



**REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

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**REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS
2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
UPDATED *INTERIM* HEALTH TRAVEL ADVISORY & RESTRICTIONS
ISSUANCE 3: As of 13 February 2020**

(Subject to regular review, as required)

On 30 January 2020, World Health Organization declared the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak an Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). The virus was first detected in Wuhan city, Hubei Province, PRC, and subsequently cases of COVID-19 have been detected in 28 countries.

The new virus is a coronavirus, which is a family of viruses that include the common cold, and viruses that cause severe respiratory infections. The virus can be transmitted from person to person, similar to other influenza viruses.

In response to the declaration of PHEIC, the Republic of Marshall Islands' (RMI) former COVID-19 travel advisories and restrictions (Issuance 1: 24 January 2020, Issuance 2: 31 January 2020 and Proclamation declaring State of Emergency dated 7 February 2020), has been reviewed and updated as of 13 February (Issuance 3) with the following interim inbound and outbound travel restrictions for all visitors to RMI. **These requirements will come into force effective immediately.**

- Suspension of all air and sea travel, to and from, the People's Republic of China (PRC), Hong Kong and Macau. This restriction has been assessed as appropriate to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 importation to the RMI.
- All sea vessels, containing food and essential commodities for the RMI, will be allowed entry to the RMI, excluding vessels that have departed ports from PRC, Hong Kong and Macau. Vessels which include these countries on their routine path or port of departure are required to divert from these, to ensure the continued supply of essential commodities to the RMI.
- Citizens and residents of the RMI with plans to travel abroad are strongly encouraged to consider postponing their travel arrangements. If travel arrangements cannot be postponed, individuals should be aware that they may be subject to restrictions on reentering the RMI if they have travelled or transited via a country listed under RMI's COVID-19 travel restriction.
- All GRMI officials, including elected officials, SOEs and auxiliary bodies, are required to suspend all international trips effective immediately until further notice, with the exception of patients approved by the RMI Medical Referral Committee.
- At this time we are requesting that any missions, conferences and/or trainings to be held in the Marshall Islands in the upcoming months be postponed unless deemed absolutely necessary by the RMI hosting agency.

These are interim travel restrictions, which have been introduced by the Government of the RMI as part of current health emergency preparedness measures for COVID-19. These restrictions will be reviewed and updated as needed and communicated to the public.

The following list of COVID-19 affected countries is subject to rapid change based upon global situation and risk, as determined by Secretary of Health and Human Services by official notice.

COVID-19 affected countries subject to RMI travel restriction:

People's Republic of China	Macau SAR	Hong Kong SAR
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Jack Niedenthal
Republic of the Marshall Islands
Secretary of Health & Human Services

February 13, 2020