Paraguay: Government confirms first case of COVID-19 March 7

Event
Paraguay's Ministry of Health reported the first confirmed case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the country on Saturday, March 7. The infected individual recently arrived from Ecuador and is now in home isolation in Asunción.

Further international spread of COVID-19 is expected over the near term.

Context
The first case of COVID-19 was reported on December 31 and the source of the outbreak has been linked to a wet market in Wuhan (China). Human-to-human and patient-to-medical staff transmission of the virus have been confirmed. Many of the associated fatalities have been due to pneumonia caused by the virus.

Cases of the virus have been confirmed in numerous countries and territories worldwide. Virus-screening and quarantining measures are being implemented at airports worldwide, as well as extensive travel restrictions. On February 28, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that the risk of spread and the risk of impact of the virus is "very high" at the global level.

Pneumonia symptoms include dry cough, chest pain, fever, and labored breathing. Pneumonia can be contagious and can be transmitted from human to human. The influenza virus, or the flu, is a common cause of viral pneumonia.

Advice
To reduce the general risk of transmission, individuals are advised to abide the following measures:

- Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
- When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue - throw tissue away immediately and wash hands.
- If experiencing a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care urgently and share your previous travel history with your health care provider.

In the case that symptoms suggestive of respiratory illness emerge either during or after travel, individuals are encouraged to seek medical attention and share their travel history with their health care provider. Travelers returning from China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran who develop symptoms of pneumonia are advised to call emergency services before going to the doctor or hospital to avoid potential spread of the disease.
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22 Jul 12:45 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Nationwide taxi drivers’ strike July 23**

16 Jul 01:00 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Health workers call for a 15-day nationwide strike as of July 15**

28 Jun 09:22 AM UTC
**Paraguay: Education union members protest in Asuncion June 28**

17 Jun 01:42 AM UTC
**Argentina/Paraguay/Uruguay: Power restored to 90 percent of customers June 16** /update 2

16 Jun 10:08 PM UTC
**Argentina/Paraguay/Uruguay: Power being restored following massive blackout June 16 /update 1**

03 Jun 06:32 AM UTC
**Paraguay: Medical workers to strike June 3-7**

28 May 04:20 AM UTC
**Paraguay: Nationwide flooding displaces 70,000 people as of May 27 /update 1**

28 Apr 02:50 AM UTC
**South America: Rallies planned for International Workers' Day May 1**

24 Apr 11:35 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Demonstration planned in Asunción April 25**

15 Apr 02:58 AM UTC
**Latin America: Disruptions expected surrounding Semana Santa April 14-21**

04 Apr 01:56 AM UTC
**Paraguay: 90-day emergency declared in Asunción over flooding April 3**

26 Mar 08:54 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Unions begin indefinite demonstration in Asunción March 26 /update 1**

20 Mar 09:11 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Farmers to march in Asunción March 21**

22 Feb 05:40 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Demonstration at US Embassy in Asunción February 22**

25 Dec 11:56 PM UTC
**Paraguay: Unions to stage indefinite demonstrations from March 2019**