

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[COVID-19 Technical resources](#)

[COVID-19 Guidelines](#)

[COVID-19 Prevention](#)

[Updates of Countries](#)

[Advice for the public](#)

[Advice For Returning Travellers](#)

[COVID-19 Communication  
Resources](#)

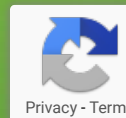
## BACKGROUND

The global pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was first reported on 31 December 2019 by the World Health Organization country office following a cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China. Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has been confirmed as the causative virus of COVID-19. To date, COVID-19 has become a global pandemic and it is continuing to spread across the globe. The NICD aims to keep you updated with relevant and current information concerning COVID-19, ranging from frequently asked questions, providing technical resources and guidelines, information on prevention, an updated list of countries that are affected, advice for returning travellers and communication resources that can be utilised across settings.

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