



Republic of Palau
Office of the President

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 436

Addendum to Executive Order 435: Extending the duration of the preventive measures being implemented through Executive Orders No. 433 and 435 until March 31, 2020

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization designated the official name of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on February 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has not been identified in the Republic of Palau; however, the threat of COVID-19 being imported into Palau continues to heighten. The Ministry of Health and border control agencies have been implementing health screenings at the Palau International Airport and Malakal Seaport since January 23. Meanwhile, as of February 12, 2020, at least 44,787 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported globally with 44,311 cases within mainland China and 476 confirmed cases reported outside of mainland China in 28 countries and territories with 1,110 deaths in mainland China, 1 death in the Philippines, and 1 death in Hong Kong; and

WHEREAS, the outbreak of COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of mainland China in December of 2019. Patients have since been identified in several other countries including Thailand, Hong Kong, Australia, France, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Macau, South Korea, United States, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Nepal, Canada, Germany, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, United Arab Emirates, Finland, Russia, Italy, India, Sweden, Philippines, Spain and Belgium as of February 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 433 established Response, Quarantine, and Preventive Measures to Prevent Entry of the COVID-19 to Palau including instituting temporary flight suspensions from Hong Kong, Macau, and mainland China to the Republic of Palau from February 1 to February 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, travel between the Republic of Palau and Japan, the Republic of China-Taiwan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines and the Territory of Guam are not restricted by the Government of the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No.435 established additional preventive measures to the existing mandates prescribed by EO 433 including prohibiting entry of all travelers with travel history originating from or transiting through mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau within 14 days as a Preventive Measure to Prevent Entry of the COVID-19 to Palau; and

WHEREAS, cruise ship calls into various ports during their voyage where passengers can embark and disembark at various ports during any part of the cruise ship's itinerary, and it is difficult to assess the exposure and possible contamination of on-board passengers from those who have disembarked before the cruise ship arrives in Palau; and



WHEREAS, based on the growing threat of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Ministry of Health and the National Emergency Committee have recommended an extension of the duration of preventive measures being implemented through Executive Orders No. 433 and 435 until March 31, 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Palau, I hereby order amending Executive Order no. 435 to read as follows:

1. Travel Restrictions and Requirements. Any person, including a crew member, a Palauan citizen, or a Palau resident, arriving into Palau at any point of entry is required to complete a health declaration form. The Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and Commerce shall maintain temporary flight suspensions from Hong Kong, Macau, and mainland China to the Republic of Palau from February 1 to March 31, 2020.

Furthermore, the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and Commerce shall continue to prohibit entry of all travelers with travel history originating from or transiting through mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau within 14 days of their arrival in the Republic of Palau. Exemption may be made to this prohibition for Palauan citizens and residents, provided that such persons submit to a comprehensive health screening and agree to a 14-day self-quarantine upon arrival in Palau.


Furthermore, the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and Commerce shall restrict the entry of cruise ships into any Palau port from March 1 to March 31, 2020. No cruise ship shall be allowed to enter unless the captain submits satisfactory proof that the vessel has not called in mainland China, Hong Kong, or Macau, and that none of its passengers originated from or transited through those destinations within 14 days of boarding the vessel. Cruise ship, as defined in RPPL 10-38, shall mean a passenger ship used for pleasure voyages, where the voyage itself and the ship's amenities are a part of the experience, as well as the different destinations, or ports of call, along the way.

2. International Coordination. The Minister of State shall communicate with bilateral partners to coordinate screening, prevention, and mitigation efforts. Priority shall be given to those countries with direct airline service to the Republic, and all efforts shall incorporate the advice of the Minister of Health and the National Emergency Committee.

3. Quarantine Policy. The Minister of Health and the National Emergency Committee (NEC) shall maintain a quarantine policy, and quarantine locations at the hospital and at other appropriate locations, until further notice.

4. Reporting. The Ministry of Health shall provide daily updates to the NEC and the general public on the international and local status of the COVID-19, and further advise the NEC and the National Government on recommendations including changes to, extension of, or lifting of this executive order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 13th day of February 2020 at the National Capitol in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.



Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau