

UPDATE OF 06 FEBRUARY 2020: INFORMATION ON THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-NcOv)

1. As confirmed by the South African Minister of Health on 31 January 2020, there is currently no evidence to support the emergency evacuation of South African citizens from China by the South African Government. No South African in China has been infected by the virus or in South Africa and worldwide. Government remains sensitive to the anxieties of South African nationals in China, in light of the Novel Coronavirus outbreak and will respond appropriately as the situation develops. South Africans in China are once again advised to follow instructions from the local Chinese authorities in the respective areas to minimise the possibility of being infected by the virus.
2. **All South African citizens finding themselves in Wuhan/ Hubei Province, that have not yet registered their presence in Wuhan with the SA Embassy in Beijing, are requested to please do so as a matter of urgency.**
3. The contact details of the South African Missions in China are as follows:
 - a. The SA Embassy in Beijing, China
Hotline: +86 135 0105 9041

BeijingConsular@dirco.gov.za
 - b. The SA Consulate General in Shanghai, China:
Hotline: + 86 159 0045 4282
4. The following are the hotlines numbers provided by the Wuhan Local Municipality in China. The operators speak English (in addition to other languages).
 - a. Mr He: 159 8949 9096
 - b. Ms Gao: 180 8645 7179
 - c. Mr Zhang: 134 1969 2520
 - d. Ms Liu: 188 2737 7459.
5. WeChat is the most popular social media channel for communication in China and the South African Embassy will send out notifications to SA citizens in China via the South African Embassy WeChat group. South Africans in China are requested to join this group by scanning the following QR code:



6. South Africans wishing to enquire about the opening of schools or universities in China or about their return to China if they are in South Africa, should contact the Embassy of China in Pretoria on: **012 431 6500 during office hours or 073 285 8403 after hours.**

7. The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) can be contacted on telephone number: 012 351 1000.