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GLOBAL UPDATE

COVID-19 Outbreak Update 15 February

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SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

TSCL and Solace Global advises against all travel to China at this time due to the ongoing travel restrictions, cancelled flights, confirmed cases of the virus and government warnings. Business operations in China continue to face significant disruption and further travel restrictions in both China and Asia are possible.

Latest Updates

Authorities in Wuhan have now built nine makeshift hospitals with a combined capacity of 6,969 beds to help ease the pressure on conventional health services. Plans are also in place to convert stadiums and other public venues into hospitals. Moreover, the National Health Commission has deployed around 25 thousand additional medical staff to Hubei province.

The Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population and the World Health Organization have confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in Egypt. The patient is reported to be a Chinese national.

Lufthansa, SWISS and Austrian Airlines have announced that the current suspension of flights to Beijing and Shanghai will be extended until at least 28 March. Additionally, flights to Hong Kong will be reduced in response to the declining demand. Vietnam has blocked two cruise ships from docking at its ports amid fears of infections onboard. The *AIDAvita*, a German-owned cruise liner, was not allowed to disembark passengers as the vessel had previously docked in the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore, countries that have all reported COVID-19 cases. The *Norwegian Jade*, operated by Line Holdings, was also denied permission to dock, despite no reports of the virus on board.

Updated reports indicate that the United States is due to evacuate its citizens from the *Diamond Princess* cruise ship, currently docked in Yokohama, Japan, on 16 February.

During morning hours local time on 15 February, France's Minister of Health confirmed that a Chinese tourist died of a coronavirus infection in France. This is the first fatality reported in Europe. Further details are yet to be released.

Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Infected (new cases)	69,186 (+2,098)	Suspected Cases	8,228 (-1,140)	Total confirmed Deaths	1,669 (+143)
Current Total Infected Outside China	686 (+91)	Deaths outside of China	3	Total Confirmed Recoveries	9,458 (+1,166)
Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China	Singapore (67), Hong Kong (56), Thailand (33), Japan (29 + 218 on <i>Diamond Princess</i>), South Korea (28), Malaysia (19), Taiwan (18), Germany (16), Vietnam (16), Australia (15), USA (15), France (11), Macau (10), UK (9), United Arab Emirates (8), Canada (7), India (3), Italy (3), Philippines (3), Russia (2), Spain (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sweden (1), Finland (1), Belgium (1), Egypt (1)				
Travel Restrictions (these restrictions remain fluid and are subject to change at short notice, keep up to date with potential restrictions if travelling)					
China	Quarantined cities/regions	Majority of Hubei Province, Wenzhou, Nanchang			
	Limited restrictions on public transport services (i.e. long-distance bus services, ride-hailing services, inter-city travel)	Majority of Chinese cities, additional health screenings at all public transport hubs			
Countries advising against all travel to China	Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, United States				
Countries advising against non-essential travel to China	France, India, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, South Korea (the SK government is also asking citizens to refrain from trips to countries in Southeast Asia), Taiwan, United Kingdom (the UK is advising citizens to leave China if they can), St Vincent and the Grenadines				
Notable countries with flight cancellations to China	Majority of international airlines have cancelled all flights to China, Chinese airlines continue to operate limited schedules at this time.				
Countries denying entry	To those who have recently been to China: Australia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (including HK), Madagascar, Malaysia, N Korea, Philippines (including HK and Macau), Singapore, Taiwan, US, Vietnam. To those travelling directly from China: Bangladesh, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, India, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, New Zealand, Samoa, Vietnam. To those who have visited Hubei Province: Brunei, Japan (also includes those arriving from Zhejiang), South Korea. Border closure: Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Nepal, North Korea, Russia, Tajikistan, Vietnam.				

TSCL and Solace Global Advice

- TSCL and Solace Global advises against all travel to China due to travel restrictions currently in place and the current outbreak. There is limited flight availability and further travel restrictions, both within China and to and from home countries, may be implemented with little or no notice.
- TSCL and Solace Global advises against non-essential travel to Hong Kong and Macau.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, the situation remains fluid and new travel restrictions and further outbreaks may occur with no warning.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening, delays and even quarantine, regardless of destination or country of origin.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms, should you suspect that you have contracted the virus, self-quarantine and immediately call your relevant embassy and/or the local authorities.

If currently in or travelling to China:

- Strictly monitor all updates via both local and international media, Chinese and other government authorities and Solace Secure.
- Always maintain a good hygiene level, use hand sanitizer and wash hands regularly, and wear a surgical mask whilst in public places.
- Travellers and residents should be prepared for further travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advanced notice.