

4 Feb 2020, 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for the kind support to AMWC Asia-TDAC 2020.

The Organizing Committee of AMWC Asia-TDAC have been closely monitoring the outbreak of novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) originating from Wuhan, China, as safety is always our top priority. An updated report in NEJM<sup>1</sup> on 29 Jan 2020, revealed the early transmission dynamic of the first 425 confirmed cases in China—median age was 59 years; mean incubation period was 5.2 days, with the 95th percentile of the distribution at 12.5 days; basic reproductive number was estimated to be 2.2.

WHO has declared a public health emergencies of international concern (PHEIC) on Jan 30 over the spreading of 2019-nCoV. And US State Department later issued the level 4 travel advisory: “Do Not Travel to China” which **DOES NOT INCLUDE Taiwan**. Taiwan has totally different governmental and health care system and not geographically connected to China. Until 4 Feb, the number of confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV in Taiwan was 10, which was less than that of most of the Asian countries, like Thailand (25), Singapore (24), Japan (20), Korea (16), Australia (12) and even Germany (12) and USA (11)<sup>2</sup>. Among the confirmed cases, 9 were imported from Wuhan and 1 was the husband of a confirmed case. **NONE** of them are community acquired and one of the cases has been recovered. Starting from 3 Feb, Taiwan government is evacuating the Taiwanese citizens trapped in Wuhan by planes until 5 Feb. Each of the evacuated citizen will be isolated individually in a dedicated quarantine facility for 14 days. Therefore, there is no need to worry should the number of confirmed cases go up a little bit in the following days, considering the possibility that some of them might have been infected in Wuhan. You may check the [real-time data of global cases](#) provided by Johns Hopkins University<sup>3</sup>.

Taiwan may be one of the best-prepared countries against the 2019-nCoV epidemic from China for the following reasons: tourists from China banned, world’s top-rated health care system of Taiwan and the common awareness and healthy habits of the citizens. In fact, individual travel from China to Taiwan has been suspended since 1 Aug, 2019; And Taiwan has banned the group tours bilaterally since 26 Jan, 2020. Therefore, the largest source of possible transmission of the virus has been stopped. Also, all the Taiwanese citizens returning from the endemic area are urged to conduct self-quarantine at home for 14 days with electronic monitoring to prevent any possible transmission during the incubation period. The world’s top-rated health care system of Taiwan—2nd by *Economist’s Intelligence Unit* (Worldwide Health Rankings, 2000); 9th by *Bloomberg* (Health Care Efficiency Index, 2018); 1st by *CEOWorld* (The Health Care Index, 2019)—has successfully prevented African Swine fever<sup>4</sup> and protected Taiwanese people away from the endemic of Influenza 2019-2020<sup>5</sup> which has influenced millions in the US and Japan so far. And most importantly, Taiwanese people are well-prepared for the endemic



from China, a lesson learnt from SARS in 2002. You may find many people wearing facial masks as part of their healthy habits when you arrive in Taiwan.

The Organizing Committee, though being optimistic, will continue to monitor the endemic of 2019-nCoV closely. Updated information of the congress will be provided in email and on our [website](#).

Thank you very much again for your kind support for AMWC Asia-TDAC on May 1-3, 2020. We can ensure you a fruitful congress with a lot of fun! Looking forward to seeing you in Taipei.

Warmest regards,

Organizing Committee, AMWC Asia-TDAC 2020

### Bibliography

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