

Greetings.

As we are all aware, the Ministry of Health has confirmed that the first imported cases of the Wuhan Coronavirus (“Wuhan virus”) infection have been reported in Singapore on 23 January 2020 and the Government has since stepped up its safeguards to curb the spread of the virus in Singapore and to safeguard the wellbeing of all citizens.

Evidence has shown that the virus has been transmitted from human-to-human during close contact and individuals infected with the virus may remain asymptomatic during the incubation period of between two and 14 days. Although there are no signs of a community spread in Singapore at this time, we have all been advised to avoid crowded places and close contact with people who are unwell or showing symptoms of illness.

As such, as organisers of the forthcoming Café Asia 2020, International Coffee & Tea Industry Expo 2020 and Restaurant Asia 2020; the Restaurant Association of Singapore (RAS) and our company have decided to postpone the shows in order to safeguard the health interest of our exhibitors, trade and public visitors. This is in view of the government advisories to avoid crowded places and to practise personal hygiene at all times.

Furthermore, it may not be possible to enforce a robust visitor sickness surveillance process to screen both local and international visitors who may already be exposed to the virus as temperature taking may not be effective in screening those in the early stages of infection who are asymptomatic.

We ask for your kind understanding and support of this decision to play our part in paying heed to the measures taken thus far to curb the spread of the virus in Singapore and to safeguard our exhibitors, trade and public visitors. We will decide on a new date when Singapore is declared 2019-Novel Coronavirus-free.

Thank you.

