



March 24, 2020

DEFERMENT OF ADEX OCEAN VISION 2020

Dear Esteemed Exhibitor,

In light of COVID-19 declared as a “**pandemic**” on **March 11** by the **World Health Organisation (WHO)** due to the rapidly global spread of the coronavirus outbreak, the governments of the world have been advised to change the course by taking an urgent and aggressive action.

Since the announcement, we have seen countries administering measures such as *border closure, stringent travel bans and restrictions, country lockdown, and precautionary measures advisory for the general public practicing “social distancing” or any activities involving close contact that can be a potential vector for transmission of the virus.*

As of today, the Ministry of Health has confirmed a total of **509 cases, 294 imported cases** and **2 deaths** across the country. Due to the increasing numbers of “*imported*” cases of the COVID-19 outbreak in Singapore and the rapid escalation of death and those infected globally, the Singapore government has implemented a series of measures to reduce the risk of imported cases and slow down the transmission of the virus. They are as follows:

- **General Advisory for Visitors**

From 23 March 2020, 2359 hours, all short-term visitors (from anywhere in the world) will not be allowed entry into Singapore, or to transit through Singapore. Singapore has also ceased port calls for all cruise vessels.

- **General Advisory for Event Organisers**

From 20 March 2020 and 1 July 2020, all events and gatherings with 250 or more participants in attendance at any one time should be suspended. For events and gatherings with fewer than 250 participants, organisers and event venue operators are required to implement the necessary precautionary measures to ensure separation of at least **a metre apart** between participants. Organisers should also put in place precautions such as **reducing the scale, improving ventilation, and implementing measures to facilitate contact tracing.**

As the organiser of Asia Dive Expo (ADEX), we are once again faced to make another pragmatic business decision based on the current advisory measures by the government of Singapore. Herewith, we regretfully have to postpone and defer the event, originally scheduled for April 17-19 and May 29-31, 2020. The deferred event date will be advised at a later date.

This decision was reached after an extensive consultation with the relevant government authorities and agencies in Singapore, and in consideration to health and safety as the priority of the native Singaporeans, visitors, partners, stakeholders, exhibitors, speakers and industry partners.

Statement from Asia Dive Expo (ADEX)

“The year 2020 has been a challenging one for the global economy and the dive industry. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, as the organiser of Asia Dive Expo, we have been faced with new and multiple challenges facing this situation and we would like to assure you that every decision is made with careful considerations with the support and advisories from the Singapore government agencies.

*I must admit that the experience has been a learning curve but in the positive light, ADEX has always been an event that convene Asia’s dive industry and its community towards its vision – which is to **entertain, educate and engage**.*

*COVID-19 situation has affected the world’s travel industry considerably and the most challenged is the dive industry. In the stride of bringing the industry and its community under a single platform, Underwater360° is introducing ADEX to its digital phase – **ADEX Pixel Expo**. The first exclusive digital platform to represent **“one industry. one ocean. one community”**.*

I hereby invite every ADEX industry partners to be a part of this platform as this is the time to unite and fortify the dive industry and its community against an unprecedented future.”

— Mr John Thet
CEO, Underwater360



In conjunction to this announcement, *Underwater360°* encourages our *partners, stakeholders, exhibitors, speakers and industry partners* to be a part of our latest online platform, “**ADEX Pixel Expo**”. This online platform will be the “**First Exclusive Digital Platform**” showcasing a plethora of underwater and diving content that addresses ADEX’s diving, dive tourism and marine conservation industry and community. For more information, please visit www.adex.asia/pixel or email hello@uw360.asia.

Once again, *Underwater360°* deeply apologise and is appreciative to everyone in the diving, dive tourism and, the marine conservation industry for the support, cooperation and patience during this unprecedented times. While we try our best as an event organiser to navigate through this pandemic, we apologise for the inconvenience caused.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Asia Dive Expo (ADEX)
Organising Committee

*Refer to the attached APPENDIX

APPENDIX

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Advisory on COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019)

[Advisory on COVID-19](#) ▾

ADVISORY ON COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019)

23 March 2020

Since the start of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) outbreak, the Singapore Government has progressively implemented a series of measures to reduce the risk of imported cases and slow the transmission of the virus.

As the situation has deteriorated globally, we have strengthened our measures accordingly to protect Singaporeans and do our part in the worldwide effort against COVID-19.

To help guide visitors and tourism businesses, this advisory provides a summary of the current measures.

General Advisory for Visitors

1. From 23 March 2020, 2359 hours, all short-term visitors (from anywhere in the world) will not be allowed entry into Singapore, or to transit through Singapore. Singapore has also ceased port calls for all cruise vessels.
2. If you are in Singapore, you can do your part by practising good personal hygiene and monitoring your own health. More information about how to travel responsibly in Singapore can be found here: <https://www.visitsingapore.com/travel-guide-tips/travel-responsibly/>. To help plan your travel, please visit MOH's website (<https://www.moh.gov.sg>) regularly for the latest updates.

General Advisory for Tourism Businesses

1. Businesses are advised to obtain health and travel declarations from employees on whether they have travelled abroad recently or if they have any upcoming travel plans. Businesses are also advised to defer **all** travel abroad.
2. All Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long Term Pass¹ holders returning to Singapore will be issued a 14-day Stay-Home-Notice (SHN)². Persons under SHN must remain in their place of residence at all times. They will have to provide proof of the place where they will serve the SHN. Employers and employees must ensure that employees behave responsibly during the SHN. The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) may take action against the employer or employee if they do not discharge their responsibility.
3. From 27 March 2020, 0900 hours, they will also be required to submit a health declaration via the [SG Arrival Card \(SGAC\) e-Service](#)³, before proceeding with immigration clearance. The SGAC e-service can also be downloaded for free on Apple AppStore and Google Play. All travellers can submit their health declaration up to three days prior to their arrival in Singapore. Those who make false declarations will be liable for prosecution under the Infectious Diseases Act. For more information on the travel declaration requirements, please refer to the MOH website(www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19)
4. From 23 March 2020, 2359, work pass holders and their dependents will be allowed to return/enter into Singapore only if they work in sectors that provide essential services such as healthcare and transport. Malaysians with Singapore work permits will continue to be able to work in Singapore during this period, with appropriate accommodation arrangements.
5. All travellers should monitor their health closely, and seek medical attention immediately if they develop any fever or symptoms of acute respiratory illness such as cough or shortness of breath.
6. In line with the evolving situation, the government has introduced additional precautionary measures to minimise the risk of further transmission of the virus in the community.
7. Businesses are strongly urged to exercise necessary precautions at the workplace to prevent spread of the COVID-19 virus. They are advised to be prepared for all eventualities, and step up business continuity plans (BCP) if they have not already done so. Employers are strongly advised to put in place measures to reduce close physical interactions amongst employees. Where feasible, this includes telecommuting so that employees can work from home. Additional precautions can also be considered such as reducing close contact, video-conferencing, staggering work hours, allowing employees to commute at off-peak hours, widen seating space in meeting rooms and workstations, and deferring non-critical work events while scaling down the critical ones. Employers and employees should also continue stepping up the cleaning of the workplace and avoiding contact with people who are unwell, particularly for businesses which have frontline workers serving customers. All employers should require employees to conduct regular



8. Operators of venues which are accessible to the public are required to implement the necessary precautionary measures to ensure separation of at least a metre apart between patrons. These include ensuring that the queues are kept fast moving, and encouraging patrons to self-checkout. Dining venues (e.g. restaurants and hawker centres) should maintain a distance of at least one metre between tables, and between seats. Where seats are fixed, operators should ensure alternate seats are marked out to ensure safe distancing between individuals. Entertainment venues and tourist attractions should adopt measures appropriate to their venue to ensure separation of at least a metre apart amongst patrons. This could include reducing operating capacity to provide more spacing, installing floor markers in queuing areas, and adopting chequerboard or alternate seating. Please refer to [STB's advisory](#) on operationalisation of safe distancing measures for tourism stakeholders for the detailed precautions that operators should take note of. ([Advisory for Tourism Stakeholders on operationalisation of safe distancing measures](#))

9. For more information, please refer to the latest [MOH advisory](#).

Events

10. From 20 March 2020 and 1 July 2020, all events and gatherings with 250 or more participants in attendance at any one time should be suspended. For events and gatherings with fewer than 250 participants, organisers and event venue operators are required to implement the necessary precautionary measures to ensure separation of at least a metre apart between participants. These measures include spaced seating at events. Safe distancing should also be practiced when participants are mingling outside the event, or during meal times. Food catering via buffets should be avoided. Organisers should also put in place precautions such as reducing the scale, improving ventilation, and implementing measures to facilitate contact tracing. Please refer to [STB's advisory](#) on operationalisation of safe distancing measures for tourism stakeholders for the detailed precautions that event organisers should take note of. ([Advisory for Tourism Stakeholders on operationalisation of safe distancing measures](#))

10. As the situation develops, please visit [MOH's website](#) regularly for the latest updates. You may also refer to the list of FAQs developed by STB for the tourism industry [here](#). The health and safety of Singaporeans, visitors and those who work in the tourism industry are STB's priority, and we thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Annex

List of Countries/Regions and Border Control Measures

Travel History in Countries/Regions	For Singapore Residents and Long-term Pass Holders	For Short-term Visitors
Hubei Province (Mainland China)	14-day quarantine	Not allowed entry or transit
All other countries/regions	14-day SHN	Not allowed entry or transit

¹Long terms pass holders include work passes, Student's Pass, Dependant's Pass and Long-Term visit pass.

²The SHN does not apply to Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long Term Pass holders transiting in Singapore without leaving the transit area.

³From 27 March 2020, 0900 hours, the paper-based disembarkation/embarkation card will be discontinued. When entry for short-term visitors resumes in the future, such travellers will have to provide their arrival and departure information via the SGAC e-Service instead.

USEFUL LINKS



For latest advisories released by MOH, please [click here](#).



For latest advisories released by MOM, please [click here](#).



Please find advisory issued by NEA for Hotel Operators [here](#).

