



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 24, 2022

Case No. FL-2021-00033

Gary Ruskin
4096 Piedmont Ave. #963
Oakland, CA 94611

Dear Mr. Ruskin:

As we noted in our letter dated May 24, 2022, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Since our last letter, the Department of State ("Department") has processed in excess of 1,250 pages of material potentially responsive to your request. The Department has identified an additional eight responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined the eight records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Laurel Lum, Trial Attorney, at laurel.h.lum@usdoj.gov or (202) 305-8177. Please refer to the case number, FL-2021-00033, and the civil action number, 20-cv-08415, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson", with a large, stylized initial "D" and "H".

Diamonece Hickson
Acting Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

From:	"SMART Archive" <>
To:	SMART Core <>
Subject:	IVLP Participant Approval for FY19 MRP 'Global Health Security' (E/VM-2019-0033), 3/25/19-4/12/19
Date:	Fri, 23 Nov 2018 19:23:10 GMT

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 18 STATE 117424
Date/DTG: Nov 23, 2018 / 231922Z NOV 18
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: ADDIS ABABA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; TAIPEI, AIT *ROUTINE*; AMMAN, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; BANGKOK, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; BEIJING, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; BRASILIA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; FREETOWN, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; GUANGZHOU, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; HANOI, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; HARARE, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; KATHMANDU, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; MOSCOW, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; NAIROBI, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; OUAGADOUGOU, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; PHNOM PENH, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; PODGORICA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; SUVA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; TASHKENT, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; RIYADH, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: SCUL, KPAO, OEXC
Pass Line: PLEASE PASS TO PAO/CAO.
Subject: IVLP Participant Approval for FY19 MRP 'Global Health Security' (E/VM-2019-0033), 3/25/19-4/12/19

1. ECA/PE/V/M is pleased to share the following approvals for participation in **Global Health Security**.

2. The project will take place from **3/25/19-4/12/19**. Participants should arrive on 3/23/19 and will depart on 4/13/19. The full itinerary for this project is TBD. Additional details will be provided in an 'Executive Summary' document at least 2 weeks before the start of the program.

3. In order to ensure DS2019 accuracy and to begin visa processing, **please immediately forward a passport scan** with the following information to the ECA program team:

- The name exactly as it is listed in the machine readable portion of the passport
- Date of birth
- City of birth
- Passport number
- Issue date
- Expiration date

4. The EVDB project number is E/VM-2019-0033. All future cables or emails concerning this project must include the project name and number. Please send all correspondence regarding this project to the attention of the program team:

(b)(6)

Program Officer, South and Central Asia Branch, IVLP Division, Office of International Visitors

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Program Coordinator

(b)(6)

5. Thanks and regards, ECA/PE/V/M

Signature: Pompeo

Drafted By: ECA_PE_ (b)(6)

Cleared By: ECA/PE/V

Approved By: ECA/PE/V

Released By: ECA_PE

Attachments: Approvals for EVM-2019-0033 Global Health Security.pdf

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"SMART Archive" <>
Recipient:	SMART Core <>

From:	"SMART Archive" <>
To:	SMART Core <>
Subject:	IVLP Approval - Global Health - Building Country Capacity - E-VM-2017-0047
Date:	Fri, 24 Feb 2017 22:44:26 GMT

UNCLASSIFIED

~~Privacy/PII~~ DeControlled



MRN: 17 STATE 17908
Date/DTG: Feb 24, 2017 / 242244Z FEB 17
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: BEIJING, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, KPAO
Subject: IVLP Approval - Global Health - Building Country Capacity - E-VM-2017-0047

Please find recently approved IVLP participants in attached.

Signature: Tillerson

Drafted By: ECA_PE_V: (b)(6)
Approved By: ECA_PE_V: (b)(6)
Released By: ECA_PE_V: (b)(6)
Info: (b)(6) (Beijing) *ROUTINE*; (b)(6) *ROUTINE*; (b)(6) (Beijing) *ROUTINE*
Attachments: Participant Approval Cable - Global Health - Building Country Capacity- E-VM-2017-0047.pdf

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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~~Privacy/PII~~

Sender:	"SMART Archive" <>
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Recipient: SMART Core <>

From:	"SMART Archive" <>
To:	SMART Core <>
Subject:	Geneva: WHO Shares Names of Experts Investigating the Origins of COVID-19 but Provides Few Other Details
Date:	Fri, 20 Nov 2020 17:01:35 GMT

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SBU~~

DeControlled



MRN: [20 GENEVA 964](#)
Date/DTG: Nov 20, 2020 / 201659Z NOV 20
From: USMISSION GENEVA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: ECON, SHLH, PREL, ETRD, KNCV, UN, WHO, WTRO, CDC, HHS, FDA, CN
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: A) [20 GENEVA 928](#)
B) [20 GENEVA 944](#)
C) [20 GENEVA 692](#)
Subject: Geneva: WHO Shares Names of Experts Investigating the Origins of COVID-19 but Provides Few Other Details

1. ~~(SBU)~~ Key Points:

- At WHO's weekly member state briefing November 19, WHO responded to the Ambassador's request to identify the international experts convened to investigate the origins of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- WHO provided the names of 10 international experts (one American) who are working with 10 Chinese experts, but did not say when the international team would be able to enter China, how involved FAO and OIE were in the drafting of the Terms of Reference as required by Member States, and who approved the TORs.
- The Chinese Ambassador reiterated China's efforts to collaborate with WHO, while noting evidence of SARS-CoV-2 in sewage samples in Europe prior to the outbreak in Wuhan as well as recent SARS-CoV-2 samples found in frozen food imported to China.
- WHO committed to provide member states with regular updates on the origins investigation in response to requests for transparency from the United States, European

Union, UK, Ukraine, and Canada.

- The ACT-Accelerator (ACT-A) Facilitation Council co-chairs made another appeal for financing, echoing arguments made in the first week of November (refs A, B)

2. ~~(SBU)~~ Following through on Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus's commitment on November 5 to brief member States regarding the WHO-China investigation into the origins of SARS-CoV-2, WHO staff scheduled a briefing for member states to provide details on November 19 regarding the international team's progress and next steps. Dr. Peter Ben Embarek, WHO's Programme Manager for Monitoring Nutritional Status & Food Safety Events, noted WHO's initial trip to China in February 2020 followed by the origins investigation advance team's visit for 3.5 weeks in July and August to develop the Terms of Reference for the origins investigation (TORs), identify knowledge gaps, and review work already done by Chinese authorities. The team of experts, which consists of 10 Chinese experts and 10 international experts (names of experts provided below), have met virtually to begin assessing data provided to them by the People's Republic of China (PRC).

3. ~~(SBU)~~ Embarek provided the attached presentation which includes information concerning animal investigations related to SARS-CoV-2. The presentation notes out of 366 dead animal samples from the Wuhan seafood market, none tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, while out of 842 environmental samples, 69 tested positive. Chinese authorities have shared similar results from studies that failed to identify SARS-CoV-2 in wild, farm, and domestic animals. **(Note:** These studies confirm that the Wuhan market was substantially contaminated, but do not provide any leads on potential animal reservoirs. Regarding human transmission, the WHO presentation indicates that 106 clinical cases prior to January 10 have been identified, but provides no information about any studies tracing early human-to-human transmission or attempting to identify "patient zero." **End Note)**

4. ~~(SBU)~~ The WHO presentation includes information regarding possible links to COVID-19 spread through frozen food products, as evidenced in the recent case in Tianjin. WHO commented that the frozen food case was a rare event. WHO also reported the recent spread of COVID-19 through mink farms in Denmark resulting in Denmark culling 17 million mink. WHO indicated that similar mink outbreaks had been reported in Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the United States. **(Note:** While these studies regarding transmission through frozen food products and through mink farms are not directly linked to the original outbreak in Wuhan, China, WHO suggested that transmission of SARS-CoV-2 could occur in many different ways and regions. **End Note)**

China Points to non-Chinese Origins of COVID-19...

5. ~~(SBU)~~ The Chinese Ambassador claimed China's active support for "the WHO-led, global scientific collaboration to identify source of the virus." Despite China's significant efforts to contain the pandemic, the Chinese Ambassador continued, China has prioritized cooperating with the international team of investigators and the WHO. He noted the team met virtually on October 30 to discuss and share information on environmental studies, animal intermediate hosts, and transmission routes of COVID-19. The Ambassador highlighted the recent outbreak

of COVID-19 transmitted through imported cold-chain products including in Tianjin. He also referred to studies suggesting SARS-CoV-2 transmission outside of China prior to the outbreak in Wuhan. As a result, he concluded, identifying the source would be a time-consuming and complicated endeavor which required patience and ongoing collaboration with scientists around the world.

...as Member States Call for Increased Transparency, Urgency, and Reporting from the Investigation

6. ~~(SBU)~~ Other Member States expressed concern about the lack of transparency and clarity on the timeline for the origins investigation. The UK Ambassador requested more regular updates to Member States either through the weekly briefings or governing body meetings, while also questioning when the international team would make its first field visit. The UK also asked how the investigating team would collaborate with the International Panel on Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPR) and asked when details on Phase 2 of the origins investigation would be shared.

7. ~~(SBU)~~ Ambassador Bremberg underscored U.S. concerns that the Phase 1 study did not involve the international team working on the ground with Chinese counterparts, which falls well short of Member State expectations laid out in resolution WHA 73.1. The Ambassador requested information on how the experts' input into scientific process and analyses was incorporated into the TOR, and how WHO would guarantee the Phase 1 data was complete and transparent. The Ambassador also expressed concern that the members of the international team had not been shared, noting to our knowledge there had been no other WHO expert panel shrouded in such secrecy. He noted this prevents both member States from assessing the expert team's qualifications, limits transparency thus jeopardizing the credibility of any report, and prevents the international experts from collaborating freely with other scientists around the world.

8. ~~(SBU)~~ The European Union expressed similar questions and concerns regarding the lack of transparency to the investigation, and questioned whether WHO was following the one-health approach outlined in WHA 73.1. The EU noted the importance of ensuring the FAO and OIE were integrated into the investigation and asked how WHO was coordinating with them. The EU also responded to China, calling China's restrictive trade measures on frozen foods from Europe due to the Tianjin outbreak disproportionate, not based in science, and stating the EU would take their case to the World Trade Organization. The EU also questioned why Chinese press and the government continued focusing on one study in Europe which may have found traces of SARS-CoV-2 in sewer systems prior to the Wuhan outbreak, and asked China if it was doing any research into sewage samples in its own country as part of its investigation.

WHO Shares Names of International Investigators, but Avoids Details on the Details

9. ~~(SBU)~~ In response to Member State questions, WHO committed to providing regular briefings to Member States and shared the names of the ten international experts on the investigation team. On the lack of any field investigations from the international team, Mike Ryan, WHO's Executive Director for the Health Emergencies Preparedness and Response

Programme, stated the Phase 1 research was standard in any outbreak, and WHO normally relies on national authorities to conduct the Phase 1 investigation to identify “patient zero.” Ryan hopes to have the international team visit China and, WHO continues work with the Chinese government to finalize dates, but Ryan was unable to offer any specific timeline.

10. ~~(SBU)~~ On initial results from the investigations, Ryan stated the initial cluster of cases around the Wuhan seafood market is a clear early indicator, but there could be other original sources of the virus. Many of the first cases of COVID-19, Ryan continued, were not associated with the market itself, and there was likely human-to-human transmission prior to the identification of the cluster at the market. Along with severe hospitalized cases in December, 2019, there must have been additional milder or asymptomatic cases. Ryan used the mink-to-human outbreak as an example of animal-to-human transmission that occurred in multiple countries around the same time to demonstrate the complexity of determining a single origin source. Ryan noted the WHO team has been in regular contact with OIE and FAO during the July/August trip and after, but he did not share to what extent those organizations were involved in approving the TORs.

11. ~~(SBU)~~ Peter Ben Embarek, WHO’s Programme Manager for Monitoring Nutritional Status and Food Safety Events, informed Member States that WHO had not released the names of the experts until they had a firm commitment from each one, given the time required. Embarek stated there are ten Chinese experts and ten international experts working together, and he read the list of ten experts (**Note:** WHO received nominations for the expert team from Member States and the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) from which WHO selected the international team which China accepted in October (ref C). **End Note**):

- Thea Fisher (Nordsjællands Hospital, Denmark)
- John Watson (UK, Department of Health)
- Marion Koopmans (Netherlands, Erasmus Med Center)
- Dominic Dwyer (Australia, Westmead Hospital)
- Vladamir Dedkov (Russia, Institut Pasteur)
- Hung Nguyen (Vietnam, International Livestock Research Institute)
- Fabian Leendertz (Germany, Robert Koch Institute)
- Peter Daszak (USA, EcoHealth Alliance)
- Farag El Mubasher (Sudanese, working in Qatar’s Ministry of Health)
- Ken Maeda, (Japan, Dept of Veterinary Science)

ACT-A Still Seeking Urgent Funding

12. ~~(SBU)~~ The co-chairs of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council, ministers from Norway and South Africa, summarized the work of the Facilitation Council and repeated their appeals for funding. Recent pledges raised nearly one billion USD, but the ACT-A still needs US\$4.5 billion by the end of the year and nearly US\$28 billion in total. The co-chairs are preparing for a third Facilitation Council meeting in January or February of 2021 where they hope to secure the US\$4.5 billion. The co-chairs, as well as the UK, stated more support was needed from major G7 and G20 economies, and the UK noted ACT-A would be a focus of their 2021 G7 chairmanship. The co-chairs also noted the impressive results from Pfizer and Moderna on their

COVID-19 vaccines required urgent action to ensure those and other products could be delivered equitably through the ACT-A. The co-chairs shared much of the same economic and political argument for funding as in briefings in early November (ref A, B).

13. ~~(SBU)~~ Comment:

(b)(5)

End Comment.

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

DeControlled

Signature:

BREMBERG

Drafted By:

GENEVA: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Cleared By:

HHS/OGA: (b)(6)

HHS/NIH: (b)(6)

POL-ECON: (b)(6)

POL-ECON: (b)(6)

EXEC: (b)(6)

EXEC: (b)(6)

Approved By:

EXEC/LEG (b)(6)

Released By:

GENEVA: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Info:

ATLANTA GA, CDC *ROUTINE*; DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION *ROUTINE*; ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; IO COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*

XMT:

CARACAS, AMEMBASSY; ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL

Attachments:

ACT_Accelerator.pdf, SARS-CoV-2.pdf

Dissemination Rule:

Archive Copy

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~~SBU~~

Sender:	"SMART Archive" <>
Recipient:	SMART Core <>

From:	"SMART Archive" <>
To:	SMART Core <>
Subject:	(b)(5) - China EID MOU
Date:	Tue, 16 Jun 2015 15:57:03 GMT

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 15 MDA 13350
Date/DTG: Jun 16, 2015 / 161557Z JUN 15
From: (b)(6)
Action: Jessica Stewart (jessica.stewart@hhs.gov) *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: SHLH, TBIO, CH
Subject: (b)(5) - China EID MOU

Good morning, Jessica.

This email is to confirm that DOS clears on the attached (with tracked edits) MOU between HHS and the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China, which you sent to us for review on 6/3/15. OES/IHB, L/OES, L/T and EAP/CM all reviewed the document.

If there are additional changes, DOS's affirmative concurrence is required prior to signature of the final extension. Also, please keep in mind that the Department's Office of Language Services MUST do a translation and conformance of the texts and they cannot start into that process until we have both final English and Chinese versions.

Please remember to send us a PDF copy of the MOU upon signature for our records.

Cheers,

(b)(6)

Drafted By: OES_IHB: (b)(6)
Released By: OES_IHB: (b)(6)
Info: (b)(6)
Attachments: China_EID MOU_for state.docx

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"SMART Archive" <>
Recipient:	SMART Core <>

From:	"SMART Archive" <>
To:	SMART Core <>
Subject:	China: USAID Administrator Smith Leads First Annual USAID-MOFCOM Dialogue
Date:	Tue, 10 May 2016 11:24:23 GMT

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SBU~~

DeControlled



MRN: 16 BEIJING 1578
Date/DTG: May 10, 2016 / 101122Z MAY 16
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: EAID, ECON, EAGR, ECIN, EFIN, PGOV, PREL, SHLH, TSPL, KORB, KHIV, KGHI, UNGA, TRSY, HHS, CDC, AID, COM, UNDP, AU-1, TL, SL, LR, CN
Captions: SENSITIVE
Reference: A) 16 DILI 122
B) 15 BEIJING 3682
C) 15 STATE 84498
Subject: China: USAID Administrator Smith Leads First Annual USAID-MOFCOM Dialogue

1. (U) **Summary:** The United States and China agreed to enhance collaboration on global health and food security, deepen coordination on humanitarian assistance and disaster response, and finalize financial support for multilateral organization projects during the U.S.-China Development Cooperation Dialogue held in Beijing on April 28. Co-chaired by USAID Administrator Gayle Smith and Vice Minister of Commerce Zhang Xiangchen, the Dialogue fulfilled a commitment of the U.S.-China Development Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding signed during President Xi Jinping's September 2015 state visit. The tone throughout the Dialogue was positive and constructive, with interlocutors from both sides able to substantively discuss a range of development ideas and proposals. The Chinese side brought a full interagency complement, including representatives at the Deputy Director General (DDG) level and above from the Ministries of Finance and Agriculture, the National Health and Family Planning Commission, the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the China Earthquake Administration, and the Office of the Central Leading Group on Financial and Economic Affairs (an influential Communist Party policy team). The U.S. interagency was represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of the Treasury, and the U.S. Embassy Beijing Economic Section. The Dialogue

was divided into a half-hour one-on-one pre-meeting between the Administrator and Zhang, followed by a three-hour morning session led by the co-chairs and a lunch hosted by Zhang. The Dialogue concluded with a three-hour afternoon expert-level session chaired by USAID Assistant to the Administrator (AA) for the Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning Wade Warren and Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) Department of Foreign Aid DDG Liu Junfeng.
End summary.

2. ~~(SBU)~~ **Comment:** (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

End comment.

(b)(5)

Co-Chairs Lay Out Development Philosophies During Opening Remarks

4. ~~(SBU)~~ Zhang highlighted President Xi's emphasis on South-South cooperation during his

opening remarks, noting that China was set to inaugurate the "South-South Cooperation Institute" on April 29 at Beijing's prestigious Peking University, which he said China hoped would become a "Kennedy School of Government" for China. Justin Yifu Lin, former World Bank Chief Economist, would lead the new Institute, Zhang reported. China's core philosophy of development assistance "raised, agreed, and led" by recipient countries remained paramount, as did China's principle of non-interference in internal affairs, he said. Smith touched on five areas framing the U.S. approach to development in her opening remarks, including: (1) the importance of leveraging private capital to promote development and economic growth, such as in the Power Africa initiative; (2) the need for evaluation and data-driven approaches to improve development assistance efficiency, impact and transparency; (3) amplifying development impact through collaboration with the private sector, universities, research institutions and others; (4) making use of science and innovation to address complex development challenges; and (5) the importance of capacity-building in facilitating the delivery of development assistance.

(b)(5)

6. ~~(SBU)~~ China expressed interest in cooperation on public health capacity building in West Africa, especially in Sierra Leone and Liberia, representatives from MOFCOM, the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC), and the China CDC all reported. MOFCOM DDG Liu noted that China would build a Tropical Disease Research Center in Sierra Leone, which China hoped would become the basis for a national public health institute in the country, and would send a team of technical experts to Sierra Leone and Liberia in May and asked that they meet with U.S. experts while in the region. NHFPC DDG Feng Yong said China was willing to expand scientific collaboration and second staff to U.S. projects in order to better understand Africa's health situation and how the United States implements health assistance programs.

7. ~~(SBU)~~ The Chinese side was less committal on cooperation to improve broader global health architecture. HHS DAS Mitch Wolfe encouraged China to increase participation in Joint External Evaluations (JEE) to help countries achieve the WHO's International Health Regulations, noting the United States had funded almost all JEEs so far, and 60 more are expected next year. Zhang replied in general terms, emphasizing that China would like to learn and participate in order to push the global public health system to improve. In response to a request from the Administrator that China considerably increase its financial commitment to the

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, Zhang replied that China would continue to provide funding but did not commit to a specific amount. The Administrator also urged China to incorporate multidrug and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis into the G-20 agenda. Zhang promised to discuss the proposal with China's G-20 team and offer a response.

Food Security: Progress on Timor-Leste; Open to Exploring Africa Collaboration in Principle

8. ~~(SBU)~~ Both sides expressed satisfaction with the recent progress achieved on aquaculture collaboration in Timor-Leste and agreed to dispatch teams quickly to press forward with implementation on the ground (REF A). The Chinese side stressed that trilateral cooperation in Timor Leste could serve as a pilot experience for cooperation in Africa. Ministry of Agriculture DDG Zhao Weining explained that China's international cooperation on food security was mostly on a South-South basis. He touted China's long-standing strategic alliance with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support tripartite cooperation in developing countries, as well as China's \$80 million contribution to the FAO-China South-South Cooperation trust fund. During her intervention, the Administrator encouraged joint support to the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and on trilateral collaboration in Africa including climate-smart agriculture. Throughout both the morning and the afternoon sessions, the Chinese side expressed interest in collaboration on climate-smart agriculture, but asked for more information before concrete cooperation could proceed. The Chinese side stressed the need to agree to a precise definition of climate-smart agriculture, questioning both whether certain countries were at the right stage of development to initiate such projects and Chinese ability to provide such assistance at this time. The U.S. side promised to share more detailed information and noted the need to demonstrate progress as this was an agreed-upon outcome from President Xi's state visit. The Chinese side offered no substantive response to earlier U.S. proposals for collaboration in Senegal, Liberia, and/or Malawi. During the afternoon session, the U.S. side pressed China to provide a substantive response to these proposals before the end of May, although MOFCOM was non-committal on timing.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Recovery: Deepening INSARAG Cooperation; Delegation to World Humanitarian Summit Not Decided

9. ~~(SBU)~~ The Administrator encouraged China to participate in the May World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, as well as in the UNGA Refugee Summit that the United States will host. She also highlighted that the effects of El Niño in parts of Africa and Latin America had been worse than anticipated, and encouraged China to increase contributions. In response, Zhang emphasized that President Xi said China would demonstrate responsibility and action by providing humanitarian assistance in warzones and areas of suffering. Zhang stressed China's commitment to assisting countries affected by El Niño, citing approximately \$88 million in support for Ethiopia, Somalia, and nine other African countries via direct food aid and a \$10 million donation to the World Food Programme. Both sides highlighted strong existing cooperation between USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and the China Earthquake Administration, and decided to continue cooperation via the International Search

and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). On the World Humanitarian Summit, China agreed it was an important initiative and said the Chinese delegation was not yet decided. AA Warren laid out three U.S. priorities for the World Humanitarian Summit: (1) highlighting concerns about increasing violations of international humanitarian law; (2) ensuring that UN relief agencies work together more effectively and efficiently; and (3) focusing on the nexus between development and humanitarian assistance. In response, working-level MOFCOM officials recited talking points on the need for humanitarian assistance to comply with the UN Charter; respect sovereignty; address host country needs; avoid militarization; and focus on capacity-building.

(b)(5)

Strengthening Communication and Next Steps

11. ~~(SBU)~~ Throughout the morning and afternoon discussions, the U.S. delegation stressed the need to improve communication, both in capitals and in the field. New and direct methods of communication and contact points were established at the working level in many areas. The co-chairs of the afternoon session agreed that both sides would develop summary meeting notes which they would share promptly with each other after reporting to the Administrator and Vice Minister to ensure a common understanding of areas of consensus. Both sides agreed that the outcomes from the Development Dialogue could form the basis for outcomes language for the upcoming U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue.

Participants

12. (U) The following individuals represented the U.S. and Chinese delegations:

U.S. Delegation

- Gayle Smith, USAID Administrator

- (b)(6) USAID (b)(6)

(b)(6)

- (b)(6) USAID (b)(6)
- (b)(6) USAID
- (b)(6) USAID
- (b)(6)
- Mitchell Wolfe, HHS Deputy Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs
- Rebecca Martin, CDC Director for the Center for Global Health
- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing Economic Minister Counselor
- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing USAID Counselor
- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing USAID Counselor
- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing Deputy Financial Attaché
- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing HHS Attaché
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- (b)(6) U.S. Embassy Beijing Economic Officer
- (b)(6) Department of State Office of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Chinese Delegation

- Zhang Xiangchen, Vice Minister of Commerce
- Liu Junfeng, Ministry of Commerce, Department of Foreign Aid, Deputy Director General
- Yang Yingming, Ministry of Finance, Department of International Economic & Financial Cooperation, Deputy Director General
- Wang Xu, Ministry of Commerce, Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs, Deputy Director General
- Xu Dongming, Office of the Central Leading Group on Financial and Economic Affairs
- Wang Yu, Director General of the China Center for Disease Control
- Zhao Weining, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of International Cooperation, Deputy Director General
- Feng Yong, National Health and Family Planning Commission, Department of International Cooperation, Deputy Director General
- Wang Manda, China Earthquake Administration, Department of Science & Technology and International Cooperation, Deputy Director General
- Wang Qing, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs, Counselor
- Liang Hong, Ministry of Commerce, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Division Director

13. (U) USAID Administrator Smith's office cleared this cable.

Signature: BAUCUS

Drafted By: BEIJING: (b)(6) EAP/CM (b)(6)

Cleared By: FinAtt: (b)(6)
ECON: (b)(6)
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HHS: (b)(6)
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Approved By: BEIJING: (b)(6)

Released By:

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Date:	Thu, 30 Jan 2020 09:45:48 GMT

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K) 20 BEIJING 166
L) 20 BEIJING 164
M) 20 BEIJING 142
N) 20 BEIJING 122
O) 20 BEIJING 108
P) 20 BEIJING 74
Q) 19 WUHAN 112
Subject: China Coronavirus: Mission China Prepares for Authorized Departure, Holds Town Hall

1. ~~(SBU)~~ **Summary:** Mission China held a Town Hall January 30 led by Ambassador Branstad to discuss authorized departure and posture in response to the novel coronavirus. The PRC coronavirus response group led by Premier Li Keqiang called for the delayed return to work of some Chinese government personnel. Mission China is scheduled to reopen February 3 to focus fully on the response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. The Mission China Task Force

will continue to meet daily and report on the 2019-nCoV outbreak. **End Summary.**

Mission China Town Hall

2. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing held a Town Hall January 30 led by Ambassador Branstad to discuss Mission China's authorized departure of family members and all non-emergency U.S. government employees, along with Mission posture in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Staff and family member from the Consulates also participated.

Assistance to AmCits and Relief Coordination for Wuhan

3. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing continues to coordinate with the Department on assistance to and the possible evacuation of U.S. citizens who remain in Wuhan. The Mission China Wuhan Relief Group is coordinating with the Department to place relief supplies and donations aboard any aircraft that may travel to Wuhan to evacuate U.S. citizens.

Central Government Leaders Call for Delayed Return of Some Government Personnel

4. ~~(SBU)~~ The PRC's Central Leading Group for the 2019-nCoV Response convened a meeting on January 29, chaired by Premier Li Keqiang. The group noted that "the epidemic is still in the phase of spreading" and called on public agencies and entities to allow non-critical personnel traveling from areas with "high rates of infection" to delay their return to work. With the permission of the State Council, Hubei Province and other highly affected areas may delay the reopening of public offices, businesses, and schools, "as appropriate."

Triage Procedures at Beijing Hospitals Observed; No Reported Stresses on Healthcare Systems

5. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing received a notice January 29 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) directing diplomatic personnel in Beijing with fevers to go to one of two hospitals: Ditan Hospital and You'an Hospital. On January 30, Embassy Beijing ESTHoff and a CDC Officer visited Ditan Hospital and two other hospitals with locally designated fever clinics: Beijing United Family Hospital (BJU) and Huaxin Hospital. BJU is frequented by Embassy personnel.

6. ~~(SBU)~~ At the hospitals, the CDC Officer conducted a rapid on-the-spot assessment of: (1) procedures for funneling individuals entering the hospital to one entry point where a triage nurse was set up; (2) screening and triaging patients at the entry point, including through temperature checks, symptom screen, and basic risk assessment (e.g., asking about recent travel history); (3) use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by healthcare workers (HCW) and training on PPE; (4) procedures for isolating individuals with a fever from the general hospital population and directing those with fever to the fever clinic; (5) presence of functioning negative-pressure isolation rooms on site; (6) lab testing capacity for 2019-nCoV on site in the fever clinics; and (7) existing protocols for HCW who may have been exposed. The expert assessed that all three hospitals had adequate capacity and procedures in place, to varying degrees. Among the three, BJU was superior in their triage procedures.

7. ~~(SBU)~~ At BJU, ESTH was told that BJU's fever clinic had reopened at 11:00 AM on January 30. The CDC Officer observed that the triage nurse was wearing a face shield, mask, gloves, and a gown. The assigned security personnel escorting patients to the fever clinic were wearing masks and face shields. Adult patients with temperatures above 37.3°C (99.1°F) are escorted to the fever clinic; children are escorted to a pediatric fever clinic, and all accompanying family members are immediately masked (if not already) and screened by staff. A BJU triage nurse said that BJU can test for 2019-nCoV in-house, and that the fever clinic has fully functioning negative-pressure isolation rooms. Patients who test positive for the virus are sent to one of the city's designated treatment hospitals. The triage nurse further indicated that BJU has established protocols for HCW who are exposed and has conducted training with all staff on the proper use of PPE.

8. ~~(SBU)~~ At Ditan hospital, ESTHOff spoke with a hospital administrator and asked about the MFA notice directing diplomatic personnel in Beijing with fevers to its facility. The administrator said she was not aware of the MFA notice and told ESTHOff the hospital did not have any special procedures or services for the intake of diplomatic personnel. The administrator suggested that Embassy staff and family just go to the nearest locally designated fever clinic or treatment hospital. [Note: Beijing city government has a published list of 101 fever clinics and 21 designated treatment hospitals in the city. End note.]

9. ~~(SBU)~~ CGs Shanghai and Guangzhou report no visible signs of stress to the local healthcare system. In Shanghai, private hospitals that serve international clients, including the official American community, appear to be operating as normal. In Guangzhou, there have been no reported changes to hospital conditions or wait times since the ConGenOffs' January 28 survey of facilities.

10. ~~(SBU)~~ According to contacts, as of today, Sichuan province has dedicated more than 2,273 beds in hospitals across the region, in addition to 30 backup hospitals, to treat patients infected with the virus. Sichuan currently has 54 quarantine sites, with an additional 249 backup sites. As of yesterday, 2,011 fever clinics at hospitals across Sichuan have screened over 75,000 patients for the virus.

11. ~~(SBU)~~ To ease the pressure on major hospitals in Chengdu, the provincial health commission has installed a new community-based early screening and referral system. Individuals with fever and other possible symptoms are urged to first contact their community health center for primary screenings. Symptomatic patients are then referred to fever clinics or placed under house quarantine for further monitoring. There are 197 hospitals with fever clinics in Chengdu, which are mandated to transfer confirmed cases to 17 designated treatment hospitals. Major hospitals in the city center, including Huaxi Hospital -- Sichuan's main provincial hospital and the primary hospital for CG Chengdu's community -- have not been designated as nCoV treatment hospitals. However, as noted in prior CG Chengdu reporting, Huaxi and other Chengdu hospitals have setup diagnostic and fever tents.

International Schools

12. ~~(SBU)~~ The PRC Ministry of Education January 27 suspended all classes at schools until

further instructions from local authorities. International schools in Beijing said January 29 the Beijing Municipal Education Commission (BMEC) announced that the reopening of schools shall now be determined by BMEC. The Western Academy of Beijing (WAB), International School of Beijing (ISB), and the British School of Beijing (BSB) said they will implement online learning starting February 3. American International School of Guangzhou (AISG), where all ConGen children study, still plans to re-open February 17 and sent instructions for on-line classes beginning February 3. Shanghai international schools attended by Consulate EFMs continue to plan on reopening February 17.

Beijing

13. ~~(SBU)~~ In Beijing, there are no reports of road closures or traffic restrictions from Beijing's transport authority and city police. Public buses and subway lines within the city continue to operate as normal. Grocery stores appear well-stocked. The DiDi ride-hailing app (similar to Uber) was functioning again on January 30. [Note: Didi announced January 29 that it was suspending most services by private drivers in Beijing "in response to local authorities' requirement." There was no announced reason why the service had resumed. End note.]

14. ~~(SBU)~~ China's Ministry of Transport (MOT) issued a notice on January 30 forbidding local transport authorities from closing highways or inter-province roadways in response to 2019-nCoV ([link](#)). MOT also published a notice on January 30 that vehicles carrying emergency supplies should receive free passage across provinces and would be exempt from any tolls or fees ([link](#)).

15. ~~(SBU)~~ The Hilton Beijing hotel, where many TDY and official visitors to Beijing stay, told an Embassy CDC officer January 29 that their procedure following any guests identified with a fever is to call the police/ambulance to take the guest to a hospital. Hilton staff said they would ensure the guest had a mask on and was set aside until the police arrived.

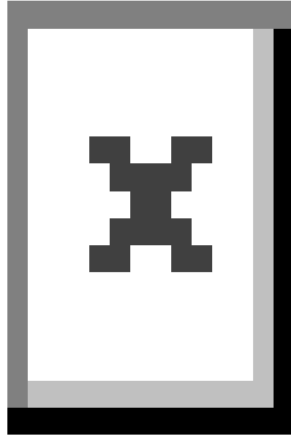


Figure: Hilton Beijing staff conducting temperature checks of hotel guests

Chengdu

16. ~~(SBU)~~ As of January 30, Sichuan province reported 142 cases of individuals infected with the nCoV virus. On January 30 Chengdu reported its first death, an 86-year-old woman with a history of prior illness. In Western Sichuan's remote Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, local authorities announced that two individuals were confirmed as having the virus, bringing the total number of cases in Ganzi to five. Another 29 individuals in Ganzi suspected of suffering from the virus remain under quarantine. One contact speculated that these individuals may have been tourists from Wuhan who had chosen to spend their New Year sightseeing in the area. Tibetan contacts speculated that the number of individuals infected with the virus in Western Sichuan might be higher, with one Tibetan telling us he was forced to depart Chengdu in a hurry to take care of his parents after "several" individuals in their village fell ill.

17. ~~(SBU)~~ As of January 30, China's ride sharing application, DiDi, pushed a message to its English-speaking users, indicating the company would no longer provide "inter-city services" between Chengdu and other cities. Post confirmed all travel within Chengdu and to the local international airport remains available.

18. ~~(SBU)~~ United Airlines, Hainan Airlines, and other international airlines continue to operate flights out of Chengdu. Consulate employees transiting Chengdu's Shuangliu International Airport have reported inconsistent levels of arrival and departure health checks. Upon departure

or arrival, all travelers are required to undergo a "health check" which entails filling out a form indicating recent travel and any potential symptoms.

19. ~~(SBU)~~ Controls on movement within Chengdu extend to the lowest levels of governance, contacts say. One contact reports local police in residential areas of Chengdu checking the home registration (户口) for all individuals entering a given neighborhood, saying that authorities have been turning away anyone whose registration shows that they do not reside in that neighborhood, even if they are registered elsewhere in Chengdu. In rural areas of the province, contacts report authorities are searching all vehicles to ascertain if any passengers have recently arrived from Wuhan, while in city areas, police are stopping all cars with license plates from Hubei, of which Wuhan is the provincial capital. According to contacts, Sichuan has designated hotels to quarantine individuals with recent travel to Hubei, while some private hotels are refusing to admit any person with registration there.

20. ~~(SBU)~~ Despite February 17 being the official start date for schools, some universities have begun to hedge on when students and faculty should return, with the Southwest Minorities University in Chengdu publishing a notice that "all individuals should wait until further instructions at a later date before planning their return."

21. ~~(SBU)~~ Likeminded diplomatic colleagues based in Chongqing believe the next 5-8 days will be crucial for the municipality to contain the virus. On January 28, the first confirmed coronavirus case was reported in the municipality's Yuzhong district, where many of the foreign consulates are located. This appears to have triggered a more stringent set of public health measures, with mandatory temperature checks observed at residential compounds, gas stations, malls, and car routes. Contacts noted there remains a lot of concern, locally that Chongqing could become another epicentre for coronavirus infection based on the significant flow of people between Chongqing and Wuhan. On January 28, the Deputy Director of Chongqing's Center for Disease Control and Prevention was quoted as saying that some 210,000 people had 'recently' travelled from Wuhan to Chongqing prior to movement controls being implemented in Hubei Province. This has triggered a widespread grid search campaign by authorities to identify people in Chongqing coming from Wuhan and those with whom they have been in contact.

22. ~~(SBU)~~ According to diplomatic contacts, Chongqing has ordered non-essential businesses to stay closed until February 9th. Schools are to remain closed until February 17. As of January 28, Chongqing's one international hospital, Raffles Medical, still offers fever screening and blood test and directs patients to a designated public hospital if they test positive for the virus. English service at Raffles Hospital is reportedly inconsistent, and our diplomatic contacts said they have been unable to assess the availability/quality of foreign language services at the two hospitals designated for foreigners suspected of coronavirus infection.

23. ~~(SBU)~~ On January 28, Chongqing municipal government held a press conference, stating it had implemented containment measures, including setting up checkpoints at airports, train stations, highway exits, and piers to identify vehicles and passengers coming from Hubei Province. Starting on the morning of January 26, Chongqing's municipal metro system began operating on a reduced schedule. Chongqing has also stopped all interprovincial bus services.

Our contacts reported no indication that flights and trains have or would be disrupted. In addition, Chongqing FAO has suspended all activities with foreign countries until the end of February and has requested the city's consulates general do the same.

24. ~~(SBU)~~ Contacts also reported that masks remain difficult to procure locally. Chongqing FAO has circulated an updated list of supplies that the government needs for its response, which mainly consist of personal protective equipment. Authorities are asking foreign company contacts that are cleared to sell these supplies in China to increase their imports of such products. Chongqing is also willing to accept donations from private organizations and sub-national governments.

Guangzhou

25. ~~(SBU)~~ USDH and EFMs participated in Mission China's townhall January 30, followed by a ConGen Guangzhou Q&A session on authorized departure. CG Guangzhou will conduct an EAC January 30.

26. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangdong's provincial FAO, health commission, and information bureau held a briefing January 30 for the consular corps. The officials sought to calm anxiety in the consulate community by reiterating the province's pledge not to resort to lock down measures, to maintain normal transportation, and to quickly resolve supply shortages of face masks. Guangdong FAO officials told the consular corps there was "no need to withdraw" foreign nationals from Guangdong.

27. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Guangzhou RSO issued a security notice with guidance for responding to mandatory temperature checks, instructing USDH and EFMs to contact RSO if at any point they encounter forcible attempts to bring personnel to a fever hospital for further testing. At the January 30 briefing by FAO, provincial officials told the consular corps the protocol for foreign diplomats would be at-home quarantine.

28. ~~(SBU)~~ As of January 30, all regularly scheduled flights to the United States from Guangzhou and Shenzhen are operating normally. According to the FAO, the main carrier out of Guangzhou, China Southern (code share Delta, AA), has not cancelled any international routes.

29. ~~(SBU)~~ In Guangdong, provincial and municipal governments resumed normal operations as of January 30. Banks are scheduled to re-open February 3.

30. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Guangzhou reported that as of COB January 29, the New Zealand Consulate is working with minimal staff and LES working from home if needed. Some Consulate staff, including New Zealand Police, have voluntarily left China, although a Consulate contact reported Foreign Affairs had not yet decided to repatriate non-essential staff and their dependents. The UK Consulate is running with minimal staff and has offered voluntary departure to its staff. The Canadian Consulate has drawn down to minimal staff through at least February 3 and is offering essential consular services only. The Canadian Consulate has set up a screening station outside the Consulate entrance. Canadian Consulate leadership is actively

discussing evacuating dependents from Guangzhou.

31. ~~(SBU)~~ As of January 30, grocery stores surveyed by Consulate Guangzhou staff were well stocked and appeared to be increasing the availability of meat and produce. Water deliveries to Consulate personnel remain available through the Consulate's supplier, though delivery times were constrained through the extended holiday.

32. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangzhou public transportation remains open. ConGenOffs observed metro and bus ridership seemed to be up compared to previous days. Checkpoints have been stood-up at key freeway junctures to screen all inter-provincial inbound car traffic.

33. ~~(SBU)~~ High speed rail link suspension for mainland trains to Hong Kong went into effect at 12:00 AM January 30. ConGenOff observed at one Guangzhou train station that as many as one-third of overall rail frequencies in an out of the city are cancelled the evening of January 29, while no cancellations were evident at a second station.

34. ~~(SBU)~~ Foot traffic is light at inter-city bus terminals and plenty of tickets available to most mid-range destinations, according to ConGenOff observations. Staff confirmed bus service to Hong Kong Airport was suspended.

Shanghai

35. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Shanghai reported January 30 Shanghai has not yet seen signs of significant disruption to local transportation, food distribution, or medical services. The Shanghai consular district accounts for about 11 percent of total confirmed cases, with approximately half of those in Zhejiang Province. Confirmed cases in Shanghai – currently around 100 - remain low both in absolute terms and relative to the size of the population. Members of the Consulate community continue to find grocery stores accessible and well stocked, though supplies of some products – especially fresh vegetables and pork – are in short supply in some stores some of time. The Shanghai municipal government has acknowledged that demand for these items is higher than normal, attributing the increase in demand to decreased travel outside of the city and more residents cooking at home rather than eating out. While many restaurants remain closed, meal and grocery delivery services are operating as normal.

36. ~~(SBU)~~ The Shanghai subway network and the Didi ride hailing service continue to operate as normal. The ride-hailing app Didi is requiring all passengers and drivers to wear protective masks. The airport and high-speed rail service continue to operate, although a number of airlines have reduced or discontinued service to Shanghai from overseas. Some of these airlines have explicitly cited public health reasons as the main factor in their decision while others have pointed to reduced demand as the main driver.

37. ~~(SBU)~~ Calls into CG Shanghai ACS regarding the crisis have risen steeply in the last 24 hours. The Consulate's public mailbox had over 300 inquiries with questions about evacuations and guidance on the coronavirus. More than 700 U.S. citizens have enrolled in the STEP program since Friday.

38. ~~(SBU)~~ Google's General Counsel for China told CG Shanghai's Consul General January 30 that Google is not closed and has no plans to do so. The General Counsel said the company had merely delayed post-holiday reopening by a week to comply with a request from local authorities. Google offices will reopen and function normally from February 10.

39. ~~(SBU)~~ Health inspection sites on highways between Shanghai and other cities remain in place. A Consulate EFM January 29 observed four health inspection sites on the highway between Shanghai and Kunshan. Despite light traffic on the highway, long queues were present at inspection sites, where temperatures of all drivers and passengers were being checked.

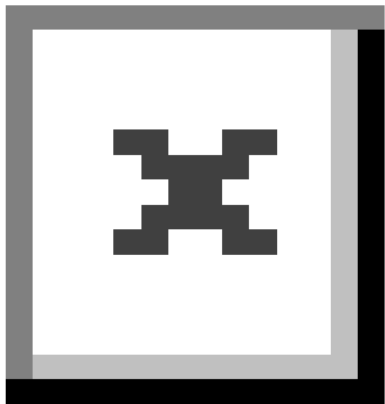


Figure: *Health inspection site on highway between Shanghai and Kunshan.*

Shenyang

40. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Shenyang reported January 30 that the situation remains stable with increased monitoring measures. Shenyang city is quiet with most residents heeding the government's call to stay home. Public transportation is operating, albeit on a reduced schedule. Taxis are available. There have been no significant changes to transportation within Shenyang since our last update. Transportation service between cities has been reduced. As reported in previous updates, intercity bus service was suspended in Liaoning province and some high-speed trains will skip Shenyang. While transportation is available, individual districts within the city have begun announcing measures to isolate neighborhoods and track residents down to the city block level. For example, Tiexi district, a district within Shenyang city, announced "isolation management" measures on January 29 that require people entering Tiexi district to have their temperatures checked. Only residents in Tiexi can enter and leave freely while visitors will

need to register so that the local officials can maintain accountability of them. While Tiexi was the first district to announce these "isolation measures" publicly, consulate staff report that these procedures are being expanded to cover all districts in Shenyang. One Consulate staff reported residents of his neighborhood who traveled out of town for the Lunar New Year holiday were contacted and told they could not return home once the neighborhood went into "isolation management." Within NE China, Chinese media have reported that some cities have enacted stringent measures to prevent cases of coronavirus from entering the city limits. For example, Yanji city, near the North Korean border, has reported no cases of coronavirus. The city has suspended all public transportation within the city as well long-distance transportation. Hotels in Yanji cannot accept outsiders.

41. ~~(SBU)~~ Shenyang Airport is operating normally with temperature check stations for passengers in vehicles leaving and arriving at the airport. China Southern's direct flight from Shenyang to Los Angeles operates three times a week and remains in operation, according to contacts at the Shenyang Airport. Data shared by CG Shenyang contacts show that outbound flights to Los Angeles are at almost full capacity. Tuesday's flight from Shenyang to Los Angeles had 20 empty seats and Thursday's flight has 10 empty seats out of a maximum capacity of 286 seats. In comparison, contacts noted that the inbound flight from Los Angeles to Shenyang has fewer passengers but is still within an acceptable range. Thursday's flight from Los Angeles to Shenyang had 170 passengers out of 286 seats. Contacts noted that both inbound and outbound flights are normally at full capacity during the Lunar New Year because of students studying in the United States. The China Southern flight is NE China's only direct international flight to the United States.

42. ~~(SBU)~~ Consulate Shenyang held an EAC meeting and joined the Ambassador's town hall meeting for AMCIT employees and family members on January 30. Shenyang will also hold an LE staff town hall meeting on the first workday after the extended holiday on February 3. Over the last 24 hours, the total number of patients with confirmed coronavirus in NE China increased by 16. Chinese media reported that two patients in Jilin and Liaoning province has recovered from the coronavirus and were released. These are the first reported cases of patients being fully cured and released from quarantine in NE China.

Media/Social Media

43. (U) People's Daily continued to publish new stories about how China will "definitely win the battle against the epidemic." People's Daily cited statements by international personages in support of China's efforts against the epidemic, including the tweet by U.S. President Trump which appreciated China for its efforts in preventing and controlling pneumonia caused by the new coronavirus. As well as Alex Azar, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services appreciated China's prior disclosure of gene sequence information of new coronavirus, and emphasized that this is helpful for the development of virus diagnosis methods. Xinhua and widely amplified by all media including CCTV prime time is an order from Xi Jinping to the Chinese military to "keep its mission firmly in mind and shoulder responsibility to make contributions to winning the battle against the novel coronavirus epidemic." The military resolutely implemented the decisions and arrangements of the CPC Central Committee after the novel coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan of Hubei Province, Xi said, adding that the armed forces

rapidly initiated the joint prevention and control mechanism and sent elite medical teams to combat the epidemic at the frontline. Xi said the epidemic prevention and control "remained grim and complex and demanded the armed forces shoulder their responsibility, fight the hard battle and actively assist local authorities in fighting the epidemic." Xinhua and CCTV also featured Li Keqiang and officials emphasizing the treatment of patients and the supply of medical resources. The piece said that prevention and control efforts are in full swing and have been intensified, but the epidemic keeps spreading, with a rapid rising trend in some regions. The meeting also stressed efforts of epidemic prevention and control amid the return trips of people after the Lunar New Year holiday, adding that proper postponement of return should be allowed. Delays in business operation and school opening should be applied. Chinese outlets also report over 7,700 confirmed cases of coronavirus in China, 170 deaths, and 128 recovered patients. Xinhua amplified a health official in Beijing that "early reporting, isolation, diagnosis is the best way to contain coronavirus." Xinhua and other outlets also covered work by the Wuhan Institute of Virology to screen new coronavirus drugs that can inhibit coronavirus. Another article in Global Times praised Wuhan residents for "whistle-blowing" on virus outbreak. A top epidemiologist at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CCDC) on Wednesday commended eight residents, who were detained in early January for spreading "rumors" about the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. Zeng Guang, Chief epidemiologist at the CCDC, said those eight residents should be highly regarded as they turned out to be correct about the viral outbreak, even though the information they spread "lacked scientific evidence." Zeng's comment followed an article from the Supreme People's Court of China (SPC) on Tuesday, in which the top court said that the eight Wuhan residents should be "tolerated" and their act of spreading the information, if taken seriously, would have done much good to the public. China Daily reports on efforts to guarantee key supply items and featured promises by various businesses including Wumart and Alibaba.

44. (U) In commentary Xinhua said China's virus battle unites people and protects the world. Xinhua said, accusations that the massive city lockdown in Wuhan is a violation of human rights emerged, but the citizens of Wuhan disagree. Since the lockdown was put in place, they have been staying indoors and practicing quarantine measures with the utmost respect for the government's guidance and their hallmark perseverance and optimism. They have a sober understanding that while inconveniences may emerge, the historic quarantine serves their health, safety and overall interests. Social cohesion binds the people of Wuhan at this critical moment. Xinhua concludes, time will prove that China has made wise decisions and will emerge even stronger after coming through the epidemic. Messages to CPC members continued to "stand up in time of crisis--resolutely winning the battle of prevention and control of epidemic." Global Times comments that Provincial Governor Wang Xiaodong himself made a mistake in that press conference about the annual production capacity of masks in Hubei Province, which attracted fierce criticism from the public. But after that, the leading cadres in Hubei province did not shrink back, and Wang Xiaodong attended the press conference for the second time to communicate with the media and the public. At last night's press conference, Governor Wang Xiaodong first expressed "understanding and appreciation" for the public's supervision and criticism of the work of Hubei Province since the outbreak. He praised and bowed to medical staffs as a tribute at the press conference. Many people who watched last night's press conference felt that the governor's behavior was very sincere, says Global Times.

45. (U) Social media continued to track and monitor the virus. One of the most popular related topics is the first case confirmed in Tibet. The top story on Weibo is a 100 second [video](#) that went viral with Zhang Wenhong, the infectious disease expert tasked with managing Shanghai's response to the novel coronavirus. In the video, Mr. Zhang said he asked all CCP members of his hospital, to replace those who already has been combating the coronavirus for a long time. "You cannot bully obedient people" said Mr. Zhang. Other popular topics include the live streaming of the construction of the two field hospitals in Wuhan - every vehicle and machine has been nicknamed by netizens. Top three hashtags have received 76 million views: 1. Hubei governor responded to criticism of netizens; 2. The epidemic is still in spreading process; 3. Pets need to be isolated if they touch virus. Other popular posts showed factory production of masks and protective gear, profiles of doctors and medical providers working to protect others, and other stories on numbers of cases.

All 31 Provincial-Level Territories at Highest Level of Alert

46. ~~(SBU)~~ The Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) decided to raise its public health alert to Level 1 on January 29, the highest level. All 31 provincial-level territories have now declared Level-1 emergencies (*People's Daily*).

Nationwide Cases: All 31 Provincial-Level Territories with Confirmed Cases

47. ~~(SBU)~~ China's National Health Commission (NHC) reported 1,737 newly confirmed cases on January 29 as of 24:00, as total confirmed cases rose to 7,711, including 1,370 cases in serious or critical condition ([link](#)). Among the new cases is the first confirmed case in the TAR. NHC further reported 38 new deaths on January 29, including 37 in Hubei and one in Sichuan. The number of patients treated and released rose to 124. A total of 12,167 cases are currently suspected, with 81,947 close contacts in isolation under medical observation.

Table: Confirmed Cases in Mainland China as of January 29

Province/City/Region	Total confirmed cases to date	New confirmed cases	Total deaths to date	New deaths reported
Anhui	200	48	--	--
Beijing	111	20	1	--
Chongqing	165	18	--	--
Fujian	101	17	--	--
Gansu	26	2	--	--
Guangdong	311	70	--	--
Guangxi	78	20	--	--
Guizhou	12	3	--	--
Hainan	46	3	1	--
Hebei	65	17	1	--

Heilongjiang	43	6	1	--
Henan	278	72	2	--
Hubei	4,586	1,032	162	37
Hunan	277	56	--	--
Inner Mongolia	18	2	--	--
Jiangsu	129	30	--	--
Jiangxi	162	53	--	--
Jilin	14	5	--	--
Liaoning	39	1	--	--
Ningxia	17	5	--	--
Qinghai	6	--	--	--
Shaanxi	56	10	--	--
Shandong	145	24	--	--
Shanghai	101	21	1	--
Shanxi	35	8	--	--
Sichuan	142	34	1	1
Tianjin	27	3	--	--
Tibet	1	1	--	--
Xinjiang	14	1	--	--
Yunnan	70	19	--	--
Zhejiang	428	132	--	--
TOTAL (NHC Reported)	7,711	1,737	170	38
TOTAL (From Provinces)	7,703	1,733	170	38

-- zero cases. Source: NHC,

provincial health commissions, and state media.

Table: Confirmed Cases in Other Countries and Regions as of Mid-Day January 30

Country/Region	Total Cases	New Confirmed Cases
Thailand	14	--
Hong Kong	10	2
Singapore	10	5
Japan	10	3
Taiwan	8	--
Macau	7	--
Australia	7	2

Malaysia	7	4
United States	5	--
France	5	1
South Korea	4	--
Germany	4	--
Canada	3	2
Vietnam	2	--
Nepal	1	--
Cambodia	1	--
Sri Lanka	1	--
United Arab Emirates	1	1
Finland	1	1
Total	101	21

Notes: As of 10:30 AM on January 30. Source: Ding Xiang Yuan, <http://www.dxy.cn/>

More Confirmed Cases of Third-Country Nationals in China, But No Amcits

48. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangdong authorities confirmed January 29 in a press conference that one Pakistani and two Australians had contracted the virus, the first cases involving foreigners in the province. According CG Guangzhou contacts, the Australians were students in Wuhan and have recovered. Health authorities reiterated to the Guangzhou consular corps January 30 there have been no fatalities in Guangdong and the preponderance of cases had a direct tie to Hubei, or a very close contact with someone with Hubei travel. No cases of Amcits currently in China have been confirmed and reported by PRC authorities.

Evacuation of Third-Country Nationals

49. ~~(SBU)~~ Nine of the 210 Japanese citizens evacuated from Wuhan to Tokyo on a second chartered aircraft on January 30 are reportedly symptomatic, with cough or fever. Two other Japanese passengers with fever or cough had been stopped from boarding at a pre-flight health screening in Wuhan (CCTV). Earlier, three of the 206 Japanese citizens that were evacuated from Wuhan to Tokyo on January 29 on the first chartered aircraft were diagnosed with 2019-nCoV (CCTV). Five of the passengers on the January 29 flight reportedly had fevers before they arrived in Tokyo.

Public Spending on 2019-nCoV Response

50. ~~(SBU)~~ China's national and local governments have reportedly spent RMB 27.3 billion (US\$ 3.9 billion) in public funds on the 2019-nCoV response as of 1700 on January 29 (CCTV). The Organization Department of the Communist Party announced on January 30 that it would release RMB 108 billion from CCP member dues to assist local governments (*The Paper*).

Mask Shortages – Daily Production in China Currently at 40-Percent Capacity

51. (SBU) Officials from China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) have estimated the country's maximum daily production capacity for masks at around 20 million per day, about half the global total ([link](#)). According to the officials, current production is at around 8 million masks per day due to the holiday. MIIT has called on enterprises to increase shifts and resume their normal production levels, though officials noted difficulties faced by producers. As one official said, "Most workers have returned home, supplies of raw materials have stopped, and logistics are at a halt." Officials also noted disruptions in inter-province rail service and trucking routes as a factor. Guangdong authorities told the consular corps January 30 that 27 of the 29 manufacturers in the province have resumed operation and estimated local shortages should ease within days.

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

Signature: Branstad

Drafted By: BEIJING (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Cleared By:

ESTH:

POL:

POL:

POL-ECON:

RSO:

CONS:

POL:

MGT/MED:

MGT:

POL-ECON:

HHS/CDC/CGH:

PD:

ECON:

HHS/CDC/IRD:

INFO:

INFO: DHS/CBP:

INFO: HHS/OGA:

CDA: (b)(6)

Approved By:

Released By:

Info:

BEIJING: (b)(6)

SEOUL, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; TAIPEI, AIT ROUTINE; HANOI, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; SINGAPORE, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ULAANBAATAR, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PHNOM PENH, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; BANGKOK, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; HONG KONG, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; MANILA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PARIS, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; VLADIVOSTOK, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; ATLANTA GA, CDC ROUTINE; DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON

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Subject: China Coronavirus: Mission China Coordinates Authorized Departure, Wuhan Evacuation and Relief

Date: Fri, 31 Jan 2020 09:41:47 +0000

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MRN: 20 BEIJING 234
Date/DTG: Jan 31, 2020 / 310938Z JAN 20
From: AMEMBASSY BEIJING
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*

E.O.: 13526

TAGS: SHLH, CDC, HHS, NIH, CN, PGOV, SENV, PREL, CASC, AMGT, AMED, KPAO, KMDR, ASEC, AID, KHIV

Captions: ~~SENSITIVE~~

Reference: A) 20 BEIJING 226
B) 20 BEIJING 222
C) 20 BEIJING 218
D) 20 BEIJING 216
E) 20 BEIJING 214
F) 20 BEIJING 206
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M) 20 BEIJING 174
N) 20 BEIJING 172
O) 20 BEIJING 166
P) 20 BEIJING 164
Q) 20 BEIJING 142
R) 20 BEIJING 122
S) 20 BEIJING 108
T) 20 BEIJING 74
U) 19 WUHAN 112
V) 20 STATE 9544

Subject: China Coronavirus: Mission China Coordinates Authorized Departure, Wuhan Evacuation and Relief

1. ~~(SBU)~~ **Summary:** Mission China continued authorized departure of family members and non-emergency U.S. government employees January 31. The Mission China Task Force January 31 coordinated evacuation flights for U.S. citizens in Wuhan and the delivery of relief supplies on the incoming aircraft. Mission China will be closed for non-emergency services until February 9. The Mission China Task Force will continue to meet and focus fully on the response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus. **End Summary.**

Assistance to AmCits and Relief Coordination for Wuhan

2. ~~(SBU)~~ Embassy Beijing continued January 31 to coordinate with the Department on assistance to and evacuation of U.S. citizens who remain in Wuhan. The Mission China Wuhan Relief Group continued to coordinate with the Department on placement aboard the evacuation aircraft – and receipt in Wuhan – of relief supplies and donations.

3. ~~(SBU)~~ Ambassador Branstad fielded several calls from other ambassadors in Beijing to update on U.S. progress in securing four additional planes to evacuate citizens from Wuhan. The other ambassadors expressed their appreciation for U.S. assistance and information.

CDC Experts at the Ready

4. ~~(SBU)~~ Following NHC's signaling their welcome of CDC participation in the 2019-nCoV

response through WHO, CDC China country office immediately engaged with the WHO China Country Office to establish a framework for adding CDC technical experts to the WHO China Country Team. One Beijing-based CDC expert is positioned to engage immediately and additional CDC headquarters experts are being identified and prepared for deployment.

5. ~~(SBU)~~ On January 31 Ambassador Branstad and HHS Secretary Azar had a phone call to discuss the situation on the ground in China. Secretary Azar noted the importance of U.S. experts being part of a WHO response team to China but also emphasized the need for more information to be provided by the Chinese government, especially related to the incubation period of the virus and human-to-human transmission data and any evidence of asymptomatic transmission. The Ambassador reiterated his continued dedication to raising these issues at the highest levels of the Chinese government and his focus on protecting the health and safety of all Mission China staff and American citizens in China.

Effectiveness of Transport Restrictions on Spread of Virus “Will Become Apparent”

6. ~~(SBU)~~ China CDC’s chief epidemiologist, Wu Zunyou, said in a TV news appearance on January 30, “The effectiveness of transport restrictions will become apparent in the next few days” ([link](#)). According to Dr. Wu, “Traffic restrictions have built a screen shielding healthy people from the source of infections and blocking the transmission of the virus.” Dr. Wu further speculated that if traffic restrictions had not been imposed, “There might be many ‘Wuhans’ around the country,” and case numbers would be in the many tens of thousands already. Dr. Wu also noted that most deaths have occurred among elderly patients.

Further Delays in Resumption of Some Government Functions

7. ~~(SBU)~~ The National Tax Bureau pushed back the February deadline for submitting taxes to February 24, with “additional appropriate extensions” for taxpayers in Hubei ([link](#)). The Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) issued a notice on January 30 recommending that local offices cancel marriage registrations scheduled for February 2 and requesting that all daily functions by marriage offices be shifted to appointment only until further notice ([link](#)). MCA further instructed social service agencies (halfway houses, centers for people with disabilities, etc.) to step up temperature checks, health screenings, and food and safety inspections, while continuing to provide most essential services.

Emerging Signs of “Acute” Shortages in Medical Supplies and Equipment

8. ~~(SBU)~~ China’s State Council issued an emergency notice on January 30 calling for all local governments to “take swift measures” to restore full production of medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE). Among the items of urgent need listed by the State Council were protective suits for healthcare workers, N95 respirators, protective goggles, negative-pressure ambulances, and “relevant medicines” ([link](#)).

9. ~~(SBU)~~ Hubei’s Economy and Information Technology Department announced that as of noon on January 30, the Hubei Society of the Red Cross, Hubei General Charity Association, and Hubei Youth Development Foundation had received donations of 6.15 million pieces of medical

equipment, including 26,600 personal protective suits for healthcare workers, 479,000 N95 respirators, 1.729 million surgical masks, and 39,300 pairs of protective goggles ([link](#)).

10. ~~(SBU)~~ Despite the influx of donations, Hubei Vice-Governor Cao Guangjing acknowledged at a press conference that his government had “not solved the acute imbalance between supply and demand” of medical supplies in Hubei. Cao added, “We sincerely accept the criticism from all parts of society, especially that from medical professionals” ([link](#)). Areas outside Hubei have also indicated severe shortages of basic medical supplies and PPE, including in Henan province (*People’s Daily*).

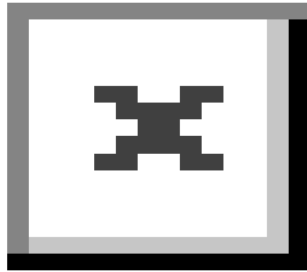
Beijing

11. ~~(SBU)~~ Beijing City Health Commissioner Lei Haichao said at a press conference that as of the morning of January 30, there were no reported cases of sustained person-to-person transmission in the city. So far, the infected patients have all come from outside the city or had close contact with those traveling from outside the city ([link](#)).

12. ~~(SBU)~~ At least three of the residential compounds housing CM personnel in Beijing have begun mandatory temperature checks for all persons entering. CM personnel in Diplomatic Residential Compound (DRC) facilities received a notice January 31 to fill out a health survey, informing DRC management of detailed travel history and any symptoms or illnesses currently experienced.

13. ~~(SBU)~~ In Beijing city, ESTH observed January 31 that subways, buses, taxis, and rideshare apps continued to function as normal. According to Beijing Metro, temperature checks by public health workers in PPE are currently being implemented at all subway stations within the network. Beijing Metro announced that it was installing thermal imaging systems at all stations to conduct temperature checks in order to handle the influx of passengers returning to Beijing after the Spring Festival holiday ([link](#)). At one station visited by ESTHOFF on January 31, temperature checks were being performed by security guards in with safety glasses and N95 respirators. The guards told ESTHOFF they would send passengers with high temperature readings to an "isolation area", a corner away from the entrance where the passengers would wait for several minutes to have their temperatures taken two more times with different instruments. Passengers with fever would then be sent to the hospital on an ambulance.

14. ~~(SBU)~~ ESTHOFF visited three grocery stores in Beijing on January 31. All were fully stocked with fresh produce, meat, and dry goods (including instant noodles). Crowds were minimal, and no abnormal purchasing behavior or hoarding among shoppers was observed. Prices had not visibly increased. Incoming shoppers did not have to undergo temperature checks or screenings. Two of the stores had limited mask purchases to one per customer and still had some masks in stock (the third is an import grocer that does not normally sell masks.) Temperature checks for all customers were observed at another nearby vegetable market, however.



~~(SBU)~~ Figure 1: Shoppers in Beijing grocery store

15. ~~(SBU)~~ Several pharmacies visited by ESTHOff continue to have their doors locked to incoming customers, providing service through a special after-hours window only. The pharmacies were completely sold out of masks and disinfectant.

16. ~~(SBU)~~ Beijing city FAO issued a Chinese-language letter to “foreign friends” on January 31 informing them of the public health emergency currently being experienced and providing them with a 24-hour hotline for the FAO. The FAO letter did not stipule mandatory self-quarantine for travelers returning from out of town, although did suggest it for those coming “from areas with high rates of infection.” Tianjin city government also issued an open letter “to all foreign friends” on January 30 (in English) assuring that the government would “fulfill its international obligations and respond to concerns by foreign citizens in Tianjin with a responsible attitude.” Like Beijing, the Tianjin FAO has set up a 24-hour hotline for foreigners to call ([link](#)).

17. ~~(SBU)~~ The Hebei province government in northern China issued a notice on January 30 requiring that industries remain closed until midnight on February 9, with exceptions for public utilities and manufacturers of medical supplies, food products, and other daily necessities ([link](#)). [Note: Hebei is a base of heavy industry, producing 26 percent of domestic steel output in 2018, for example. End note.]

Chengdu

18. ~~(SBU)~~ The Australian Consulate in Chengdu has informed us that all their dependents have departed Chengdu. However, most of their staff remain.

19. ~~(SBU)~~ Thai LionAir is suspending all flights to Mainland China (affecting Chongqing and Chengdu). India’s IndiGo is suspending its flights to and from Chengdu. Cathay Pacific and Qatar Airways continue to operate out of Chongqing. KLM is suspending all airlines going to and from Chengdu and Hangzhou from January 30-February 29.

20. ~~(SBU)~~ An Amcit reported that upon arrival at Chengdu’s International airport on the

evening of January 30, passengers were instructed to remain in their assigned seats while the plane waited on the tarmac. Two fully kitted health inspectors boarded the plane and removed two individuals to a separate bus for additional procedures. Flight attendants informed passengers they were not allowed to take pictures of the inspectors. While the reason the two individuals were removed is unknown, before take-off the flight crew repeatedly asked that two named passengers present themselves to staff if aboard, and warned all passengers that they must proactively report if they had traveled to Wuhan in the last 14 days. Otherwise, the AmCit reported that additional screening procedures included filling out a health form inquiring about symptoms and travel to Hubei, which is the same as reported by earlier travelers.

21. (U) According to local press reporting, authorities have set up 31 quarantine stations to screen all automobile and bus passengers entering Chengdu via highway. At the quarantine stations, authorities will perform temperature checks and register information regarding all passengers and automobiles. If an individual exhibits an abnormally high temperature, they will be "dealt with according to relevant regulations and procedures," the media report stated.

22. ~~(SBU)~~ Chongqing residents are concerned that the city could become another epicenter for coronavirus infection, based on the significant flow of people between Chongqing and Wuhan. Chongqing's population is also densely concentrated, compared to other cities in Southwest China. The Deputy Director of the Chongqing branch of China's Centre for Disease Control and Prevention was quoted on January 28 as saying that some 210,000 people had 'recently' travelled from Wuhan to Chongqing prior to the implementation of movement controls in Hubei province. Because of the large number of individuals with recent travel to quarantined areas, authorities have begun a widespread grid search campaign to identify people in Chongqing who have arrived recently from Wuhan. A widely circulated article from Chinese current affairs magazine Caixin quoted the dean of the University of Hong Kong's medical school as saying that Chongqing might be the next city seriously affected.

23. (U) The Chongqing Leading Group for Epidemic Prevention issued a notice on January 30 telling municipal residents who had spent time in Hubei during the Spring Festival not to return to Chongqing until further notice.

24. (U) Deputy Director of Chongqing Drug Administration Bai Chaoshi announced on 30 January that all pharmacies in the city should register the details of individuals purchasing fever and cough related medicines. Deputy Director of Chongqing Municipal Health Committee Zhou Lin noted during a press conference that all cases of coronavirus must be registered with authorities via an online report within two hours of diagnosis.

25. (U) The Chongqing Municipal Government Information Office issued a public statement on January 30 saying that Chongqing mask manufacturers had resumed production, and that the city had sufficient capacity to produce 2.16 million medical masks per day. Authorities noted that as of January 29, Chongqing's stock of protective equipment included: 88,400 sets of "protective medical clothing"; 30,000 N95 masks; 50,000 medical masks; 3 million disposal medical masks; 31,000 goggles; 40,000 pairs of nitrile gloves; and 10,000 coronavirus detection kits.

26. (U) Chongqing announced the creation of a special working group to maximize output of medical masks, protective clothing, and thermometers. While output is reportedly steadily increasing, Chongqing does not have the raw materials necessary to produce large volumes of goggles, which are currently being imported from Shandong, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang provinces. Raw materials are being purchased from South Korea, Germany, Japan, Russia, the United States and Australia.

27. (U) Chongqing's Foreign Economic and Trade Group is engaging with distributors from the United States, France, Germany, Italy South Korea and Malaysia to secure other medical materials.

28. (U) On 30 January, the special working group announced medical gloves procured from Thailand, as well as unspecified items from the United States, had arrived in Chongqing.

29. (U) On 30 January, authorities designated the Chongqing Municipal Health Commission as the institution which would accept charitable donations on behalf of Chongqing's medical institutions, including hospitals.

Guangzhou

30. ~~(SBU)~~ China Southern, the main carrier out of Guangzhou (code share Delta, AA) told CG Guangzhou on January 30 it continued to operate daily Guangzhou flights to JFK, LAX, and SFO. ConGen staff is currently mainly routing via third locations (Narita, etc) on other airlines. City pair flights are sold out. As of 13:30, most flights compliant with Fly America are sold out. ConGen Guangzhou is seeking Embassy permission to use 3rd party carriers.

31. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Guangzhou's Nurse Practitioner (NP) assisted with the Wuhan evacuation and is now in the United States; he has been told by PRC officials January 30 he is unable to return to China given his Wuhan visit. A sustained NP absence would significantly affect CG Guangzhou's access to health assistance. Post's health unit is normally staffed by the NP and two LES nurses.

32. ~~(SBU)~~ UK Consulate contacts said a decision on possible staff departures was expected the afternoon of January 31.

33. ~~(SBU)~~ ConGen observed January 30 five nCoV-designated hospitals. The emergency rooms were uncrowded, there were no lines, and security posture was normal. Guangdong General Hospital continued to have relatively more intake/screening facilities and personnel in higher levels of Personal Protective Equipment than the other hospitals.

34. ~~(SBU)~~ Post's residential bottled water supplier is expected to resume deliveries February 3 at the earliest, a delay of several days from the original post-holiday resumption date. USDH residential buildings can fill the gap as needed.

35. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangzhou officials announced January 30 that the city's food supply is stable and sufficient despite earlier consumer buying rushes, with nearly 70 percent of wet markets and

supermarkets open; that the government is helping stabilize supply chains inside and outside the province to respond to rising market demand; and that the government will punish hoarding.

36. ~~(SBU)~~ As of January 31, grocery stores surveyed by Consulate staff were well and continuously stocked, with relatively few shoppers, short lines, and a calm atmosphere.

37. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangdong and Guangzhou authorities announced enhanced temperature checks and sanitation of inbound vehicles. For taxis and ride-hailing services, masks are mandatory but temperature checks are "optional." ConGenOffs have not reported optional temperature checks on DiDi.

38. ~~(SBU)~~ Authorities expect holiday return traffic to be "substantially" lighter than last year.

39. ~~(SBU)~~ Guangxi province suspended all inter-provincial bus services (inbound and outbound) on January 29 until further notice. Guangxi's Qinzhou suspended all public transport, including bus, taxis, and ride-hailing services, until further notice.

40. ~~(SBU)~~ CG Guangzhou CONS reported half of U.S. passport applicants scheduled for January 30 cancelled or were no-shows.

41. ~~(SBU)~~ Dow Chemical told Post its China employees would not return to production plants until the week of February 10, in line with the government's policy. Dow has no Amcit employees in Guangdong. For now, all Dow domestic travel must be approved by its Greater China managers and all international travel must be approved by its Asia Pacific managers.

42. ~~(SBU)~~ Ericsson told Post its China offices are currently closed, and re-openings likely will be in line with provincial government policies. The company has suspended most travel to/from China, but has not yet decided on evacuating expat employees. Ericsson has staff in Wuhan and other cities to support telecom infrastructure, and the company's focus is on keeping workers safe and mobile networks running.

Shanghai

43. ~~(SBU)~~ Shanghai's American business community is assessing the effect of the WHO's designation of the coronavirus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and the raising of the Department's travel advisory to Level 4. Firms we contacted anticipated a significant effect on the number of international staff who will travel to Shanghai or remain in country, but most were still assessing the longer-term impact on their operations and supply chain. Several diplomatic missions in Shanghai report that they have implemented measures to reduce staffing or are actively contemplating doing so. We are monitoring flight cancellations and will report them separately.

44. ~~(SBU)~~ On the ground, Shanghai still does not exhibit signs of significant disruption to local transportation, food distribution, or medical services. The Shanghai consular district accounts for about 11 percent of total confirmed cases, with approximately half of those in Zhejiang Province. Confirmed cases in Shanghai – currently around 130 - remain low both in absolute

terms and relative to the size of the population. CG Shanghai has seen no visible signs of stress to the local healthcare system. Local hospitals resumed normal out-patient services on January 31 and eight leading public hospitals are offering online consultations via mobile phone apps and WeChat accounts. Except for a small health clinic, private hospitals that serve international clients, including the official American community, are operating normally. Most international schools which Consulate EFMs attend continue to plan on reopening Feb. 17, and local authorities have not indicated that they will instruct schools to remain closed after that date.

45. ~~(SBU)~~ ACS reports three American citizens in Shanghai and two in Hangzhou, Zhejiang have been asked to self-quarantine after exhibiting signs of fever or recent travel to Hubei.

There is no indication they have tested positive for 2019-nCoV. Qingpu Prison authorities notified ACS that they are suspending consular prison visits for the month of February, citing public health reasons. Despite an approximate 50 percent cancellation of ACS appointments in the past two days, ACS will remain open this weekend to provide emergency consular services.

Anhui, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang Foreign Affairs Offices (FAO), as well as the FAOs of various cities in these provinces, have issued statements directed toward foreigners with resources on where they can get additional information and how to protect oneself from catching coronavirus.

46. ~~(SBU)~~ Members of the Consulate community continue to find grocery stores accessible and well stocked, though supplies of some products are occasionally in short supply in some stores. The Shanghai municipal government is cracking down on price gouging of essential items, including at grocery stores. A Shanghai branch of Carrefour, a supermarket chain popular in the Consulate community, was fined RMB 2 million (USD 288,000) January 30 for inflating the prices of various vegetables.

47. ~~(SBU)~~ Though ridership on public transportation is very low, the subway network continues to operate as normal. The Didi ride hailing service also continues to operate, though Didi is requiring all passengers and drivers to wear protective masks. The airport and high-speed rail service continue to operate, though both face reduced or discontinued service on certain routes. As of January 30, all Shanghai railway stations set up temperature checks for arrivals and departures. Media reports rail authorities suspended trains from Shanghai to Beijing and cities in Guangdong, Henan, and Fujian provinces on January 30 to prevent the spread of 2019-nCoV.

The suspension is expected to last until late-February. A number of airlines, including some U.S. carriers, have reduced or discontinued service to Shanghai from overseas, or have announced plans to do so in coming weeks. Some of these airlines have explicitly cited public health reasons as the main factor in their decision while others have pointed to reduced demand as the main driver. We anticipate the WHO announcement could result in fewer international flights being available.

48. (U) Tesla announced via its Sina Weibo social media feed on January 30 that it will donate RMB 5 million (USD 720, 500) to China CDC efforts to combat 2019-nCoV, as well as an additional RMB 5 million subsidize the energy costs of car charging stations during outbreak.
Shenyang

49. ~~(SBU)~~ There is no significant change to the situation in Shenyang city. There was marked increase in traffic over the last 24 hours as people began returning to the city in preparation for

the opening of business on Monday February 3rd Public transportation and taxis are operating. Public hospitals in Shenyang are not under-staffed and have not experienced overcrowding, based on a visit to three hospitals by MED unit staff and ESTHOff on January 28th. Of the five international schools that work with Consulate Shenyang, four will offer online instruction instead of regular classes. Quality Schools International (QSI), Transformation Academy, Canadian International School and the Montessori school are either suspending classes indefinitely or planning to conduct part of the semester online. The French International School will begin as scheduled on February 17th. Shenyang government is now requesting a daily report from all international schools on where students are located and where they have traveled. Shenyang Airport continues to operate normally with reduced flights. While China Southern's direct flight from Shenyang to Los Angeles continues to operate three times a week, flights to Korea, Thailand and Japan have been reduced. The reason for cancelling flights out of Shenyang is attributed to the lack of passengers since the Chinese Government's tour group travel ban was enacted, said contacts at China Southern Airlines.

50. ~~(SBU)~~ Some cities in NE China have enacted stringent measures to prevent cases of coronavirus from entering the city limits. For example, Yanji city, near the North Korean border has suspended all public transportation and hotels will no longer accept non-residents. These "Isolation management" may also impact American citizens. ACS reports that an American citizen was refused freedom of movement within WangQing County, part of Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture. He was traveling between BaiCao Village and another county location when he was caught between both areas. After significant effort on his own, he was allowed back to BaoCai. In addition, one U.S. media outlet reported on a group of 70 Americans in Kuandian County, near the border of North Korea, that were trying to leave from China. According to the one local U.S. media report, some of the Americans are now being quarantined in a hospital in Shenyang. Consulate Shenyang has reached out to the group to provide assistance. In addition, Heilongjiang Province has announced that businesses should wait until February 9 to reopen.

51. ~~(SBU)~~ French, German, Japanese, Korean and Russian consulates in Shenyang will return to normal status after the Lunar New Year and do not intend to minimize operations, said our contacts at each of the respective consulates. The Australian Consulate is planning to announce "assisted departure" for family members of their staff. The German Consul General is in Wuhan assisting with the evacuation of German citizens. The Liaoning Foreign Affairs Office will hold a video conference for all consulates on Saturday, February 1.

52. ~~(SBU)~~ Consulate Shenyang held an EAC meeting on January 30th and will hold a town hall meeting for all employees on Monday February 3, the first day LES are expected back to work after the extended holidays. Shenyang's next EAC meeting will be Saturday, February 1st.

Media/Social Media

53. (U) Xinhua and factual news reported on the WHO declaring the novel coronavirus outbreak a global health emergency, but that China disfavors travel and trade restrictions. Articles quote WHO DG Tedros Ghebreyesus that he believes that China will effectively contain and eventually defeat the epidemic, adding that China's efforts to combat the disease deserve respect

and appreciation, and are worth learning. Wu Zunyou, chief epidemiologist of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, said that the PHEIC declaration is a standard practice of the WHO. "China's current prevention and control measures are the strictest and very effective. We are confident that we can effectively contain the epidemic and finally overcome it," Wu said. Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's [remarks](#) on WHO Declaring Pneumonia Outbreak Caused by Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency of International Concern were also widely amplified. Xinhua continued to report on [cases](#), with 9,692 confirmed cases of novel coronavirus pneumonia, 213 deaths as of the end of Thursday. Other news focused on [an interview](#) with experts on the "wise decision" to close Wuhan, and the [CPC allocating](#) 108 million RMB (about 15.57 million USD) for coronavirus control as well as the [CPC organization departments](#) urged to play active role in fighting novel coronavirus. Other [news](#) amplified the Premier Li Keqiang urging vaccine, medicine development against epidemic. While [China Daily](#) said China is expected to witness its railway passenger trips slump nearly 75 percent to 3.2 million on Thursday, the sixth day of the lunar new year, from the equivalent day last year, according to the country's top railway operator. [Global Times](#) interviewed Zeng Guang, chief epidemiologist of the China Center for Disease Control and Prevention, saying China "must avoid losses caused by fear, overreaction: top epidemiologist.

54. (U) [People's Daily](#) continued to call the epidemic a battlefield and noted that China will "resolutely win this hard battle." The editorials says the total number of confirmed and suspected cases is still rising, far from the time of relief. To win this hard battle and rely on the people closely means to weave a large network of joint defense and control with greater strength, and to build a strong defense. Grid management should be carried out to ensure that the prevention and control measures are effectively implemented and no blind angle is and we should further mobilize all sectors of society and the people to participate in this hard battle to stimulate energy and gather strength. [Global Times](#) said in an editorial that China must "firmly grasp the principle of controlling epidemic spread." Continuing, "in the face of a turbulent epidemic, this is an important part of forming real solidarity. We have paid for our local and national negligence of the initial outbreak. But currently, the most important thing is not to calculate responsibilities. The fight continues and the battlefield expands. The situation may become more severe. When a public health crisis occurs, there is bound to be some social panic. But this doesn't mean the public has lost confidence. The majority of the Chinese people believe China can withstand this crisis and that the government can undertake various measures to ensure public safety."

Nationwide and International Cases

55. ~~(SBU)~~ China's National Health Commission (NHC) reported 1,982 newly confirmed cases on January 30 as of 24:00, raising the total number of confirmed cases to 9,692 ([link](#)). Total deaths reached 213, with 43 new deaths on January 30 (42 in Hubei and one in Heilongjiang). Of the total confirmed cases, 1,527 are in serious or critical condition. The number of people in isolation under medical observation increased by 25 percent over the previous day, now at 102,427, with 15,238 currently suspected cases.

Table 1: Total Confirmed Cases in Mainland China as of End of January 30

Province/City/Region	Total	New	Total	New
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	confirmed cases to date	confirmed cases	deaths to date	deaths reported
Anhui	237	37	--	--
Beijing	132	21	1	--
Chongqing	206	41	--	--
Fujian	120	19	--	--
Gansu	29	3	--	--
Guangdong	393	82	--	--
Guangxi	87	9	--	--
Guizhou	15	3	--	--
Hainan	49	3	1	--
Hebei	82	17	1	--
Heilongjiang	59	16	2	1
Henan	352	74	2	--
Hubei	5806	1220	204	42
Hunan	332	55	--	--
Inner Mongolia	20	2	--	--
Jiangsu	168	39	--	--
Jiangxi	240	78	--	--
Jilin	14	0	--	--
Liaoning	45	6	--	--
Ningxia	21	4	--	--
Qinghai	8	2	--	--
Shaanxi	87	31	--	--
Shandong	178	33	--	--
Shanghai	128	27	1	--
Shanxi	35	**	--	--
Sichuan	177	35	1	--
Tianjin	30	3	--	--
Tibet	1	**	--	--
Xinjiang	17	3	--	--
Yunnan	80	10	--	--
Zhejiang	537	109	--	--
TOTAL (NHC Reported)	9692	1982	213	43
TOTAL (From Provinces)	9685	1982	213	43

Notes: Data are from public case reports issued as of 16:00 on January 31; ** no new report

available; -- zero cases. Source: NHC, provincial health commissions, and state media.

Table: Confirmed Cases in Other Countries and Regions as of January 31

Country/Region	Total Confirmed Cases	New Confirmed Cases
Thailand	14	0
Hong Kong	12	2
Japan	11	1
Singapore	10	0
Taiwan	9	1
Australia	9	2
Malaysia	8	1
Macau	7	0
United States	6	1
France	5	0
Germany	5	1
South Korea	4	0
United Arab Emirates	4	3
Canada	3	0
Vietnam	2	0
Nepal	1	0
Cambodia	1	0
Sri Lanka	1	0
Finland	1	0
India	1	1

Notes: As of 15:50 on January 31. Source: Ding Xiang Yuan, <http://www.dxy.cn/>

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Signature: Branstad

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- 1) (U) Summary: A March 23-24 technical conference in Beijing on Ebola, sponsored by China's National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) and the World Health Organization, gave China a platform for touting its successful assistance on Ebola and for health diplomacy outreach to Africa. The conference was organized by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), Institut Pasteur and Fondation Merieux. Scientists from the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and Centers for Disease Control (USCDC) helped with the agenda, and participated as speakers and moderators. It was timed to coincide with the 5th International Roundtable on China-Africa Health Collaboration, and African public health officials arrived early for bilateral discussions with China on developing the pan-Africa CDC based at the African Union. End Summary.

China's Three Post-Ebola Health Priorities in Africa.

- 2) (U) NHFPC Vice Minister Cui Li called for a joining of hands to benefit the health and well-being of people around the world. She reviewed China's contributions on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) response, and outlined three post-Ebola health priorities for China in Africa: construction for public health assistance and medical care; enhanced training of workers; and establishment of the Africa CDC and a preventive medicine unit.

China CDC Joins Global Health Community.

- 3) ~~(SBU)~~ The conference was sponsored and led by China CDC. China CDC, born out of the SARS epidemic in 2002, has been building its professional and political capacity for over ten years and is now involved in a variety of research and international public health activities. The China CDC presentation stated their plan to extend the capabilities of the joint China-Sierra Leone BSL3 laboratory in Freetown to other infectious diseases, including malaria, cholera and typhoid fever; to conduct projects in three villages on improved surveillance and case finding; to build capacity of the six primary health units in these three villages; and to establish and provide training for national rapid response teams (RRTs). China CDC officials also expressed an interest in establishing a China CDC Center for Global Health in Beijing, and a China-Sierra Leone Emerging and Tropical Disease Research Center in Freetown, possibly in collaboration with the Pasteur Institute.
- 4) ~~(SBU)~~ At the Ebola conference, NHPFC officials portrayed China CDC as the global face of China's global engagement on EVD. This recognition likely originates from the State Council and the Ebola Task Force led by Vice Premier Liu Yandong. China CDC played an important role in the China-Africa Health Collaboration Roundtable held the same week in Beijing, participated in bilateral discussions with AU officials on the proposed Africa CDC framework, and sent a delegation to Ethiopia the week after to follow up on discussions to strengthen infectious disease surveillance in Africa.

China advancing into the ranks of a donor nation in the health sector, according to health officials.

- 5) ~~(SBU)~~ Ten years ago, China was soliciting funds from donors for public health in China. Last year saw the departure from China of the Global Fund (to fight AIDS, Malaria, and TB), and China's first donation to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) of \$5M. In the closing remarks of the Ebola conference, NHPFC officials proclaimed that China has now graduated and joined the ranks of donor countries in the health sector, and is seeking the appropriate partners and programs to support health programs globally. (Note: This announcement contrasts sharply with continued statements from China's aid officials based in the Ministry of Commerce and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who routinely insist that China is a "South-South aid-provider" rather than [Western] donor, and as a result cannot be held to the same standards regarding transparency and untying aid, among others. End Note.)

China is seeking its own Global Health model, good partners and a good plan.

- 6) ~~(SBU)~~ In the concluding remarks NHPFC emphasized three points: global health is global (affects everyone), it is our job (responsibility) to help other countries, and

health systems are weak. China CDC officials say they are motivated and challenged by the fact that health systems remain weak despite significant foreign assistance at a time when post 2015 sustainable development goals are being discussed. China sees a global need for strengthening health systems. Many countries are outlining plans for post-Ebola capacity building and development in health. China will see how these plans fit into China's plans, but will follow its own development model. China CDC officials say they need to find good partners and good plans consistent with their own post-Ebola strategy, which is in process. China is comfortable working with the AU and WHO, and hopes that the multilateral community will be able to put together a coordinated plan which China can support. But Chinese health officials also specifically stated that they seek additional partnerships, including trilateral and bilateral partnerships, such as the laboratory partnership with Institut Pasteur and the public health partnership with US CDC.

The Roundtable on China Africa Health Collaboration - a business development model?

- 7) ~~(SBU)~~ The 5th International Roundtable on China-Africa Health Collaboration was held from 26 – 27 March and co-hosted by Tsinghua University and the China Chamber of Commerce for Import & Export of Medicines & Health Products. This annual conference received financial support from the China-UK Health Support Programme (GHSP), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Sinopharm, with participation from WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNIDO, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) as well as African representatives and private sector participants. Participants adopted a set of policy recommendations which are intended to contribute to the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will be submitted for inclusion in the 2nd Ministerial Forum on China-Africa Health Development, to be held in late 2015 under the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). (Note: Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Ming told Assistant Secretary Linda Thomas-Greenfield in December 2014 that China planned to include health assistance and health systems strengthening as a major component of support to African governments in the 2015 FOCAC meetings [Ref A]. End Note.)
- 8) (U) The policy recommendations for NHFPC and the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) to consider for the upcoming Health Ministerial Meetings include:
- China and Africa collaboration should reflect local priorities and be guided by existing regional, national and global priorities
 - China and Africa should together develop resilient and sustainable health systems capable of making Universal Health Care a reality
 - China and Africa should ensure reliable supply of safe quality commodities
 - China and Africa will increase monitoring and evaluating their joint efforts

In order to translate these principles into concrete actions this roundtable recommended the following:

China's government explore and take forward:

1. Increased government investment in research and development for new diagnostics and medicines for neglected tropical diseases and to support the UN SG Every Woman Every Child agenda.
2. Policies to increase incentives for Chinese companies to invest in research and development for new diagnostics and medicines for neglected tropical diseases and to support the UN SG Every Woman Every Child agenda.
3. Policies to increase incentives (including for example tax credits) for Chinese companies to donate essential diagnostics and medicines for neglected tropical diseases and the life-saving commodities identified in the UN SG Every Woman Every Child initiative.
4. Increase China-Africa health cooperation in support of building resilient sustainable health systems by announcing predictable 3-5 year support to priority African countries.
5. Accelerating the implementation of the commitment by CFDA with WHO for China's national regulatory authorities to reach an advanced international standard.
6. With the development banks - continue to invest in infrastructure (roads, buildings, water and sanitation) that can contribute to better health outcomes. In so doing they should include health impact assessment and plans to (i) mitigate any potential negative health impact and (ii) add additional activities (e.g. road safety, urban planning) that can maximise a positive contribution to health.
7. Explore debt relief with most in-debted countries that will specifically be structured to increase investment in health.

China's pharmaceutical companies:

1. Increase applications for WHO pre-qualification for key diagnostics and medicines that are needed in Africa.

2. China's billionaires work with the government to establish a Chinese "Rockefeller-type Foundation" that will invest in supporting 2-3 world class schools of public health in Africa (just as the Rockefeller Foundation supported in China and South East Asia).
3. Collectively finance and procure market intelligence on needs in the African countries and specialist expertise and support to navigate their products through the regulatory systems in African countries.

African governments:

1. Accelerate sub-regional streamlining and harmonisation of drug regulatory processes (which will increase the incentive for Chinese companies with much needed projects of international quality to apply for registration in many countries with small markets).
2. Continue to develop national health plans and share their priorities with China's government for identification of opportunities for China-Africa collaboration to support resilient health systems.

WHO:

1. Continue to support regional drug regulatory harmonization / integration in Africa.
 2. Work with other partners to continue to support the CFDA in attaining advanced international drug regulatory authorities.
 3. Provide TA to Chinese pharma around the WHO PQ application process.
- 9) ~~(SBU)~~ The Ebola plenary session was held the morning of 27 March with the opening remarks by the China Chamber of Commerce and Tsinghua University focusing on the need to build resilient health systems and health capacity in Africa. The Tsinghua University presentation on Ebola research made a plea to the Government of China for additional research funding. China CDC presented their successful domestic public health efforts to meet Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a possible model for Africa. They referred to a possible African Laboratory Diagnostic network being led by China CDC's Institute for Malaria in Shanghai.

- 10) ~~(SBU)~~ Presentations and discussion by both African and Chinese attendees centered on developing pharmaceutical capacity in Africa and took on a distinctly commercial flavor, enhanced by the numerous pharmaceutical displays in the reception corridor. WHO Geneva provided an outline on how China can support Africa on its indigenous production needs, while clearly and frankly stating that China must differentiate its development needs from China's pharmaceutical business in Africa. The need for a stronger regulatory framework to reduce the prevalence of fake pharmaceutical drugs was also discussed. The China Africa Development Fund is the largest (State-owned) company with direct investment in Africa. It has a \$5 billion dollar endowment, with \$3.1B being used on 82 different projects, and has invested a total of \$16B in Africa to promote foreign direct investment in 34 African countries. The China Africa Development Fund has more money to spend but there is a lack of worthy Chinese and African partners in which to invest. There has been essentially no investment in health to date, but China wants to identify opportunities in the health industry. There is currently a Chinese funded and developed medicinal manufacturing facility in Mali which China considers a model for further medical industry development, and another facility is being planned for Ethiopia. China's experiences in Ebola were highlighted as an example that can be leveraged and benefit from a sustainable health systems approach.
- 11) ~~(SBU)~~ During the closing session, the Director General of the Department of Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China reiterated China's quick and effective response to the Ebola crisis. He also pointed out that China and India can supply the Africans with the medicine in need, though the quality may not meet the highest standards; and he believed that it's imperative for African countries to produce the medicine they need locally, and Chinese companies can help to achieve this goal. He concluded that the cooperation between China and Africa should be aiming for the needs of Africans, based on the consensus of the Africans and with the participation of Africans.

China is conducting research and tests on Ebola.

- 12) ~~(SBU)~~ China with assistance of researchers from the Institute Pasteur (Lyon) has manufactured and distributed real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) diagnostic kits for EVD detection domestically. The RT-PCR diagnostic kits were tested on material extracted from *in vivo* samples from an animal model in the French BSL4 facility in Lyon. China has archived 823 samples in West Africa, and unable to import samples, recently completed 175 full genome sequences in Sierra Leone, noting a somewhat slower mutation rate than that reported by the Broad Institute (Harvard) study; specific details await acceptance for international publication prior to release. Currently samples shipments have been halted by the Government of Sierra Leone for all international laboratory partners. China has begun work with the Public Health Agency of Canada on ZMAPP therapeutics and a China-based biotechnology company has begun scaling up protein production. They have produced 100 grams of ZMAPP of which they have donated a portion (20-30gms) to WHO for quality review.

Presentations were markedly absent on the possible small molecule treatment being developed or the Chinese vaccine candidate for which phase 1 results were published in Lancet on the following day. Though little practical work was presented, a research agenda focusing on diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines was emphasized and likely to be funded.

French resurgence on EVD research and in collaboration with China.

- 13) (U) Institut Pasteur is establishing a new Institut Pasteur (IP) in Conakry, Guinea, which will be a part of the Africa network of IP institutes and the RESAOLAB clinical laboratory network in West Africa and will collaborate with the Chinese supported laboratory in Freetown. There is a long history of collaboration between China and Institut Pasteur in Shanghai and Hong Kong; this has now expanded to Wuhan, where China and France recently inaugurated a BSL 4 laboratory, and they plan to collaborate in West Africa.

Comment

- 14) (SBU) China has extensive equities and investments in Africa that will grow and in the future include health. There are 2 million Chinese in Africa, and 300,000 Africans in Guangzhou alone. China conducted its largest international health effort in responding to EVD, continues to celebrate its unprecedented success, and looks to leverage this success into a post-EVD development plan for Africa. The Ebola outbreak experience is also being used to leverage domestic plans to expand China's research and laboratory capacity on emerging pathogens. A successful response to the Ebola outbreak has given China the confidence to express a commitment to global health. China will be investing in global health and is rapidly establishing a global health development plan. This will present many multilateral, trilateral and bilateral opportunities to partner with China on global health.

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