



## MERS-CoV-MITIGATING MEASURE

<b>Title</b>	<b>MERS-CoV Control and Surveillance at Point of Entry Port Klang</b>
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### 1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Following Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) outbreak in Republic of Korea, Ministry of Health (MOH), Malaysia has taken steps to increase surveillance and screening at all entry points to prevent the spread of MERS-CoV infection into the country



1.2 Middle East Respiratory Syndrome is a viral respiratory disease caused by a strain of Coronavirus known MERS - CoV- initially detected in Saudi Arabia in 2012. This Coronavirus is similar to the previous Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak. At this point, there is no evidence that MERS - CoV can spread in the community (sustained human- to- human transmission) and there is no evidence that the spread is via airborne transmission.

1.3 Based on the reports received from World Health Organization (WHO), the outbreak of MERS-CoV in Republic of Korea is due to the failure to ensure that the principles of infection prevention and control effectively implemented at all levels of medical and health care are involved.

1.4 The source of infection for the MERS-CoV cases previously confirmed in Middle East is suspected to be from infected camels.

1.5 Incubation period for MERS-CoV is from 2 to 14 days.

1.6 At the moment, no travel and trade restriction has been issued by WHO.

### 2.0 SURVEILLANCE/SCREENING MEASURES

2.1 Port Klang Health Office

2.1.1 Heighten surveillance is done for all vessels coming into Port Klang from Middle East Countries including Saudi Arabia and Republic of Korea.



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- 2.1.2 All shipping agents are required to submit the Advice minimum 24hours prior to the arrival of the vessel at the port.
- 2.1.3 All vessels from the affected countries which arrive within 14days will be given the quarantine status. These vessels will be quarantined at the wharf.
- 2.1.4 Port Klang Health officers will go onboard upon notification of the arrival of the quarantine vessel.
- 2.1.5 The Maritime Declaration of Health will be reviewed together with the Captain of the vessel.
- 2.1.6 If the crew and travelers are free from any symptoms of MERS-CoV, Free Practique and Port Health Clearance will be issued.
- 2.1.7 Should there be any crew members/ travelers sick on board, they would be isolated and further measures including temperature screening from health department would be taken based on the MOH Guidelines.
- 2.1.8 Crew members and travelers who undergo health screening would be given Health Alert Cards (HAC).
- 2.1.9 Suspected case will be sent to Hospital Sungai Buloh (designated hospital for infectious disease) for further management after consultation with the specialist of Hospital Sungai Buloh.
- 2.1.10 Pilots that embark on MERS-CoV suspected vessels are to wear PPE (Facemask and glove).

### 2.2 Northport (Malaysia) Bhd

- 2.2.1 MERS-CoV Risk Rating – Medium to High risk as Northport received vessels calling directly from effected countries.
- 2.2.2 Mitigating Measures,
  - i. HSE has issued MERS-CoV Health Advisory Northport-wide. Advisory update from time to time in consultation with Port Kelang Health Office (MOH/WHO Website)



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- ii. Marine Services has adequate PPE in stock for our pilots. Close liaison with Port Kelang Health Office and Berth Planning Unit for MERS-CoV Suspect Vessel Notification. Pilot to wear PPE when embarking suspected MERS-CoV Vessel.
- iii. If the situation deteriorates, Port Klang Health Office to implement health screening to all ship crews coming from the affected countries.

### 2.3 Notification to Health Department

2.3.1 The shipping agents should inform the Port Health Authority if:

- i) There are any ships coming from, Middle East Countries including Saudi Arabia and Republic of Korea within the incubation period.

**OR**

- ii) There are any crew members "sign-on" from Middle East Countries including Saudi Arabia or Republic of Korea

**OR**

- iii) There are any crew members or passengers having fever and any of the following symptoms below:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Persistent chest pain
- Persistent diarrhea/ vomiting
- Confusion/convulsion
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea
- Lethargy



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iv) All shipping agents should inform the captains to isolate any crew members or passengers having the above symptoms and to use proper personal protective equipment (eg.: mask, gloves) while handling them.

### 3.0 MEDIA RELEASE

3.1 Press Release - Only Minister of Health and DG will issue press statement related to MERS-CoV.

### 4.0 PORT HEALTH CONTACT NUMBER

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|---|-----------------|
| 4.1 Dr. Param Jeeth Singh a/l Pakar Singh | : 012 – 6241056 |
| 4.2 Dr. Kuhashini A/P Venukopalan         | : 016 – 6149443 |
| 4.3 En Radhakrishnan a/l Krishna Nair     | : 016 – 8991343 |
| 4.4 En. Peter Thong Choong Chin           | : 017 – 5552913 |
| 4.5 En. Ahmad Azam Abu Hashim             | : 013 – 9966906 |
| 4.6 En. Mohd Sani Hj Mohd Ali             | : 013 - 3638684 |