



## THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF YAP

EXECUTIVE DECLARATION NO. 2020-001

### DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY PLACING THE ENTIRE STATE OF YAP UNDER A STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020, designating its official name as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on February 11, 2020 and characterized it as a pandemic on March 12, 2020; and,

**WHEREAS**, as of March 26, 2020, at least 414,197 confirmed cases have been reported of COVID-19 globally; 81,848 cases within mainland China, 332,331 confirmed cases in 195 other countries and areas including 45 in Guam, 95 in Hawaii, and 25 in French Polynesia; and,

**WHEREAS**, as of March 26, 2020, 3,287 deaths reported in mainland China, and 15,153 in 89 other countries and territories; and over 100,000 people have recovered from COVID -19 globally; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the Office of Attorney General and the Department of Health Services issued a COVID-19 Emergency Regulation 2020 to be in force for a period of 120 days; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health Services and the Yap State Health Task Force had formally communicated its recommendations as a result of their assessment on the state response and readiness to the COVID-19; and,

**WHEREAS**, the expressed formal recommendation of the Yap Department of Health Services and the Yap Health Task Force is to ban passengers on incoming flights from COVID-19 infected areas; and,

**WHEREAS**, in response to the Yap Department of Health Services recommendations to ban passengers on United flights, the Cabinet met on Friday, March 20, 2020 with the Yap Health Crisis Taskforce and the Department of Health Services to discuss how best to address the matter; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2020, the Cabinet met again with the Yap Health Crisis Taskforce and the Department of Health Services to finalize its position after considering all the grave challenges, hardships and destitute that Yap State will be facing if action is not taken immediately to restrict passengers from boarding incoming flights to Yap; and,

**WHEREAS**, the implemented quarantine requirements of arriving passengers since the last United Airline flight has the potential to exceed the 14 days' requirements, especially if one or more of the quarantine passengers are elevated to Person Under Investigation (PUI) cases within the initial 14 days will further aggravate the situation and may cause social upheaval and unrest; and,

**WHEREAS**, as of March 24, 2020, there is no confirmed case in the State of Yap but has 148 Persons Under Monitoring (PUM) cases and 1 Persons Under Investigation (PUI) case in its respective quarantine and isolation facilities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the QUARANTINE FACILITY is a designated facility to keep people that meet the following criteria:

1. The person either:
  - a. come from a country known to have confirmed cases of COVID-19 (COVID-19 affected country or territory) but does not have any symptoms or signs similar to COVID-19

**OR**

- b. Is a contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case or suspected (PUI - person under investigation) and has NO symptoms or signs similar to those of COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the ISOLATION FACILITY is a designated facility to keep people that meet the following criteria:

1. The person either:
  - a. come from a country known to have confirmed cases of COVID-19 (COVID-19 affected country or territory) AND HAS symptoms or signs similar to COVID-19

**OR**

- b. Is a contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case or suspected (PUI -person under investigation) AND HAS symptoms or signs similar to those of COVID-19

**WHEREAS**, the NEGATIVE PRESSURE ROOM is a special room that is setup in such a way (through the use of specialized apparatus) to generate a negative pressure in the room relative to the exterior/or outside of it. The goal is to keep the air in the room stay inside and not to exit to the outside. This type of setup is utilized when the need to keep aerosolized chemicals or agents (bacteria, virus, etc.) from exiting the room; and,



**WHEREAS**, the outbreak of COVID-19 world-wide and its spread in the region have created conditions to endanger the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State of Yap and thereby constitute a public health crisis; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 26, 2020, a unified leadership decision called for a state of emergency declaration to be issued in conjunction with COVID-19 Emergency Regulation 2020; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, HENRY FALAN, Governor of the State of Yap, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Yap, do hereby **DECLARE** a State of Emergency and **DECREE** as follows:

- (1) THAT the State of Yap ("State") recognizes that the outbreak of COVID-19 constitutes a public health crisis ("Crisis").
- (2) THAT the COVID-19 Emergency Regulation 2020 was promulgated by the State government to administer the crisis and shall be in force for 120 days from its inception, unless and until extended.
- (3) THAT the Governor as head of the State government shall continue to supervise the State efforts to combat the crisis.
- (4) THAT the Department of Health Services is confirmed as the lead agency ("Agency") to coordinate the State's response to address the crisis.
- (5) THAT the Yap Health Crisis Taskforce ("Taskforce") is designated to work in conjunction with the Agency in combating the crisis.
- (6) THAT the Agency shall report its activities to the Taskforce and the Taskforce shall inform and update the Governor on a regular basis.
- (7) THAT the Agency and the Taskforce shall use the following action plans to combat the crisis:
  - a) Yap COVID 19 Contingency Plan;
  - b) COVID 19 Yap State Action Plan; and
  - c) Yap State Emergency Response & Preparedness Plan
- (8) THAT the Agency and the Taskforce shall work together to address the following:
  - a) Promote public awareness about the crisis and preventative measures;
  - b) Conduct ongoing assessments of the crisis;
  - c) Provide regular updates to State leadership on the status of the crisis;
  - d) Record the State resources utilized in response to the crisis;


- e) Other tasks as required to adequately respond to the crisis.
- (9) THAT all state agencies are authorised and encouraged to provide staff and administrative support to the Agency and the Taskforce as required. The Agency and the Taskforce may consult with employees of relevant state agencies to accomplish their responsibilities.
- (10) THAT to the extent necessary to accomplish their objectives, the Agency and the Taskforce are authorized to obtain technical and/or financial assistance from the public, private and non-profit sectors.
- (11) THAT in the performance of his role, the Governor is empowered to exercise his discretion in making decisions on any issue relevant to the following:
- i. Quarantine
  - ii. Border
  - iii. Security
  - iv. Government
  - v. Funding
  - vi. Business and Economy
  - vii. Restrictions on Movement
  - viii. Orders and Directives
  - ix. Other matters deemed necessary
- (12) THAT in furtherance to his powers, the Governor may order and issue instructions that may impair civil rights to the extent required for the preservation of peace, health or safety.
- (13) THAT the Governor may ban any incoming passenger from any aircraft, ship or boat to be carried to the State for a period of up to 30 days, unless and until further reviewed.
- (14) THAT the Governor may access State appropriated funds to mitigate the crisis.
- (15) THAT the bidding requirements under the relevant legislations are lifted for the period of 30 days for the purpose of addressing relevant requirements to mitigate the crisis, unless and until further reviewed.
- (16) THAT this Emergency Declaration will take immediate effect upon execution.

[SEAL]

I HEREBY SUBSCRIBE MY NAME AND CAUSE  
THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF YAP TO  
BE AFFIXED HERETO AT COLONIA, YAP THIS  
27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, IN THE YEAR OF  
OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY.

  
HENRY FALAN  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST/WITNESS HEREOF:

  
MOSES FATHAL  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL