



Republika ng Pilipinas
KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN
Department of Justice
Manila

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 003

To : Bureau of Immigration

Subject : Suspension of the implementation of Department Circular No. 001, series of 2020

Date : FEB 07 2020

The Department of Health (DOH) notes information from the World Health Organization that the global number of confirmed cases involving the 2019 novel Coronavirus (nCoV) has reached 4,515, where 976 are severe cases, and 37 confirmed in 11 countries outside China.¹

The nCov was first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. Since then, a number of cases has been reported in different countries, owing to the increased mobility and movement of peoples.

To prevent the spread of the virus, safety measures have been put in place, including quarantine checks while aboard the vessel and upon exit, and the initiative of the Bureau in suspending the VUA scheme for Chinese nationals. It has also been reported that the Chinese Government has already prohibited the exit of their travelers through group tours.²

In the interest of public safety and public health, and in view of the risks posed by the outbreak of nCov, the suspension of the implementation of Department Circular No. 001, dated 08 January 2020, is hereby confirmed.

This directive takes effect immediately and shall remain in force until further orders.

MENARDO I. GUEVARRA
Secretary

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¹ www.doh.gov.ph/2019-nCov/Highlights-of-the-DOH-Press-Briefing-on-the-Novel-Coronavirus-Health-Event

² Ibid.