

# Weqaya Advises to Postpone Travel to Italy and Japan

25 February 2020

The Saudi Center for Disease Prevention and Control (Weqaya) has called on all citizens and residents to postpone non-essential travel to Italy and Japan, in order to maintain their health and safety in light of the ongoing detection of the novel coronavirus cases in the two countries.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) has reiterated the importance of adhering to all awareness guidelines and tips published on its social media pages, stressing that it closely following the coronavirus situation and taking several precautionary and preventive measures to address the virus.

It is noteworthy that MOH has tightened surveillance and monitoring at all points of entry into the Kingdom, and readiness of its health facilities to deal with the infectious respiratory illnesses. MOH has implemented a multitude of vigorous precautionary measures to address the spread of the viruses at air, sea and land ports, by establishing monitoring centers equipped with thermometers, thermographic cameras, and other medical devices to implement the preventive measures.

The Ministry has reiterated the importance of adhering to the methods of prevention of the novel coronavirus, as well as following the five steps of protection. These steps are: avoid close contact with a person exhibiting flu or cold symptoms, pay attention to your personal hygiene, maintain the etiquette of sneezing and coughing, avoid unsafe handling of both wildlife and domestic animals and cook your food thoroughly especially meat and eggs. MOH pointed out that these steps are sufficient to prevent person-to-person transmission, Allah willing.

The Ministry called on everyone to call the (937) service center in case of any inquiry regarding the coronavirus, stressing the importance of obtaining information from its official sources, and avoiding listening to rumors.

