MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE CURRENT SITUATION OF COVID-19 IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM 07 Rabiulakhir 1442 / 23 November 2020

- The Ministry of Health would like to announce that today, Monday, 07 Rabiulakhir 1442 / 23 November 2020, there is 1 new case of COVID-19 infection in the country. Therefore, as of now the total number of COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam is 149 cases.
 - Case 149 is a woman aged 37 years old who arrived in Brunei Darussalam on Royal Brunei Bl874 flight on 11 November 2020 via Kuala Lumpur from India. She showed no signs of infection and is currently being treated at the National Isolation Centre. The contact tracing at present has identified a total of four (4) contacts of which three (3) contacts have undergone the COVID-19 swab test and were confirmed negative for COVID-19, while one remaining contact is still awaiting test results.

- 2. With the detection of this latest case, a total of 8 import cases have been confirmed since the last local infection case was reported on 06 May 2020. At present, Brunei Darussalam has recorded 201 days without COVID-19 local infection case.
- 3. Meanwhile, of the total COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam, a total of 145 cases have been confirmed recovered.
- 4. Today, a total of **570 individuals** are undergoing mandatory self-isolation at the monitoring centers provided by the Government, which are individuals that have just arrived in this country after traveling from abroad. At present, a total of **8,270 individuals** have completed their mandatory self-isolation at the monitoring centers.
- In the past 24 hours, a total of 151 samples have been tested for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that brings the total number of laboratory tests conducted since January 2020 to 75,632 tests.
- 6. The Ministry of Health would like to remind the public to practice their social responsibilities by maintaining personal

hygiene, practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette, recommended to wear a face mask in crowded public places and if feeling unwell, not to go to public places and attend social gatherings.

- 7. The public are required to comply with all regulations and directives related to the reduction of social distancing measures that have been issued and are still in force at the moment such as to use the BruHealth application and scan the QR Code when they enter and exit premises, especially at public areas such as shopping malls, retail shops, restaurants, beauty establishments, barber shops and others. Premise owners are required to print and display their QR code at their respective entrances. The public are urged to take the usage of the BruHealth application seriously, especially in scanning the QR Code as it is used by the Ministry of Health for contact tracing purposes in the event of an outbreak of infection.
- 8. Any individual found to be in violation of or disobey any order issued shall be an offense under the Infectious Diseases Act (Section 204), which if found guilty can be issued compound fine up to \$5,000 or can be prosecuted in court carrying a fine up to \$10,000 or imprisonment up to 6 months or both. The

Ministry will not hesitate to take legal action against anyone who does not comply with the directives issued.

- 9. Since the enforcement of the directives issued during the COVID-19 pandemic in June 2020 until at present, a total of 2020 business premises have been inspected nationwide, where 649 violations have been found and compound fines issued. Among the common offences are that food handlers are not wearing face masks while working and premises do not perform temperature checks on customers and visitors.
- 10. The Ministry of Health will continue to monitor the situation of the outbreak at the national as well as regional and global level and carry out ongoing risk assessments to consider further mitigation measures. If the outbreak situation becomes alarming yet again, the Ministry of Health will not hesitate to tighten the social distancing measures that need to be taken to control the outbreak. The Ministry of Health will notify the public of any changes to this situation, if necessary from time to time.
- 11. For further information and latest updates, members of the public can visit the official website of the Ministry of Health at

www.moh.gov.bn or by contacting the Health Advice Line148 or through the BruHealth App.

- END -

Reference: KK/PR/2

Date : 07 Rabiulakhir 1442H / 23 November 2020