



10 February 2020

38th Asian Racing Conference Update regarding novel coronavirus

The Asian Racing Federation (ARF) and the Local Organising Committee of the 38th Asian Racing Conference (ARC), which will be held in Cape Town from 18-23 February 2020, have been closely monitoring developments following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus from Wuhan, China, in late December 2019.

As a result of the current situation, the following precautionary measures have been adopted ahead of the ARC:

1. Notwithstanding that none of the delegates from Mainland China who had registered for the ARC have been to Wuhan recently, they have all agreed to withdraw from attending. Accordingly, there will be no delegates from Mainland China attending the 38th ARC. We thank those delegations for their understanding.
2. As an added measure to assist the staging of the 38th ARC, and to concentrate its resources, the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) has decided to restrict its delegation for the conference.
3. As a further precautionary measure, aside from one HKJC speaker who will arrive from London, the HKJC delegates have already arrived in Cape Town. The ARF Secretary General and the three-person Secretariat have also already arrived in Cape Town from Hong Kong.

It is noted that there have been no confirmed cases of the coronavirus in South Africa.

The ARF and the Local Organising Committee have taken the above measures to demonstrate our commitment to ensuring the health and safety of our delegates at the 38th ARC, and to ensure that the 38th ARC will proceed as planned. The content of the ARC business programme remains unchanged, and there has been no impact to the social programme or the programme for accompanying guests.

The situation will continue to be monitored closely and further updates will be provided as required.

If delegates have any queries or require any further information, please contact the ARF Secretariat on arf@hkjc.org.hk or the ARC Secretariat on secretariat@arcsa2020.co.za.