In some Chinese provinces the recovery rate has increased to 40%, although the rate for Hubei is still below 15% - possibly due to the extra strain on medical resources there, experts have suggested.

South Korea reported 20 new confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus - increasing its total by nearly two-thirds - including a cluster of at least 16 centred around the southern city of Daegu.

The Korea Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) said in a statement that 20 new coronavirus cases had been confirmed, raising its total from 31 to 51.

China has revoked the press credentials of three Beijing-based reporters for the United States newspaper Wall Street Journal over an editorial headline deemed by the government to be racist and slandering, the foreign ministry said.

Spokesman Geng Shuang told a daily briefing that Beijing made several representations to the newspaper over the column, which criticised its efforts to combat the coronavirus epidemic - but the Journal failed to apologise or investigate those responsible.

The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) warned Japan's release of hundreds of passengers on board a cruise-liner carrying coronavirus victims posed a threat.

The CDC said there was an "ongoing risk" and keeping the 3,700 passengers on board the ship could have slowed new infections. But it added it "may not have been sufficient to prevent transmission among individuals on the ship".

## **18th February 2200 hrs**

Russia will suspend entry of Chinese citizens to its territory starting from Thursday, Russian authorities in charge of coronavirus prevention said in a statement.

The suspension will be for Chinese citizens entering Russia for employment, private, educational and tourist purposes. The suspension will be temporary, the statement said.

There have been 92 cases of human-to-human spread of the coronavirus in 12 countries outside China but the World Health Organization (WHO) does not have the data to make comparisons with China, WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

Around 500 passengers will leave the Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined off Japan on Wednesday after testing negative for the new coronavirus that has infected hundreds on board, a health ministry official said.

The UN secretary general has told The Associated Press that the virus outbreak that began in China "is not out of control but it is a very dangerous situation".

Antonio Guterres said in an interview that "the risks are enormous and we need to be prepared worldwide for that." Guterres added the spread of the virus to countries with "less capacity in their health service" would require a great deal of international solidarity.

China reported on Tuesday the smallest number of new coronavirus infections since January and its lowest daily death toll for a week, but the World Health Organization said the data should still be viewed with caution.

Ukraine is preparing to send a plane to evacuate some 49 of its citizens as well as up to 25 foreign nationals from China, Health Minister Zoriana Skalteska said.

### **17th February 2200 hrs**

As at 22.00 hrs 17th February 2020 WHO reports the number of deaths stands at 1775 (+106) including one in Hong Kong and four overseas in the Philippines, Japan, Taiwan and France.

Confirmed cases stands at 71,448 (+2162) in China, with 10,664 severe cases, plus 7264 suspected cases, with around confirmed 896 cases overseas in 24 countries. Of those confirmed overseas 454 are on board the cruise liner Diamond Princess moored off Yokohomo, Japan. A total of over 10,884 have recovered.

From 17<sup>th</sup> February the WHO is reporting all confirmed cases, including both laboratory-confirmed as previously reported, and those reported as clinically diagnosed.

A Holiday Inn hotel at Heathrow has been block-booked to serve as a coronavirus facility for those at risk of spreading the disease.

British passengers aboard the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan could be flown home as the government considers a repatriation flight.

It is too early to tell if the decline in new cases will continue, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general of WHO, said in a press conference today, adding that the virus is certainly not as deadly as previous outbreaks. He added that cases will continue, and data must be interpreted "cautiously".

Doctors in Shanghai are using infusions of blood plasma from people who have recovered from the coronavirus to treat those still battling the infection, with some encouraging results.

A top emergency expert at the World Health Organization said that using convalescent plasma was a "very valid" approach to test, but it was important to get the timing right to maximise the boost to a patient's immunity.

### **16th February 2200 hrs**

A taxi driver has died from the coronavirus in Taiwan, marking the first such death on the island and the fifth fatality outside mainland China from an epidemic that has curbed travel and disrupted global supply chains.

The man who died had not travelled abroad recently and was a taxi driver whose clients were mainly from Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China, the minister said. One of his family members was also confirmed to have the virus.

The health minister, Chen Shih-chung, said during a news conference on Sunday that the deceased was a 61-year-old man who had diabetes and hepatitis B. Taiwan has to date reported 20 confirmed cases.

Hundreds of American passengers left the Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined in Japan on Sunday night, as local health authorities said a further 70 people on board had tested positive for Covid-19, bringing the total to 355.

The number of people tested for coronavirus in the UK has passed 3,000, according to official figures.

Statistics from the Department of Health and Social Care show that 3,109 tests had been carried out in the UK as of 2pm on Sunday, an increase of 117 on the 2,992 reported on Saturday.

Nine people have tested positive for the virus in the UK so far, eight of whom have since been discharged from hospital after recording two negative tests.

### **15th February 0800 hrs**

As at 08.00 hrs 15th February 2020 WHO reports the number of deaths stands at 1524 (+143) in mainland China, one in Hong Kong and two overseas in the Philippines and Japan.

Confirmed cases (including clinically diagnosed cases, stands at 66,580 (+2648) in China, with 11,053 severe cases, plus 8969 (+2277) suspected cases, with around confirmed 530 cases overseas in 24 countries. A total of over 8292 have recovered.

WHO is seeking more information from China about the large numbers of health workers falling sick because of the coronavirus after it was revealed 1,760 of them have tested positive and six have died.

After being tested negative, the 18 Portuguese and two Brazilian women “will end the 14-day voluntary prophylactic isolation period today, according to a statement from DGS. The 20 repatriated citizens came from China and arrived in Lisbon on February 2. There are no confirmed cases in Portugal.

Africa has its first confirmed case of coronavirus after a person in Egypt tested positive for the disease, it has emerged. The person, who is not Egyptian, is in hospital isolation, the country’s health ministry said.

Eight Heathrow flights were delayed earlier amid coronavirus concerns. Government health officials were responding to coronavirus-related concerns over passengers feeling unwell.

Two MPs who were among more than 200 attendees at a London conference alongside a delegate who has since tested positive for coronavirus have gone into self-isolation.

Nearly 3,000 people in the UK have now tested negative for coronavirus, according to the government. But officials warn the number of people who have the disease in the UK – currently nine – is highly likely to rise in the coming days.

### **14th February 0800 hrs**

A huge jump in cases in Hubei from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> February – bringing the total to more than 60,000 worldwide – was caused by a change in the way Chinese authorities were counting them.

WHO state overnight 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> February 14,840 cases, including 13,332 clinically diagnosed cases were reported from Hubei. This is the first time China has reported clinically diagnosed cases in addition to laboratory-confirmed cases.

The WHO is now working hard to get further details on when the extra cases of “Covid-19” occurred to paint a true picture of the development of the epidemic in Wuhan and other cities in Hubei.

The latest figures from China do not show a “significant shift in the pattern of mortality or severity” of the coronavirus, the World Health Organization’s Dr Michael Ryan has said.

Japan has announced its first death from the coronavirus outbreak, hours after confirming 44 more cases on a cruise ship quarantined near Tokyo, as fears of the spreading disease mount in the country.

Japans Health Minister announced that the first fatality was a woman in her 80s who had been in hospital since 1 February, when she was diagnosed with pneumonia.

Meanwhile, the largest cluster of coronavirus cases outside of China, on a cruise ship that has been quarantined for almost two weeks in Japan, continued to grow Thursday, with 44 new cases on the Diamond Princess bringing the total to 218 cases.

Tests for the virus have been carried out on 2,521 people in the UK as of 14:00 GMT on Thursday - an increase of 763 from Wednesday - with all but nine being negative

### **13th February 0800 hrs**

The UN health agency has cautioned it is "way too early" to say whether COVID-19 might have peaked or when it might end, following a drop in the number of new cases.

"I think it's way too early to predict the beginning, the middle or the end of this epidemic right now," Michael Ryan, head of WHO's health emergencies programme told reporters.

The UK has confirmed its ninth case of coronavirus, saying the latest patient - the first in London - had caught the virus while in China. However, senior scientific figures have played down the significance of this.

A mental health centre in Hove is going through a deep clean after a patient with flu-like symptoms had to be treated. It’s understood the female patient had recently returned from Hong Kong, which Public Health England say is on the coronavirus warning list.

The Mobile World Congress tech conference has been cancelled after several major companies pulled out over coronavirus fears, the GSMA telecoms association said.

"With due regard to the safe and healthy environment in Barcelona and the host country today, the GSMA has cancelled MWC Barcelona 2020 because the global concern regarding the coronavirus outbreak, travel concern and other circumstances,

Formula One organisers have postponed the Chinese Grand Prix, scheduled in Shanghai on April 19, because of the outbreak of the coronavirus.

### **12th February 0800 hrs**

The World Health Organization announced this Tuesday the official name of the coronavirus: "Covid-19". It is the first decision made by the scientific community that is meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, to analyse and share information about the disease.

The meeting is examining ways to fight the disease, with more than 400 specialists also trying to find answers to some questions that remain about Covid-19.

In Portugal, so far, no cases of coronavirus have been registered, but 20 people, 18 Portuguese and two Brazilian citizens have been in isolation for more than a week, after returning from the city of Wuhan.

A Chinese study concluded that the incubation period may be longer than previously thought. Instead of 14 days, Chinese doctors understand that this period lasts up to 24 days.

### **11th February 0800 hrs**

A total of 42,369 people have been confirmed with the virus and the total deaths at 1012, including 974 in Hubei province China where it started

Of those confirmed 7323 are serious. Those cured stands at 4051 The director general of the World Health Organization (WHO) has said recent cases of coronavirus reported in France and the UK could "be the spark that becomes a bigger fire".

One of the suspected cases of infection with the new coronavirus under analysis in Portugal was negative in the tests carried out and the results for the second case will be "released in due time", announced today the Directorate-General for Health (DGS)

In addition to these suspected cases, 20 people have been in prophylactic isolation for a week at Hospital Pulido Valente, in Lisbon, due to the new coronavirus (2019-nCov), after they were repatriated from China. DGS states that all in good health and without symptoms of infection.

In the UK 4 new cases were confirmed yesterday two of them health care workers. A GP practice in Brighton had been temporarily closed after a staff member tested positive for the virus. Those infected had links to the British national who contract the virus in Singapore before contracting those in France. A student at the University of Sussex is being tested after falling ill, the institution has said.

On Monday, British airways announced that flights to and from Beijing and Shanghai had been cancelled until 31 March.

### **10th February 0900 hrs**

Ninety-seven people died from the coronavirus on Sunday, a new daily record since the new coronavirus was first detected in December, as the death toll rose to 908, China's National Health Commission said on Monday.

The number of confirmed infections in the country rose to 40,171 and 3,062 new cases were recorded in the preceding 24 hours,

An additional 66 cases of the new coronavirus have been confirmed on a cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama, Japan, raising the total number to 136, the ship's captain told passengers on Monday.

A British man who became infected with coronavirus in Singapore appears to be linked to at least seven other confirmed cases in England, France and Spain. He was transferred to St Thomas' Hospital in London, where there is an infectious diseases unit, on Thursday.

The French health ministry said five British nationals - four adults and a nine-year-old child - who tested positive in the Alps resort of Contamines-Montjoie near Mont Blanc came into contact with a British national who had flown from Singapore and stayed in the area before returning to England on 28 January.

### **9th February 0800 hrs**

The number of deaths has increased to 813 with 37,278 confirmed cases of whom 6101 are severe. A total of 2798 have recovered. There are 310 cases overseas in 24 countries.

A flight, with more than 200 people on board including some foreign nationals arrived at RAF Brize Norton in the UK shortly before 7.30am on Sunday and will be placed in isolation for 14 days to determine any signs of the virus.

On Saturday Brazil also evacuated 34 of its nationals from Wuhan who flew from China to an air force base in Anápolis, 150km from the capital, Brasília, where they will remain in isolation for 18 days.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that "trolls and conspiracy theories" are undermining their response to the new coronavirus.

WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters that misinformation was "making the work of our heroic workers even harder".

He said misinformation around the new strain, 2019-nCoV, "causes confusion and spreads fear to the general public".

"At the WHO we're not just battling the virus, we're also battling the trolls and conspiracy theories that undermine our response,"

### **7th February 2200 hrs**

The cruise line operator Royal Caribbean has said it will refuse any passengers with Chinese, Hong Kong or Macau passports, regardless of when they were last in China.

The British company Burberry has closed 24 of its 64 stores in mainland China and those that remained open were operating with reduced hours because shopper numbers had plunged 80%. None of the group's employees in China had been diagnosed with the illness, it said.

The test used to diagnose coronavirus is being rolled out to laboratories across the UK from Monday, increasing testing capacity to more than 1,000 people a day.

A plane carrying 176 Canadians repatriated from Wuhan, the city at the centre of the coronavirus epidemic, has touched down in Ontario, Reuters reports.

Demand for masks, gowns, gloves and other protective gear has risen by up to 100 times and prices have soared due to the China coronavirus outbreak, producing a "severe" disruption in supply, the WHO director general, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, is reported as saying by Reuters.

Travel agencies in Portugal will reimburse customers who, before the coronavirus outbreak, purchased trips in February to Macau, Hong Kong and mainland China and intend to cancel them, the sector association said.

According to Pedro Costa Ferreira, president of the Portuguese Association of Travel and Tourism Agencies (APAVT) at this moment it is possible to reimburse the trips scheduled for the month of February, however, it depends on the evolution of the outbreak, to decide if this applies to later trips: "Then we have to wait and see if the abnormal circumstances that now it is verified if they will maintain or not in the future ", he clarified.

### **6th February 1700 hrs**

A third person in the UK to be diagnosed with the virus did not catch it in China, but elsewhere in Asia, it has emerged.

Liu Xiaoming, Chinese ambassador to the UK, held an unusual press conference on Thursday to urge global solidarity in the fight against coronavirus.

While emphasising the seriousness with which his government is taking the epidemic, Mr Liu pointed out the mortality rate from the new virus was "very low" at 2.1 per cent, compared with Ebola (40 per cent) and Sars (10 per cent). He then cited the latest statistics on influenza in the US, where 19m people have been ill and 10,000 have died of flu this season, adding "This is more serious than coronavirus."

One of the eight whistle blowers who first warned of the coronavirus has died from the disease, state media reported. Li Wenliang, a Chinese doctor who was among those to first warn of the disease and then was punished by police, died on Thursday in Wuhan, the city at the centre of the outbreak, state media outlet the Global Times said. He was 33 years old. The hashtag "The Wuhan government owes Li Wenliang an apology" has been viewed 180m times on the Chinese social media platform Weibo.

Malaysia has confirmed its first case of the virus between people who did not travel to China, according to news agencies and multiple local media reports.

The director-general of Health Portugal confirmed this Thursday, through a press conference, that the Portuguese who are on board a cruise ship in Hong Kong are not sick.

Seven people with a Portuguese passport are quarantined on a cruise with about 3,600 people in Hong Kong, fearing that there may be cases of the new coronavirus on the ship, the Macau government said this Thursday.

### **5th February 2200 hrs**

The total number of deaths has increased to 563 in China with 27,447 confirmed cases and 23,260 suspected. Around 200 people are confirmed outside China.

PORTUGAL - The Director-General of Health said today that "all the care is too little" in relation to the outbreak of the new coronavirus in China, so the health units were given an indication to update their health contingency plans.

"There is little care, we have to train, train," said Graça Freitas, at a press conference in Lisbon, where a new assessment was made of the infection by the new coronavirus (2019-nCov).

Graça Freitas said that Portugal is preparing for an "eventual escalation of infections", so the health units (hospitals and health centres) were given an indication that the contingency plans are "updated,

reformulated, revived", so that there are trained and trained professionals and protective equipment available.

CHINA - A pregnant woman infected with the new coronavirus transmitted the disease to her new born son in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

Doctors confirmed the transmission 30 hours after a coronavirus patient gave birth to her son last Sunday, the team at the Pediatric Hospital in Wuhan confirmed this Wednesday, warning of the possibility of pregnant women infected with the new coronaviruses can transmit it to the fetus.

Belgium reported its first confirmed case of 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease.

UK - The health secretary, has said Britons returning from China will not be quarantined and should instead remain at home and call medics if they experience symptoms.

Passengers and crew on another cruise ship, the World Dream, are being quarantined in Hong Kong after 30 crew members showed symptoms of coronavirus, including fever.

Since 31 December 2019 and as of 5 February 2020, 24 530 laboratory-confirmed cases of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection have been reported and 493 deaths.

#### **Cases have been reported on the following continents:**

**Asia:** China (24 329), Japan (33), Thailand (25), Singapore (24), Republic of Korea (18), Taiwan (11), Malaysia (10), Vietnam (10), United Arab Emirates (5), India (3), the Philippines (2), Cambodia (1), Nepal (1) and Sri Lanka (1).

**America:** the United States (11) and Canada (5).

**Oceania:** Australia (13).

**Europe:** Germany (12), France (6), Italy (2), United Kingdom (2), Russia (2), Belgium (1), Finland (1), Spain (1) and Sweden (1).

Of the 493 deaths reported, 492 have been reported from China: Hubei (479), Chongqing (2), Heilongjiang (2), Henan (2), Beijing (1), Hainan (1), Hebei (1), Hong Kong (1), Shanghai (1), Sichuan (1) and Tianjin (1).

One death has been reported from the Philippines.

#### **4th February 2200 hrs**

On Tuesday morning, a man being treated for the virus in Hong Kong, died after his condition deteriorated. He had suffered sudden heart failure, according to medical sources. He had been to Wuhan, the provincial capital of Hubei, on January 21 and returned to Hong Kong two days later via the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, before developing a fever on January 31.

Cathay Pacific Airways is to cut 90 per cent of its services to mainland China for two months as it combats the fallout from the deadly coronavirus outbreak. Overall flight capacity will be reduced by 30%.

JAPAN - At least 10 people on board a cruise ship docked in the Japanese port of Yokohama have tested positive for coronavirus, health authorities said. Some 273 of the 3,700 people on the Diamond Princess have been tested so far. The number of infected could rise as testing continues.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advise against all travel to Hubei Province due to the ongoing novel coronavirus outbreak. The FCO "advises against all but essential travel to the rest of mainland China (not including Hong Kong and Macao). If you're in China and able to leave, you should do so. The elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions may be at heightened risk."

PORTUGAL - The Directorate-General for Health (DGS), stated on Tuesday that there are two new suspected cases of coronavirus infection in Portugal. One recently returned from China and the other was in contact with sick people in Germany. Both patients are at the Curry Cabral Hospital where they await the results of the tests being carried out by the Dr. Ricardo Jorge Institute.

DGS clarified this Tuesday that at this time in Portugal it is not necessary to use masks to protect against the new coronavirus, with the exception of caregivers of those infected with the disease; those who have travelled to the area affected by the outbreak or who have had close contact with someone who is sick.

In case it is necessary to use a mask, the nurse advised to purchase the ones that have side elastics over the ear so that it can be removed without touching the mask and deposit it directly in the garbage container. He also warned that the mask must "be firmly seated and cover the mouth, nose and lateral sides of the face".

### **3rd February 2200 hrs**

The number of confirmed cases has increased to 19,701 with 21,558 cases. Of those confirmed 2296 are in serious condition. The death toll stands at 425 cases and increase of 64 in the last 24 hrs.

Passengers on the flight from Hong Kong, which landed on Saturday in Ponta Delgada, do not pose a risk to public health, the authorities of Public Health of the Azores guarantee, this Monday, in a statement.

"The Azorean Public Health authorities reaffirm that there is no risk to public health, taking into account the guidelines currently in force for the definition of a suspected case due to infection with a new Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), related to a private flight that landed on Saturday , February 1, at Ponta Delgada Airport ",

The director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in Brussels assured that the situation of the new coronavirus in Europe is "under control" and will continue to do so as long as the health services of the Member States implement the appropriate measures.

Addressing the European Parliament's Public Health Commission, Andrea Ammon pointed out that, according to the most recent data, there are 17383 confirmed cases of infection by the new coronavirus worldwide.

"So at the moment the situation in Europa is really under control," he declared, adding shortly after that it will remain so as long as all the guidelines and instructions that have been given are followed, within the framework of what is the European Union's main objective: "confine the cases and prevent their spread ".

"The likelihood of seeing more imported cases in the EU is 'moderate to high', but if the cases are detected in time and the appropriate control and prevention measures are implemented, namely in health establishments, the possibility of more cases of human-to-human

### **2nd February 22.00 hrs**

No new countries have reported cases of 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease in the last 24 hours (WHO).

PORTUGAL – The Minister of Health said today that the 20 people from China who arrived in Lisbon will remain in isolation whilst tests are being carried out to detect if they have contracted the new coronavirus, the results of which will be presented “in the next few hours”.

They will remain for 14 days in isolation. The 20 returnees – who include two Portuguese diplomats on duty in China and two Brazilian citizens. The Directorate-General for Health will issue a daily clinical bulletin of the group and the Ministry of Health will hold a daily press conference to report the evolution of the situation.

The US, Australia, Singapore and Israel have banned foreign nationals from visiting if they have been in China over the previous 14 days, and advised their own citizens not to travel there. Mongolia, Russia, and Nepal closed their land borders, while Papua New Guinea has banned anyone arriving from ports or airports across Asia. Other countries have imposed restrictions on people who have visited Hubei province in the past 14 days.

### **1st February 23.59 hrs**

The number of deaths has increased from 304 and confirmed cases has increased to 14,411. Of these 1527 are severe. There are 131 confirmed cases outside China in 23 countries.

The main driver of transmission, based on currently available data, is symptomatic cases. WHO is aware of possible transmission of 2019-nCoV from infected people before they developed symptoms.

The Spanish health authorities said on Saturday that a German tourist has Spain’s first confirmed case of coronavirus and was healthy, but would remain isolated in a hospital in the Canary Islands.

In France, for the first time outside China, a healthcare worker was diagnosed as being ill with 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease. The health worker treated two patients who were later identified as probable cases.

A newly formed union of medical workers in Hong Kong voted Saturday to go on strike next week to pressure the territory’s government into barring arrivals from mainland China. The Hospital Authority Employees Alliance says 9,000 of its members have signed a pledge to strike.

PORTUGAL – The result of laboratory tests in the case of a person suspected of having a coronavirus infection under observation at São João Hospital, in Porto, was negative, a source from the National Health Service told Lusa.

More than 100 Germans and family members landed in Frankfurt today after being evacuated from Wuhan. None of the people on the aircraft had shown any symptoms of the virus,

### **Latest Situation Report 1st February 0800 hrs**

The number of confirmed cases now stands at 11,877 in China and 259 deaths. There are some 17988 suspected cases and overseas around 100 cases in 21 countries. (Source China health authority update 1<sup>st</sup> February 1625 hrs Beijing time).

Two members of the same family in the UK have tested positive for the Wuhan coronavirus, England’s chief medical officer has confirmed, and UK authorities have asked anyone in contact with them beforehand to come forward..

The US government will deny entry of foreigners with effect at 22:00 on Sunday (Lisbon time) who have been in China for the past 14 days. US citizens who have travelled to Hubei province, where the virus originated, will be held under mandatory quarantine for 14 days after they return to the US. Immediate family members of US citizens and permanent residents will be allowed to enter the country.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced that no-one travelling from mainland China would be allowed into Australia unless they are Australian citizens or residents. Entry will be denied to anyone who has left or transited through mainland [China](#) from 1 February. Australian citizens coming from China will have to be quarantined for two weeks.

PORTUGAL – A businessman who had taken a trip to China, is in São João Hospital, Porto with suspected coronavirus case. The patient is in isolation for analysis and the results are expected to be known on Saturday morning.

In Portugal the director-general of Health stated on 31<sup>st</sup> that “Our level of alertness and readiness has obviously increased and the need to reinforce the responsiveness of services and society with public health measures is increasing, to make confinement or containment [of the outbreak],” she told reporters.

At the airports there will be posters with information for travellers on how to act if they have symptoms of the disease (cough, fever or difficulty breathing) and have travelled from the affected Chinese region or have been in contact with sick people.