



Tommy E. Remengesau Jr.  
*President*

# Republic of Palau

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### **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 435**

*Addendum to Executive Order 433: 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 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) to Palau*

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 433 established Response, Quarantine, and Preventive Measures to Prevent Entry of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) to Palau; and

**WHEREAS**, an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, People's Republic of 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, and Spain. as of February 4, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) has not been identified in the Republic of Palau; however, the threat of this new coronavirus 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, over 20,001 confirmed cases have been identified worldwide, and the virus has claimed over 425 lives in the People's Republic of China and one (1) death in the Philippines; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no confirmed treatment for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) except supportive care and isolation; and

**WHEREAS**, 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) is considered to be highly contagious with prolonged contact and, to date, all of the exact modes of transmission are unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, healthcare providers are at risk of contracting 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV); and

**WHEREAS**, based on the growing threat of the 2019-nCoV outbreak, the Ministry of Health and the National Emergency Committee have recommended additional preventive measures be implemented in addition to the existing mandates prescribed by EO 433;

**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 EO 433 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 institute temporary flight suspensions from Hong Kong, Macau, and the People's Republic of China to the Republic of Palau from February 1 to February 29, 2020.

Furthermore, The Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and Commerce shall 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.

**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 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV), 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020 at the National Capitol in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.

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