

17 March 2020

CIRCULAR NO.03/2020

TO : ALL MEMBERS

NATIONAL GAZETTE NO. G169 DATED 16 MARCH 2020 ON COVID-19.

Following our earlier Circular on COVID-19, we attach National Gazette #G169 dated 16 March 2020 containing Declarations and Orders made by the State Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, Hon. Jelta Wong, MP regarding Coronavirus COVID-19.

The Federation will continue to update members on useful information regarding COVID-19 as it becomes available.

Yours Sincerely,



Florence Willie
Executive Director



National Gazette

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No. G169]

PORT MORESBY, MONDAY, 16th MARCH

[2020

Quarantine Act 1953

Public Health Act 1973

NOTICE FOR THE NATIONAL GAZETTE

I, **Jelta Wong**, Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, by virtue of the powers conferred by Section 11 of the *Quarantine Act 1953* and Section 15 of the *Public Health Act 1973* and all other enabling powers, hereby make the following declaration:

1. The novel coronavirus COVID-19 is declared to be a quarantinable disease under the *Quarantine Act 1953* and an infectious disease under the *Public Health Act 1973*; and
2. For the avoidance of doubt, I revoke a previous declaration that the novel coronavirus reported on 31st December, 2019 in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China is quarantinable disease under the *Quarantine Act 1953* and an infectious disease under the *Public Health Act 1973*

Dated this 14th day of March, 2020.

Hon. J. WONG, MP,
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS.

Quarantine Act 1953

Sections 4(1), 5(1) and 13(1)(a)

International Health Regulations (2005)

Article 20(1)

NOTICE FOR THE NATIONAL GAZETTE

I, **Jelta Wong**, Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, by virtue of powers in Sections 4(1) 5(1), 13(1)(a) and 15 of the *Quarantine Act 1953* and all other enabling powers, I declare that:

Notice for the National Gazette—continued

1. I am satisfied that an epidemic caused by a quarantinable disease being COVID-19 or danger of such an epidemic exists in Papua New Guinea.
2. An emergency in relation to the global spread of COVID-19 has arisen that requires action to be taken not otherwise authorized by the *Quarantine Act 1953*.
3. The measures incidental to quarantine, I think necessary or desirable for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of a quarantinable disease being COVID-19 and whose implementation I immediately order on commencement of this Notice are that:
 - a. a port of entry stated in Column One of Table One in Schedule One is:
 - i. a first port of entry for aircraft or vessels as stated in Column Two for the time period stated in Column Three of Table One; and
 - ii. a temporary quarantine station, for the period in Column Two for the performance of quarantine by any vessel, person, animal, plant or goods; and
 - iii. designated as a Point of Entry for the purposes of Article 20(1) of the International Health Regulations (2005);
 - b. no vessel or aircraft may have entry at a port of entry in Papua New Guinea which is not a declared a first port of entry under Section 12(a) of the *Quarantine Act 1953*;
 - c. no person or persons may cause a vessel or aircraft to arrive at a port of entry in Papua New Guinea which is not a declared a first port of entry under Section 12(a) of the *Quarantine Act 1953*;
 - d. no vessel which is a large ship or yacht that has 15 or more persons on board, that carries people on voyages for pleasure, typically calling in at several places may have entry to any port of entry in Papua New Guinea for 60 days from the date of commencement of this Notice; and
 - e. no person or persons may cause a vessel which is a large ship or yacht that has 15 or more persons on board, that carries people on voyages for pleasure, typically calling in at several places may have entry to any port of entry in Papua New Guinea for 60 days from the date of commencement of this Notice.
4. The place stated in Column One of Table Two in Schedule One is a temporary quarantine station for the performance of quarantine by any person for the time period stated in Column Two of Table Two.
5. For the avoidance of doubt, by this Notice, I revoke all previous *National Gazette* Notices declaring any temporary quarantine stations.

This Notice comes into force on the day of its gazettal.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2020.

Hon. J. WONG, MP,
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS.

Notice for the National Gazette—continued

SCHEDULE ONE

Table One

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Jacksons Airport, Port Moresby	Aircraft	90 days
Motukea Port, Port Moresby	Vessels	90 days
PNG Ports, Rabaul	Vessels	90 days
PNG Ports, Morobe	Vessels	90 days
PNG Ports, Madang	Vessels	90 days

Table Two

Column One	Column Two
The Isolation ward at Port Moresby General Hospital Hospital so designated by the Chief Executive Officer of Port Moresby General Hospital.	90 days from the date of this notice.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2020.

Hon. J. WONG, MP,
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS.

Quarantine Act 1953
Sections 4(1), 5(1) and 12(a)

DECLARATION OF THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS

NOTICE FOR THE NATIONAL GAZETTE

I, **Jelta Wong**, Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS, by virtue of powers in Sections 4(1) 5(1) and 12(a) of the *Quarantine Act 1953* and all other enabling powers, I declare that:

1. I am satisfied that an epidemic caused by a quarantinable disease being COVID-19 or danger of such an epidemic exists in Papua New Guinea; and
2. an emergency in relation to the global spread of COVID-19 has arisen that requires action to be taken not otherwise authorized by the *Quarantine Act 1953*; and
3. the following countries and regions are proclaimed places under Section 12(a) of the *Quarantine Act 1953* and are infected with a quarantinable disease being COVID-19:
 - (a) Peoples Republic of China (only including Mainland China);
 - (b) Republic of Korea (South Korea);
 - (c) Islamic Republic of Iran;
 - (d) The European Union;
 - (e) The United Kindom; and
 - (f) The United States of America.

Declaration of the Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS—continued

Notice for the *National Gazette*—continued

4. the measures incidental to quarantine, I think necessary or desirable for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of a quarantinable disease being COVID-19 and whose implementation I immediately order on commencement of this Notice are that:
- (a) no person is permitted to board an aircraft or ship bound for Papua New Guinea from any foreign point of departure or airport if that person has been in a proclaimed place or transited through a proclaimed place in the past 14 days prior to the day the vessel or aircraft departs on its journey to PNG; and
 - (b) persons boarding military aircraft or ships are exempt from this declaration.

The Notice comes into force on the day of its gazettal and continues in force for 90 days.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2020.

Hon. J. WONG, MP,
Minister for Health and HIV/AIDS.