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SECURITY
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GLOBAL UPDATE

Wuhan Coronavirus Update
3 February

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SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

Solace Global advises against all travel to China at this time due to the growing number of travel restrictions, cancelled flights, confirmed cases and government warnings. Be aware that a high number of businesses in China remain closed and restrictions on domestic public transport are in effect.

Latest Updates

The Chinese government has recorded a continued increase in the number of cases, which have reached over 17,300, as well as over 360 deaths (surpassing the total killed by SARS). Health ministers from the G7 countries are set to hold a teleconference to discuss the coronavirus at 1400GMT today (3 Feb) to discuss the outbreak. The meeting comes as China has accused the US of creating an environment of fear instead of helping combat the coronavirus.

More travel restrictions have been imposed, with the Maldives and New Zealand joining the US and Australia in restricting arrivals from China. The New Zealand government has closed its borders to all foreign nationals travelling from China. Despite no cases being reported in New Zealand, the government has mirrored initiatives taken by the US and Australia. The ban will initially be enforced for 14 days before being reassessed. The US is also considering rerouting flights from any destination globally if any of the passengers onboard have been to the Chinese mainland in the past 14 days. The flights would be directed to one of eight designated airports, when the passengers could undergo enhanced screening.

Qatar Airways and Thai Airways have announced that they will suspend all flights to mainland China on 3 February and 6 February respectively. The Indonesian government has also announced that, from the 5 February, all flights to and from China will be suspended for the duration of two weeks. The government will also no longer issue visas to Chinese nationals and will block the entry of any traveller who has spent 14 days or more in China.

Hong Kong has announced further border closures, medical workers in Hong Kong had been striking to demand that the border be fully closed. Currently three of the SAR's 13 border crossings remain open, with enhanced security measures in place. On the mainland, construction of the new hospital in Wuhan has been completed in eight days, with a 1,000-bed hospital formally opened. Elsewhere, unofficial sources in the country are suggesting that the wait times for doctors are of as much as 10 hours. In China's financial market, the Shanghai Composite and the Shenzhen Component Index fell by 8 percent. The Chinese government has injected the economy with stimulus in an effort to combat the economic impact of the outbreak, with fears growing of a steep economic fallout.

Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Infected (increase)	17,335 (+2,924)	Suspected Cases	21,558 (+5,173)	Total confirmed Deaths	362 (+57)
Current Total Infected Outside China	181 (+11)	Deaths outside of China	1	Total Confirmed Recoveries	487 (+159)
Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China	Japan (20), Thailand (19), Singapore (18), Hong Kong (15), South Korea (15), Australia (12), Taiwan (10), Germany (10), United States (9), Malaysia (8), Macau (8), France (6), Vietnam (6), United Arab Emirates (5), Canada (4), Italy (2), Russia (2), Philippines (2), India (2), United Kingdom (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sweden (1), Finland (1), Spain (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	Complete "quarantine" (no movements in and out of the city & airport shutdown)		Over 60 million people, majority of Hubei Province, most recently Wenzhou has been shut down.		
	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	United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea				
Countries advising against non-essential travel to China	United Kingdom, Taiwan, South Korea, France, Israel, India, Netherlands				
Notable countries with flight cancellations to China	Majority of international airlines have cancelled flights to China, Chinese airlines continue to operate limited schedules at this time. All flights have been suspended between China and Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, UK, Italy				
Countries denying entry	To those who have recently been to China: US, Australia, Singapore, Vietnam. To those travelling directly from China: New Zealand, Israel. To those who have visited Hubei: Japan, South Korea. Border closure: Mongolia, Russia (partially).				

Solace Global Advice

- 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 travel restrictions, both within China and to and from home countries may be implemented with little or no notice.
- Solace Global advises against non-essential travel to Hong Kong and Macau.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, further travel restrictions, both in China and internationally, may be announced at any time.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening and delays, regardless of destination or country of origin.

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. Additionally, make use of Solace Traveller Tracking on the Solace Secure App; check-in when you land, daily and following any location changes.
- Always maintain a good hygiene level and wear a surgical mask whilst in public places, wash hands regularly, and avoid those who are obviously sick.
- Travellers and residents should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice, with restrictions on certain areas.
- Ensure all food and eggs are thoroughly cooked.