

# **CBBC COVID-19 (coronavirus) Regional Response Update**

## **13 February 2020**

In order to help our members better navigate the confusing array of regional policies regarding the recent COVID-19 outbreak in China, CBBC has assembled reports from our 13 offices in China, and prepared this regional policy report.

### **Common Measures**

Since 10 February 2020, almost all provinces have resumed normal working hours, even though schools and kindergartens remain closed in most places. Most educational institutions have adopted remote learning arrangements. Some municipalities have also issued special regulations for working parents to allow one parent to stay at home.

Travel restrictions and special requirements for long-distance travellers remain in place, with the usual obligation to self-quarantine for 14 days. Although initially applied only to travellers from Wuhan, most local governments apply these rules to all non-local arrivals.

A resumption of normal business operations is generally encouraged, even though some provincial governments require special approval and a strict monitoring regime.

Most provinces have also implemented special customs policies for emergency-related goods and donations.

### **Business Support**

The majority of provinces and local governments have announced preferential policies for local and foreign businesses.

The most common measures include:

- 1) Preferential tax and social security policies, with filing deadlines deferred or suspended
- 2) Direct financial support for heavily affected businesses
- 3) Rent reductions or suspension
- 4) Preferential loan and financing support
- 5) Reduced utility fees
- 6) Bespoke legal and administrative aid
- 7) Employment support and special labour regulations regarding quarantined employees

### **Disclaimer**

Given the fluidity of the situation on the ground and difficult work situation for colleagues in China, these regional reports can only provide a snapshot of the current situation. Nonetheless, we are striving to continue to improve our reporting during this unfolding crisis and aim to provide members with an accurate picture of the situation on the ground.

### **Data**

The data of confirmed, recovered, and deceased persons refers to the province as of 13 February 2020.

| Content                          | Beijing (Beijing)  |     | Shanghai (Shanghai)  |     | Tianjin (Tianjin)   |     | Shenyang (Liaoning)  |     | Xi'an (Sha'anxi)  |     |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|--|-----|---|-----|--|-----|---|-----|
| Status                           | Confirmed:   | 366 | Confirmed:   | 315 | Confirmed:  | 117 | Confirmed:   | 116 | Confirmed:  | 229 |
|                                  | Recovered:   | 68  | Recovered:   | 62  | Recovered:  | 21  | Recovered:   | 22  | Recovered:  | 46  |
|                                  | Deaths:  | 3   | Deaths:  | 1   | Deaths:   | 3   | Deaths:  | 1   | Deaths:   | 0   |
| Opening Dates/<br>Return to Work | Since 10th Feb 2020  |     | Since 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020   |     | Since 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020  |     | Since 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020<br>Schools: 17 Feb 2020  |     | Since 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020   |     |
| General Information              | No collective gathering and dining activities during epidemic  |     | 1) No commercial events/trade fairs until the end of March<br>2) Severe restriction on business activities |     | 1) Ensure funding for prevention and control projects<br>2) Green channel approval process (use online applications, avoid direct contact)<br>3) Secure food supply<br>4) Support enterprises in critical sectors to return to work |     | 1) Enterprises in critical sectors are exempt from work restrictions<br>2) Strict travel restrictions for people from affected regions (14 days self-quarantine)<br>3) No outpatient services beginning 10 Feb 2020<br>4) Close monitoring of factories and businesses<br>5) Internal responsibility mechanism |     | 1) Enterprises in critical sectors are exempt from work restrictions<br>2) Shopping malls, cultural facilities and service enterprises are closed until further notice<br>3) Approval and two week self-quarantine required for travellers returning to Xi'an         |     |
| HR & Tax                         | 1) Flexible work arrangements<br>2) Paid leave for one parent during school and kindergarten closure period<br>3) Deferral of tax and social insurance filing deadline |     | N/A  |     | 1. Green channel for work injury claims for infected employees  |     | 1) National rules for remuneration during holiday season applies to extended holidays<br>2) Normal salary for remote work arrangements   |     | 1) Social Benefit Payments can be delayed for up to six months<br>2) Application for tax deadline extension of up to 3 months<br>3) Tax exemptions for heavily affected businesses<br>4) Enterprises in critical sectors shall benefit from preferential tax policies |     |

| Content                      | Beijing (Beijing)   | Shanghai (Shanghai)   | Tianjin (Tianjin)  | Shenyang (Liaoning)   | Xi'an (Sha'anxi)  |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Business Support</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Suspension of administrative fee collection</li> <li>2) Rent reduction</li> <li>3) Preferential tax and Social Security policies</li> <li>4) Subsidize R&amp;D expenses of SMEs (esp. in Zhongguancun).</li> <li>5) Preferential Loan and Financing Policy for SME</li> <li>6) Subsidise utility costs</li> <li>7) Work and employment Support for Affected Personal</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Preferential loan and financial policies</li> <li>2) Tax deferrals</li> <li>3) Rent reduction for businesses</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Rent reduction for Businesses</li> <li>2) Maintain and ensure urban management and prevention measures</li> <li>3) Work and Employment Support for Affected Personal</li> <li>4) Encourage enterprises to stabilize the workforce</li> <li>5) Preferential Loan and Financing Policy</li> <li>6) Technical Support in Hygiene and Preventive Measures</li> <li>7) R&amp;D support for healthcare related businesses</li> <li>8) Preferential tax policies</li> <li>9) Support port logistics</li> <li>10) Support insurance and leasing sector in support of businesses</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 24-hour emergency hot line 12345-1-6 and WeChat Channel</li> <li>2. Subsidies for emergency related industries</li> <li>3. Set up testing lab and test service platform.</li> <li>4. Subsidies for unemployment contributions</li> <li>5. Preferential tax policies</li> <li>6. Preferential loan policies</li> <li>7. Deferred utility payment deadline</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Subsidies for emergency related industries</li> <li>2) Support heavily affected industries (Wholesale and retail, accommodation and catering, logistics and transportation, cultural tourism, exhibition and other industries)</li> <li>3) Cash in the supporting policies for advanced manufacturing</li> <li>4) R&amp;D support</li> <li>5) Special support for cultural and tourism companies</li> </ul> |
| <b>Customs and Logistics</b> | N/A   | N/A   | N/A  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Mandatory health status declaration (online or offline)</li> <li>2) Green channel clearance mechanism for emergency-related products</li> <li>3) No tariffs on emergency-related donations</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) Green channel clearance mechanism for emergency-related products</li> <li>2) No tariffs on emergency-related donations</li> </ul>  |

| Content                 | Beijing (Beijing)  | Shanghai (Shanghai)  | Tianjin (Tianjin)   | Shenyang (Liaoning)   | Xi'an (Sha'anxi)   |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Public Transport</b> | <p>Disinfection and control measures (temperature checks, mandatory masks) on all public transport</p> <p><b>Flight</b><br/>1) Partly suspended<br/>2) WeChat/App-based online application for travel permit</p> <p><b>Railways</b><br/>Set-up separate isolation zones and transfer to hospitals</p> <p><b>Busses</b><br/>Disinfection twice a day; Drivers required to wear masks</p> <p><b>Metro</b><br/>All personnel are required to wear masks; all lines in service</p> | <p>Disinfection and control measures (temperature checks, mandatory masks) on all public transport</p> | <p><b>Buses</b><br/>Bus lines in Binhai New Area partly suspended</p> <p><b>Metro</b><br/>Since 3 February 2020, Tianjin Metro entrances and exits partly suspended, otherwise normal operation</p> | <p>1) Disinfection and control measures (temperature checks, mandatory masks) on all public transport<br/>2) ID check before boarding</p> <p><b>Long Distant Busses</b><br/>In service with longer intervals</p> <p><b>Metro</b><br/>In service</p> | <p>1) Disinfection and control measures (temperature checks, mandatory masks) on all public transport<br/>2) Mandatory Travel Documentation Form for long-distance travel</p> <p><b>Metro</b><br/>Normal operation with frequent ID checks</p> |

| Content                          | Qingdao (Shangdong)  |     | Nanjing (Jiangsu)   |     | Hangzhou (Zhejiang)  |       | Wuhan (Hubei)  |        | Chongqing (Chongqing)  |     |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|---|-----|--|-------|--|--------|--|-----|
| Status                           | Confirmed:   | 509 | Confirmed:  | 570 | Confirmed:   | 1,145 | Confirmed:   | 48,206 | Confirmed:   | 525 |
|                                  | Recovered:   | 104 | Recovered:  | 139 | Recovered:   | 359   | Recovered:   | 3,457  | Recovered:   | 116 |
|                                  | Deaths:  | 2   | Deaths:   | 0   | Deaths:  | 0     | Deaths:  | 1,310  | Deaths:  | 3   |
| Opening Dates/<br>Return to Work | Since 10th Feb 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020   |     | Since 10th Feb 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020  |     | Since 10th Feb 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020   |       | N/A  |        | Since 10th Feb 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020   |     |
| General Information              | N/A  |     | 1) Returning employees need to fill out health status declaration on WeChat<br>2) Resumption of normal work operations is encouraged                          |     | 1) Approval needed for resumption of business operation<br>2) Businesses need to ensure that preventative measures are taken<br>3) Main urban areas remain under lock-down |       | <b>Currently under Lock-Down</b><br>All businesses and residents are required to stay at home or work remotely |        | Approval and Healthcare Plan needed for return to operations (exemptions for emergency-related industries)   |     |
| HR & Tax                         | N/A  |     | 1) Preferential tax and social security policies<br>2) Employment and recruitment support   |     | 1. Preferential tax and social security policies<br>2. Special HR provisions concerning work contracts of infected employees   |       | Tax and social security payment deadline has been postponed until 6 March 2020                                 |        | 1) Flexible work arrangements are encouraged<br>2) Preferential tax and social security policies + suspension and postponement of filling deadlines<br>3) Employment support |     |
| Business Support                 | 1) Preferential tax and social security policies<br>2) Encourage flexible work arrangements<br>3) Rent reduction of<br>4) Preferential loan and financing policy<br>5) Green channel approval mechanism for SMEs<br>6) Legal aid for affected industries<br>7) Industry-specific support mechanism |     | 1) Financial support on purchasing and R&D investment.<br>2) Increase credit and cash support<br>3) Rent reduction<br>4) Legal aid and administrative support |     | 1) Preferential tax and social security policies<br>2) Preferential Loan and Financing Policies<br>3) Rent reduction<br>4) Legal and Administrative Aid for SMEs           |       | 1) Legal and administrative aid for foreign businesses<br>2) Preferential tax and social security policies     |        | 1) Preferential loan and financing policies<br>2) Rent reduction<br>3) Reduced utility costs   |     |

| Content                      | Qingdao (Shangdong)   | Nanjing (Jiangsu)  | Hangzhou (Zhejiang)   | Wuhan (Hubei)  | Chongqing (Chongqing)   |
|------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------|---|
| <b>Customs and Logistics</b> | Green Channel for emergency related goods and imports   | Green Channel for emergency related goods and imports  | 1) Online approval platform<br>2) Green channel for emergency-related goods   | Not in service | 1) Green channel for emergency-related goods<br>2) Tax exemptions for donated goods |
| <b>Public Transport</b>      | <b>Trains</b><br>Partly suspended with many cancelations until end of February<br><b>Long-Distance Bus</b><br>Partly operational with restrictions in some areas (e.g. Jimo district)<br><b>Metro</b><br>Normal service | <b>Busses</b><br>Normal operations from 7am to 7pm<br><b>Metro</b><br>Main line operation time between 6am and 10pm; S-lines finish at the different times, but no later than 9:30pm | <b>Flights &amp; Trains</b><br>Partly suspended, especially from and to highly affected areas (e.g. Wenzhou)<br><b>Busses &amp; Metro</b><br>Partly suspended and longer intervals between services | Not in service | Normal service<br><br>Tourism related services are suspended until further notice   |

| Content                          | Chengdu (Sichuan)   | Changcha (Hunan)  | Guangzhou (Guangdong)  | Shenzhen (Guangdong)   |            |       |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|------------|-------|
| Status                           | Confirmed:  | 451   | Confirmed:   | 968  | Confirmed: | 1,241 |
|                                  | Recovered:  | 102   | Recovered:   | 2  | Recovered: | 308   |
|                                  | Deaths:   | 1   | Deaths:  | 339  | Deaths:    | 2     |
| Opening Dates/<br>Return to Work | Since 10 February 2020  | Since 10 February 2020<br>Schools: 1 March 2020   | Since 10 February 2020   | Since 10 February 2020   |            |       |
| General Information              | N/A   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Establishment of a provincial control centre</li> <li>2) Approval and healthcare plan required for resumption of work</li> <li>3) 14-days quarantine for non-local employees</li> <li>4) Online channel for ordering masks etc, with one person eligible to buy 10 masks at a time</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approval needed for resumption of work. Applying companies need to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Internal responsibility mechanism, specifying a dedicated person to be in charge</li> <li>b. Written travel record for the last 14 days. Self-segregation for 14 days is mandatory</li> <li>c. Sufficient preventive equipment (ie. masks)</li> <li>d. Monitoring mechanism</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Companies must report to Epidemic Prevention and Control Headquarters of the district level at least 5 days before working.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approval needed for resumption of work. Companies applying need to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. internal responsibility mechanism, specifying a dedicated person to be in charge</li> <li>b. Written travel record for the last 14 days. Self-segregation for 14 days is mandatory</li> <li>c. Sufficient preventive equipment (ie. masks)</li> <li>d. Monitoring mechanism</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Companies must report to Epidemic Prevention and Control Headquarters of the district level at least 5 days before working.</li> </ul> |            |       |
| HR & Tax                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Emergency-related logistics companies are exempt from vehicle and vessel tax in 2020</li> <li>2) Deferral of tax and social security contributions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) 'One-to-one' channel for emergency-related businesses</li> <li>2) VAT exemptions for life sciences industry</li> <li>3) Zero-tariffs on emergency-related imports</li> <li>3) 3-month deferral of tax filling</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Deferral of tax and social security filing deadlines</li> <li>2) Preferential tax and social security policies</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Deferral of tax and social security filing deadlines</li> <li>2) Preferential tax and social security policies</li> </ul>  |            |       |

| Content                      | Chengdu (Sichuan)   | Changcha (Hunan)   | Guangzhou (Guangdong)  | Shenzhen (Guangdong)  |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Business Support</b>      | 1) Financial support for emergency-related businesses<br>2) Rent reductions<br>3) Preferential loan and financing Policies<br>4) Preferential insurance policies for affected businesses            | 1) Preferential loan and financing policy<br>2) Legal and administrative aid<br>3) Green channel policy for emergency-related goods<br>4) Support production of protective masks   | 1) Preferential loan and financing policies<br>2) Support for insurance sector<br>3) State grants for SMEs and affected businesses | 1) Support for emergency related services<br>2) Rent reduction or suspension<br>3) 3-month deferral of social security contributions<br>4) Reduced housing fund payments<br>5) Reduced utility fees<br>6) Tax reductions<br>7) Preferential loan and short-term financial support |
| <b>Customs and Logistics</b> | Support for affected businesses to provide proof for 'Force Majeure'  | 1) Green channel for emergency-related imports<br>2) No tariffs on donations<br>3) Approval for drivers needed   | N/A  | N/A   |
| <b>Public Transport</b>      | <b>Trains</b><br>Partly suspended until 1 March 2020<br><b>Busses</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Metro</b><br>Line 1,3,4 and 5 finishing service at 22:00 pm and Line 2,7 and 10 closing at 22:30 pm | <b>Air</b><br>Regular disinfection and screening at airport<br><b>Trains</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Busses</b><br>Long-distance lines partly suspended<br><b>Urban transport</b><br>Partly suspended with longer intervals between services | <b>Air</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Trains</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Other</b><br>Normal operation                            | <b>Air</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Trains</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Other</b><br>Normal operation   |



| Content                          | Hong Kong   | Macau  |                   |    |
|----------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|----|
| Status                           | <b>Confirmed:</b>   | 51   | <b>Confirmed:</b> | 10 |
|                                  | <b>Recovered:</b>   | 1  | <b>Recovered:</b> | 2  |
|                                  | <b>Deaths:</b>  | 1  | <b>Deaths:</b>    | 0  |
| Opening Dates/<br>Return to Work | N/A   | N/A  |                   |    |
| General Information              | <b>Three Measures:</b><br>1) Increased screening at transport nodes<br>2) Reporting mechanism<br>3) Healthcare emergency measures<br><br>14-days self-quarantine for travellers from Mainland China | 1) Establishment of Emergency Response Coordination Centre<br>2) Casinos are closed until further notice                                 |                   |    |
| HR & Tax                         | N/A   | Deferral of tax and social security filing deadline  |                   |    |
| Business Support                 | Business support for major banks (Bank of China (Hong Kong), BOC Life, HSBC, Hang Seng Bank, Bank of East Asia, Standard Chartered, OCBC Wing Hang Bank   | 1) Rent reduction and suspension for government-owned property<br>2) Financial support for affected businesses                           |                   |    |
| Customs and Logistics            | Special measures apply  | Limited postal service   |                   |    |
| Public Transport                 | <b>Air</b><br>Partly Suspended<br><b>Trains</b><br>High-speed terminal closed until further notice<br><b>Local transport</b><br>Normal service<br><br><b>Border Port of Entries partly closed</b>   | <b>Air</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Trains</b><br>Normal service<br><b>Busses</b><br>Partly suspended<br><b>Metro</b><br>Normal Service |                   |    |