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## Regular Briefing of Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters on COVID-19

- ▲Delaying start of new school year and response plan, ▲measures to block inflow in response to COVID-19 pandemic, and ▲current status of and action plan for cluster transmission of COVID-19, etc. -

□ The Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters held a meeting presided over by Head Chung Sekyun (Prime Minister) along with the central government and 17 cities and provinces to discuss ▲delaying start of new school year and response plan, ▲measures to block inflow in response to COVID-19 pandemic, and ▲current status of and action plan for cluster transmission of COVID-19 at a video conference room located in 1-dong of Government Complex Sejong.

- Head Chung** directed, at the meeting, each ministry to **take necessary measures**, such as strengthening quarantine, to ensure the **Special Entry Procedure is seamlessly implemented for all inbound travelers** (from 00:00, March 19~).
- He also said measures implemented by each local government should be reviewed and **efficient ones expanded to all parts of the nation** so as to **meet the public demand for masks**.

## 1 Delaying start of new school year and response plan

- The Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters** had an **in-depth discussion on delaying start of new school year and response plans** at today's meeting.
- **The Ministry of Education** plans to **present decided contents at 14:00 today**.
- Head Chung** was briefed on the agenda of **pushing back new school semester**, and requested to **put utmost efforts** into infection control to **make sure children's right to education is no longer infringed**.

## 2 Measures to block inflow in response to COVID-19 pandemic

- The government decided to **expand targets subject to the Special Entry Procedure to all Koreans and foreign nationals entering Korea from 00:00, March 19 (Thu.)**.

- As of March 16, the total number of passengers entering Korea was **13,350\*** (including travelers by ship). Among them, **the number of those subject to the Special Entry Procedure stood at 2,130**. When the procedure is **expanded to all travelers entering Korea**, the number of those subject to this special procedure is expected to increase to **around 13,000**.

\* Total number of passengers 13,350 (7,161 Koreans, 6,189 foreign nationals)

< Expansion of Special Entry Procedure >

Current	Expanded (To be applied from 00:00, March 19)
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5 Asian nations</b> (China, Hong Kong, Macao, Japan, Iran) +</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>All flights departing from Europe</b> ※ The same to be applied to passengers traveling via Dubai and other countries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>All Koreans and foreign nationals entering Korea</b></p>

- This measure is designed to **strongly block inflow of overseas risk factors into Korea** in consideration of **the transmission speed of COVID-19 around the world** and **a number of cases identified and confirmed in the process of quarantine on inbound travelers\***.

\* (Results of quarantine on inbound travelers) 1 confirmed case on March 13, 3 cases on March 14, 2 cases on March 15

- Accordingly, **all inbound travelers** are mandated to **fill out the health questionnaire and special quarantine declaration** distributed on board from 00:00, March 19. Through the quarantine procedure conducted at the immigration point, passengers will also **have their temperature**

**checked, and those with symptoms will undergo quarantine inspection and diagnostic tests if deemed necessary.**

- Also, they should **go through the special quarantine inspection** in which **their domestic address of residence, contact information (mobile number), and installation of Self-Diagnosis Mobile App** are checked.
- In addition to the expanded Special Entry Procedure, the government will **notify the relevant local governments of the list of inbound travelers for more thorough monitoring for 14 days** upon arrival.
- **Suspected cases will be able to be promptly identified and managed in communities by continuously providing medical institutions with international travel history** of those having traveled in countries with confirmed cases and high risk of inflow into Korea (DUR/ITS).
- **To preemptively stop international risk factors from flowing into Korea**, the Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters announced it **developed measures to block inflow into the nation including expansion of the Special Entry Procedure.**
- The public was **advised not to travel to countries where high level of community-based spread is taking place.**

3

**Current status of and action plan for cluster transmission of COVID-19**

- The Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters was briefed on by Gyeonggi-do (Province), and reviewed the current status of and response measures against the recent cluster transmission of COVID-19 in the Grace River Church in Seongnam.
- Head Chung Sekyun emphasized that successful infection control in the capital area, home to 1/4 of Korea's population, is a key to future COVID-19 control, and urged full cooperation of the local governments in the capital area.
- In particular, he requested the local governments to have sufficient communication with the religious community and elicit its cooperation for “social distancing” in regard to religious gatherings where many people are gathered together.

4

**Supporting masks for the socially vulnerable**

- Korea National Council on Social Welfare (Korea Food Bank) plans to support 15,000 masks\* for the socially vulnerable through regional Food Bank which were confiscated and handed over by Korea Customs Service (Commissioner Roh Sukhwan) on March 16 (Mon.).

\* Mask handover ceremony with Korea Customs Service to overcome COVID-19 (March 16 (Mon) 2020, 2 p.m. 6F Korea National Council on Social Welfare)

- Korea National Council on Social Welfare (Korea Food Bank) **already received and provided 44,000 masks\* Korea Customs Service confiscated and delivered free of charge to the socially vulnerable through regional Food Bank.**

\* Out of masks Korea Customs Service confiscated, Korea Customs Service has delivered 44,000 ones in 6 times whose confiscation was confirmed with an administrative measure to Korea National Council on Social Welfare (Korea Food Bank) for free since February 18.

## 5 Supply and demand of masks

※ Refer to a separate briefing for this information. In case of any query, contact to the following information:

Affiliation	Division	Contact Information
Ministry of Economy and Finance	Economic Policy Division	044-215-2710, 2712
	Price Policy Division	044-215-2770, 2771
Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy	Bio-Convergence Industry Division	044-203-4390, 4391
Public Procurement Service	Procurement Planning Division	042-724-7210, 7265
Ministry of Food and Drug Safety	Customer Risk Prevention Policy Division	043-719-1711, 1722

※ All Koreans **faced with issues** regarding exorbitant prices of or hoarding masks and hand sanitizers **are strongly advised** to actively **report** to the authorities through the **reporting center** (02-2640-5057/5080/5087), **customer call center** (1372), and **MFDS website** ([www.mfds.go.kr](http://www.mfds.go.kr)).