



Spot report: Activities of ASEAN member states for COVID-19 pandemic by the military medical service

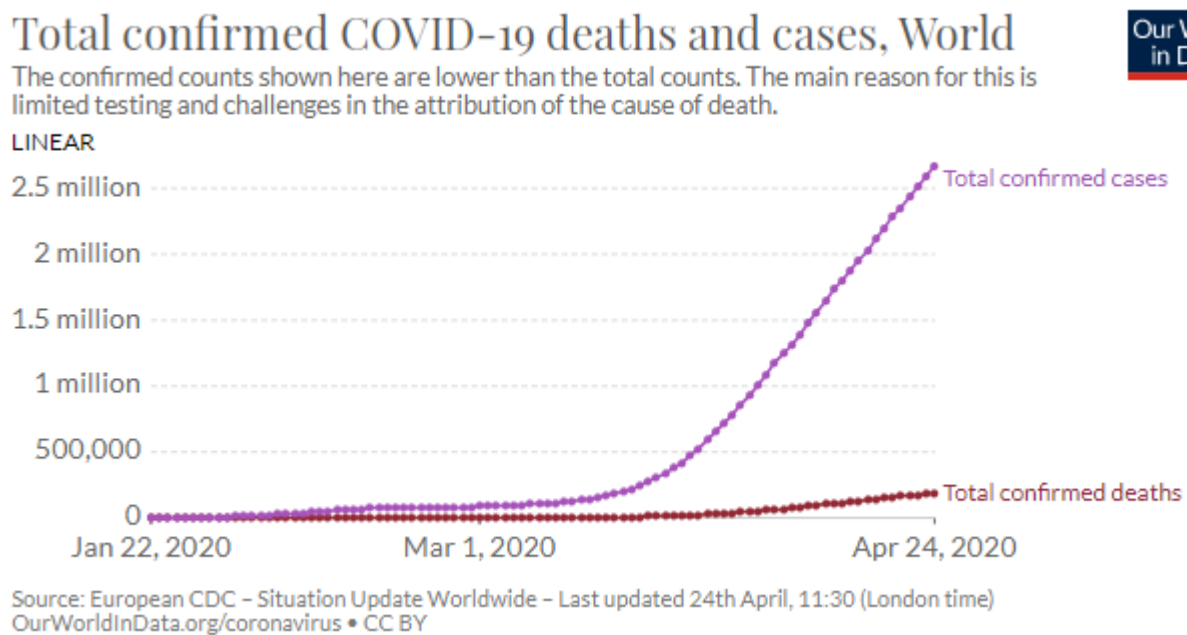


Figure 1: Total confirmed COVID-19 deaths and cases around the world

Background

As of 24 April 2020, 2,668,135 cases of COVID-19 have been reported, including 190,236 deaths (Figure 1). The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response requires rapid action from multiple sectors of society and government. Individuals need to adopt new behaviors; societies need to implement new public health measures; businesses need to develop new services to operate differently; faith leaders need to change practices to protect their communities; and the sports and entertainment sectors need to make difficult decisions to protect the public’s health. Although, the civilian launched many guidelines of key tasks that the member countries must work together to combat the coronavirus, the military medical

service have been fully supported the countries to control and prevent the infection cases. There are the additional regulations and activities of military medical service as shown below;

| Country | Date | Activities |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Cambodia | January 27 th , 2020 | - Training Core Trainer |
| | February 5 th ,2020 | - Education about Health Care Prevention |
| | February 14 th ,2020 | - Prepared 5 Response Teams to fight against the COVID-19 |
| | March 24 th ,2020 | - Increase Laboratory capacity of Central Military Hospital(Preahketomealea Hopital) - 14 days quarantine the trainees who come back from international training |
| Malaysia | March 18 th ,2020 | -“Stay at Home Campaign” Patrolling at all public areas broad locks at all major roads - Monitoring and health screening at the airport and the quarantine camp - Medical screening at entry point |
| | March 28 th ,2020 | - Military hospital laboratory received COVID-19 samples from MOH to analyze. - Military hospital open to public. |
| | April 4 th ,2020 | - Upon arrival from oversea must quarantine for 14 days at quarantine center. |
| Myanmar | March 19 th ,2020 | - 40 Military medical personnel starts joining the Medical Center for COVID-19 at Yangon Region. The team consists of 4 Physicians (Internal Medicine Specialists), 4 Anesthetists, 2 Radiologists, 2 Pathologists, 10 Medical Officers, 8 Nursing Officers, 6 Staff Nurses, 2 Radiographers and 2 Lab Technicians. |

| | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| | | |
| Philippines | April, 2020 | - The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) conducts 24/7 seaborne patrol along the vicinity waters of Cavite and Bataan to ensure the strict implementation of maritime safety measures amid enhanced community quarantine. |
| Singapore | March 22 th ,2020 April 20 th ,2020 | - Military personnel support in airport screening operations - In alignment with the government, only units that are critical for operational readiness remain in camp and isolated. Other staff work from home as much as possible. - Wearing of masks within military camps compulsory |
| Thailand | January 15 th , 2020 February 4 th ,2020 March 20 th ,2020 April 22 th ,2020 | - Preparedness ; Team to response, Infrastructure, medical supplies - 14 days quarantine area supported by Navy Force - Army Medical joined EOC at MOPH - Support all necessary activities of MOPH and Government measurement such as Isolation areas or Quarantine areas and Big Cleaning at Crowded Area - First negative pressure ward at Phramongkutklao Hospital - Medical officers support MOPH activities at state quarantine. |
| Vietnam | January, 2020 February, 2020 | - Military hospitals expanded their capacity to receive COVID-19 patients. Several infectious field hospitals are activated. - At least 3 military lab are able to confirm SARS-CoV-2, and 6-8 labs are able to implement screening tests. |

| | | |
|--|--------------------|---|
| | <p>March, 2020</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organized the quarantine camps in the military (over 150 camps have been used, quarantined over 66,000 people) - Military Medical Departments issued the guidelines (treatment, surveillance, monitoring, and outbreak control measures) that have been using in the military. - Medically support the Border protection force for controlling the importation/exportation at the PoC and border lines. |
|--|--------------------|---|

Moreover, ACMM has applied the Oxford COVID-19 government response tracker to monitor the correlation between the new infected cases and government measurement among the ASEAN member as shown on the following figure 2.

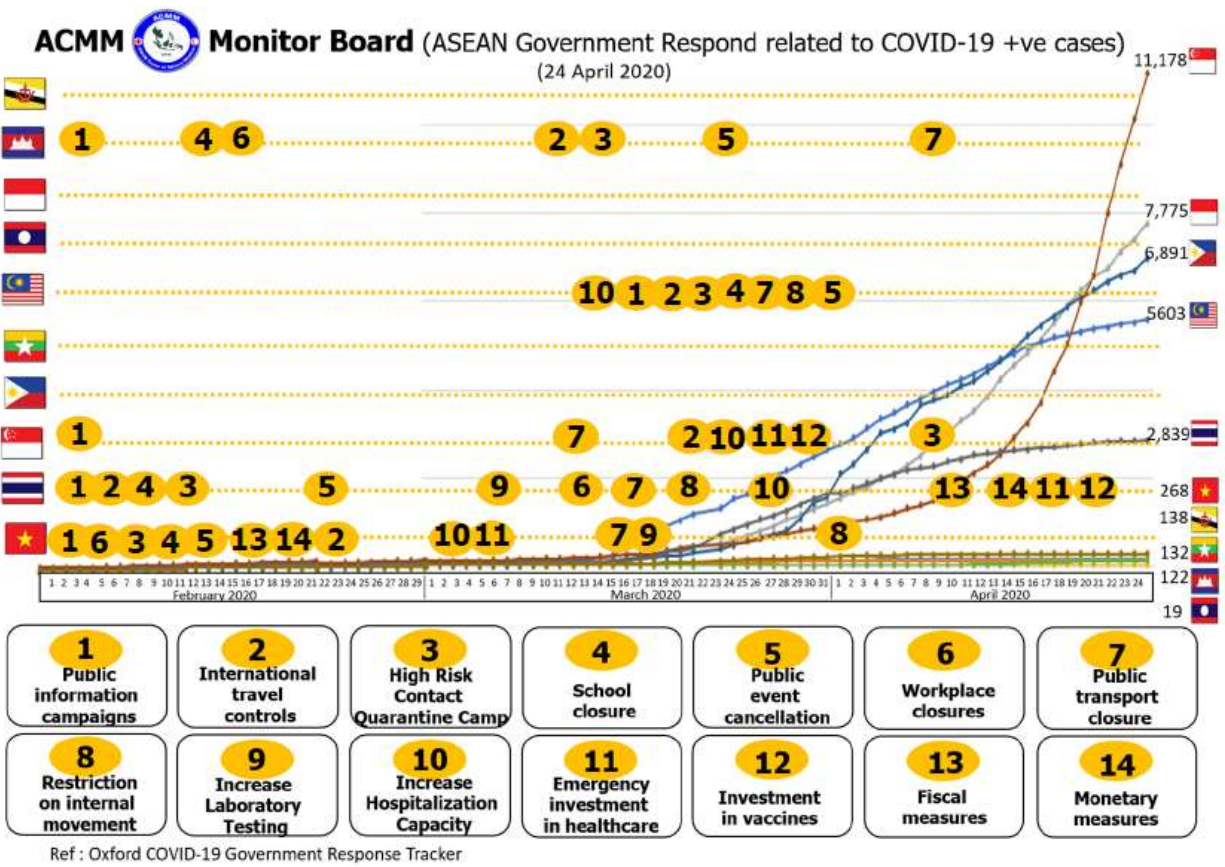


Figure 2: The tracker number (1-14) was assigned to the countries in alphabetically order (flags on the left-hand side)

Actions Taken

Via video conference on 14 April 2020, the Joint Statement of the Special ASEAN Plus Three Summit on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), they commended the efforts to enhance practical cooperation among ASEAN defence establishments to organize information and best practice sharing activities, and with our external partners, bilaterally or multilaterally, including the holding of a tabletop exercise on public health emergencies response by the ASEAN Center of Military Medicine (ACMM); and the Network of ASEAN Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Experts in promoting scientific cooperation and enhancing professional linkages, as agreed by the ASEAN Defence Ministers in their Joint Statement on Defence Cooperation against Disease Outbreak. Thus, the ACMM along with mentioned partners (Expert Working Group on Military Medicine, ASEAN Chief of Military Medicine Conference, ASEAN Military Medicine Conference, ASEAN Chemical Biological and Radiological Defense Expert) will go on preparation process for the TTX as soon as possible. On April 22, 2020, ACMM had visited the World Health Organization (Thailand) and Office of international Cooperation (OIC), Ministry of Public Health (Thailand) to discuss and develop the training session plan for for the final plan conference (FPC) of the TTX. The FPC conference of the TTX will organize via VTC on April 30th, 2020. 1400 hr. (GMT+7)



ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS –

Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.

| Section | Ranking | Issues identified | Recommendations |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|--|
| Pandemic of COVID-19 | R | -Quarantine and screening measures have been enhanced for travelers from foreign countries at the point of entries (PoE). -Using the guidance on clinical management of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) by WHO -State Public health Emergency announcement. | The ACMM keep on monitoring and update the pandemic and medical information. |

Remarks:

R: Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.

Y: Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring

G: Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.

N/A: Lack of /unreliable data: Further assessment required.

ACMM Recommendations,

References:

1. <http://cdc.gov>
2. <https://www.nature.com>
3. <http://CNN.com>
4. <http://WHO.int>
5. <http://MOPH.co.th>
6. <https://ourworldindata.org/>
7. <https://asean.org/>
8. Summary of Main Activities in COVID from the ASEAN member states