



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH,
WELLNESS AND THE
ENVIRONMENT**

**Ministerial Building, Kingstown,
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, February 28, 2020

Contact: Permanent Secretary
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment (MOHWE) notes the expansion of the COVID-19 outbreak to certain regions of Italy and that as of February 27, 2020, persons coming from the Lombardy, Veneto and Emilia regions of Italy will be quarantined for 14 days. This is in addition to the previously stated countries, China, Singapore, Macau, Hong Kong, Japan and South Korea, from which travelers will be similarly quarantined.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment advises that there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 in St Vincent and the Grenadines and the Caribbean region. During the period February 7th to 27th, 2020, a total of 20 persons were quarantined. To date 17 persons have completed the fourteen (14) day period, including 3 persons who tested negative for COVID-19 after two of them were noted to low grade fevers. Three persons remain quarantined having traveled from Japan and Italy.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment thanks the general public, our partner stakeholders and our visitors for your support as we work together to keep us healthy. Once again, the public is advised to continue to take the following steps to avoid the spread of respiratory illnesses:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
2. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze;
3. Cough and sneeze into the crook of your elbow if you do not have a tissue;
4. Avoid close contact with people who have flu-like symptoms
5. Do not go to school or work when you have the flu.

The MOHWE will continue to provide regular updates on COVID-19 and other public health issues.

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