

香港特別行政區政府  
衛生署  
社區聯絡部  
九龍亞皆老街147C號  
衛生防護中心



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG  
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION  
COMMUNITY LIAISON DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Centre for Health Protection,  
147C Argyle Street, Kowloon.

本處檔號 OUR REF: (54) in DH CL/1-60/24 Pt. I

來函檔號 YOUR REF:

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13 June 2014

Dear Sir / Madam,

### **Preparedness Plan for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)**

We would like to inform you that the Government has launched the 'Preparedness Plan for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome' (MERS Plan). The Plan sets out the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government's preparedness and response plan in case of an outbreak of MERS.

2. In accordance with the MERS Plan, the 'Alert' Response Level is activated with reference to the current epidemiological situation. The MERS Plan has been uploaded to the CHP's website: ([http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view\\_content/26511.html](http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/26511.html)). A copy of the press release is enclosed for your information.

3. Since the first human case of MERS was laboratory confirmed overseas in September 2012, globally, 684 laboratory confirmed MERS cases have been reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) to date, including 204 deaths. The case fatality rate is about 30 per cent.

4. Recent scientific studies supported the premise that camels served as the primary source of MERS Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infecting humans. Travellers are reminded to avoid going to farms, barns or markets with camels, and avoid contact with animals (especially camels), birds, poultry or sick people during travel, and should take heed of personal, food and environmental hygiene. Travellers returning from the Middle East who develop respiratory symptoms should wear face masks, seek medical attention and report their travel history to the doctor.

5. The public may visit the DH's Travel Health Service ([www.travelhealth.gov.hk/english/popup/popup.html](http://www.travelhealth.gov.hk/english/popup/popup.html)) or the WHO's latest news ([www.who.int/csr/don/archive/disease/coronavirus\\_infections/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/disease/coronavirus_infections/en/)) for information and health advice.

*We build a healthy Hong Kong and  
aspire to be an internationally renowned public health authority*

6. We would like to solicit your assistance to disseminate the message to District Council members and work associates to update them of the situation and preventive measures. More information on MERS is available at the CHP MERS page ([http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view\\_content/26511.html](http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/view_content/26511.html)).

7. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr Emily LEUNG)  
for Director of Health

Encl.: Press release