

# Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Situation Report №2 occupied Palestinian Territory

Data as reported as of 11 February 2020\*

## HIGHLIGHTS

- No confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV were registered in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) as reported by the Ministry of Health;
- Eight confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV were reported in the Eastern Mediterranean region – all in the United Arab Emirates;
- WHO is receiving information about cases from a number of countries. As additional details become known, WHO requests countries to share information in a timely manner as specified in the guidance on [Global Surveillance for human infection with novel coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#).
- WHO has developed a dashboard for Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) with the number of confirmed cases globally: <http://arcg.is/1rryij>
- Following WHO best practices for naming of new human infectious diseases, WHO has named the disease COVID-19, short for “coronavirus disease 2019.”
- WHO office in the oPt continues to support the Ministry of Health in strengthening its capacity to detect, verify, prevent and manage 2019-nCoV cases.

## SITUATION IN NUMBERS

### Total cases:

(as of 11 Feb 2020\*)

#### Globally

43,103 confirmed  
25 countries

#### China

42,708 confirmed

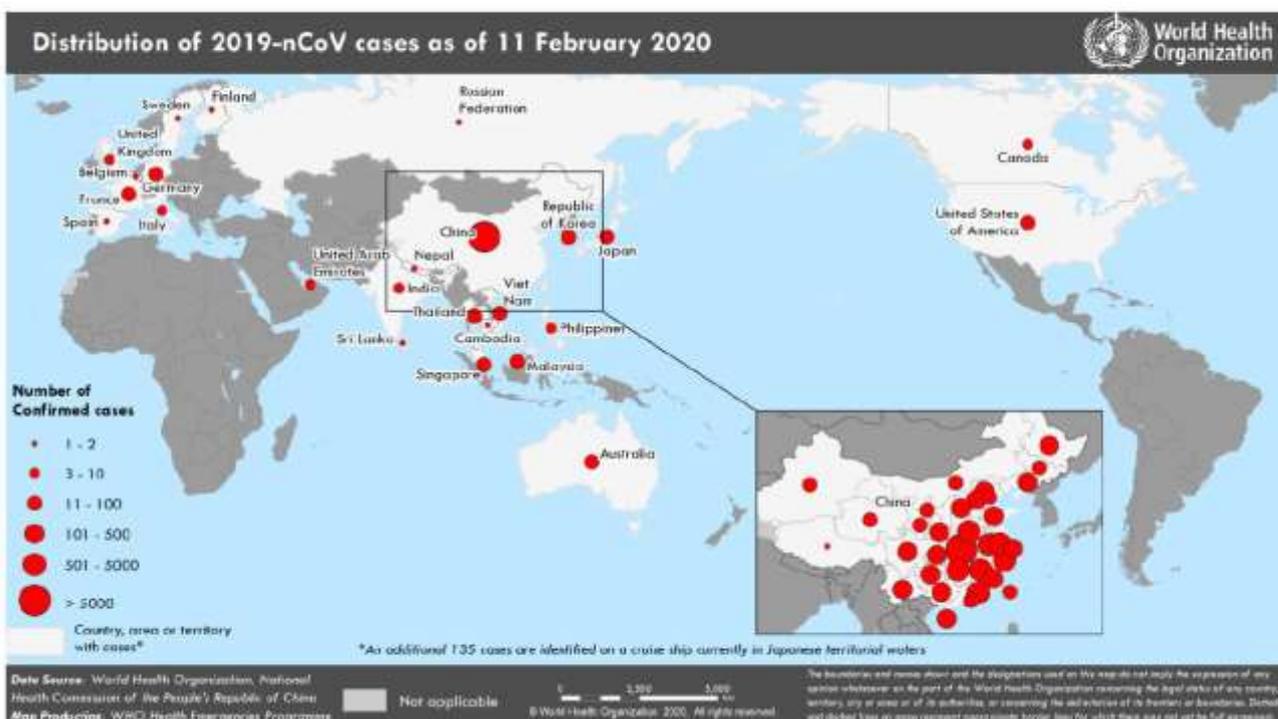
#### Outside of China

395 confirmed  
24 countries

#### WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

oPt	High
EMRO Region	High
Global Level	High

Figure 1. Countries, territories or areas with reported confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV, 11 February 2020



\*The situation report includes information provided by national authorities as of 10 AM Central European Time



*Dr Randa Abu Rabe, WHO National Professional Officer delivering preparedness training for MOH emergency room and hospital doctors in Ramallah on 10 February. Credit: WHO*

## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

To prevent the spread of the disease and be prepared for possible importation of cases, the following key measures have been implemented by the health authorities:

- The national emergency preparedness plan has been activated and priority actions identified;
- Medical points at King Hussein and Rafah Crossing Points have been capacitated to check incoming travellers so that appropriate medical and control measures can be taken;
- Ministry of Health continues to roll-out risk communication activities and disseminate information to public;
- Ministry of Health designated health facilities across the West Bank and Gaza where suspected cases would be referred to; and
- The health authorities in Gaza are identifying a suitable health facility to establish a quarantine facility for travellers arriving from China through Rafah Border crossing.

WHO continues to support preparedness efforts led by the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Health (MoH):

- **WHO delivered personal protection equipment (PPE) kit to the PA MoH;** additional medical supplies for PPE Kits for the West Bank and Gaza will be delivered to the Ministry of Health in coming days;
- **WHO delivered a control test kit** that enabled the MoH laboratory to test for 2019-nCoV. The testing has already started;
- **WHO supported the capacity building of key staff in hospitals and primary health care facilities across West Bank and Gaza** on detection, case definition, treatment and care of patients based on WHO guidelines; as



*WHO Health Emergencies Team Lead Dr. Ayadil Saparbekov illustrating how to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplied by WHO at preparedness training in Ramallah on 10 February.*

well as conducting capacity building activities for all staff working in the quarantine facility, including trainings on case definition, case management, surveillance, and infection prevention and control measures. Staff were provided with personal protective equipment to ensure their safety and trained on its use. The first training sessions took place on 10 and 11 February 2020 in Ramallah and on 11 February 2020 in Gaza. An additional training is planned in Ramallah on 12 February 2020.

- WHO provided the most up-to-date information to all partner agencies working in the occupied Palestinian territory, including WHO public advice for staff and their families.
- WHO is providing technical assistance in development, printing and dissemination of public communication materials at the ports of entry in the West Bank and Gaza. Public communication materials have been printed and delivered to the points of entry.



WHO National Professional Officer Dr. Randa Abu Rabe next to the poster targeting travelers designed by the MoH and supported by WHO. Credit: WHO

## WHO RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

The basic principles to reduce the general risk of transmission of acute respiratory infections include the following:

- Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water;
- When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands;
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has fever and cough;
- If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing seek medical care early and share previous travel history with your health care provider;
- When visiting live markets in areas currently experiencing cases of novel coronavirus, avoid direct unprotected contact with live animals and surfaces in contact with animals;
- The consumption of raw or undercooked animal products should be avoided. Raw meat, milk or animal organs should be handled with care, to avoid cross-contamination with uncooked foods, as per good food safety practices.



WHO does not recommend any specific health measures for travelers. In case of symptoms suggestive of respiratory illness either during or after travel, travelers are encouraged to seek medical attention and share their travel history with their healthcare provider.

Detailed WHO recommendations for public are available here:

In Arabic: <http://www.emro.who.int/ar/health-topics/corona-virus/information-resources.html>

In English: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

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