**Health Experts Prepared to Deal with Coronavirus Epidemic**

**卫生专家整装待发应对冠状病毒**

The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Monday that the world has nearly 17,400 confirmed cases of the Novel Coronavirus. More than 99 percent of those cases were reported in China.

周一世界卫生组织(WHO)表示，全球有近17400例新型冠状病毒确诊病例。其中99%以上的病例发生在中国。

Compare that to the number of people infected with influenza in the United States. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates the flu has sickened between 19,000,000 and 26,000,000 people since October 1.

不妨将此数字与美国感染流感的人数相比。美国疾病控制与预防中心(CDC)估计，自10月1日以来已有1900万至2600万人感染了流感。

CDC officials also report that up to 25,000 people have died because of an infection during the four-month period. Officials note that, in an average year, the flu kills up to 56,000 people nationwide.

疾控中心官方还报告称，在这四个月里多达2.5万人死于感染。官方还指出，全国每年平均有多达5.6万人死于流感。

As of Sunday, there were 360 deaths from the coronavirus, mostly in China. There are currently 11 confirmed cases in the United States, but no deaths from the virus.

截至周日，共有360人死于冠状病毒，其中大部分在中国。目前美国有11例确诊病例，但没有人死于该病毒。

Experts are well prepared

专家已做好充分准备

Last October, the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security held an exercise to help prepare health experts for what is happening today. It was called Event 201. Johns Hopkins University worked in partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to organize the event.

去年10月，约翰·霍普金斯卫生安全中心举行了一次演习，旨在帮助卫生专家为当今的情形做好准备。它被称为201事件。约翰·霍普金斯大学与世界经济论坛和盖茨基金会合作组织了这次活动。

Event 201 brought together government experts, business leaders and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The purpose was to talk about how the world would react to a serious epidemic.

201事件将政府专家、商界领袖和非政府组织代表聚集在一起，讨论全球应如何应对一场严重的流行病。

Crystal R. Watson is a doctor and an Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She said the event was meant to help leaders prepare for what is happening now.

克里斯特尔·R·沃森是约翰霍普金斯大学彭博公共卫生学院的一名医生和助教。她表示，该项目旨在帮助各国领导人为目前正在发生的事情做准备。

“The purpose of the exercise...was to raise issues of preparedness and response for those leaders so they could start working on making sure that we can develop medical countermeasures, drugs and vaccines, quickly in a severe outbreak, that we can respond and take care of the people who become sick.”

“演习的目的……是为这些领导人提出一些能帮助他们做好准备和应对的议题，这样他们就可以着手于确保人类能够在严重疫情中迅速制定医疗对策、研发药物和疫苗，能够应对疫情并治疗受感染的病人。”

Life goes on in China and elsewhere

中国及全球的生活仍正常运转

News stories about the coronavirus note some of the steps governments and health officials have planned for many years.

有关冠状病毒的新闻报道提到了政府和卫生部门已筹划多年的一些措施。

People flying to the United States from China now have to stop at one of seven airports. CDC workers are measuring the temperature of each passenger and looking for signs of breathing problems.

从中国飞往美国的旅客现在必须停留在美国七个机场中的一个。疾控中心的工作人员正在测量每位乘客的体温，寻找呼吸疾病相关的症状。

Travelers who are coughing or have other symptoms may be taken to a hospital for more testing.

有咳嗽或其他症状的旅客可能会被送往医院进行进一步检查。

One person who recently returned from China is Nick Caputo. He works for Sunrise International Education. He directs camps in China for students to learn about debate.

尼克·卡普托是最近从中国回来的一位美国人。他是尚睿国际教育公司的工作人员，在中国的训练营指导学生学习辩论知识。

Caputo was hoping to stay in China longer. But when the travel restrictions were announced, his company decided that he should return to the U.S. at once. He said, “That way I would have time to go through a self-quarantine and make sure I wasn’t infected before I ran my program here.”

卡普托本来希望在中国多待一段时间。但当旅行限制宣布后，他的公司决定让他立即返回美国。他说，“这样我就有时间进行自我隔离，在我在这里进行我的项目之前确保自己没有被感染。”

Schedule change for university life in China

中国变更了大学时间表

Craig Blacklock teaches English at Wenzhou-Kean University in Wenzhou, China. He says the university has changed the beginning of its spring term from February 9 to March 1. He said the school also is helping its teachers and employees get much-needed supplies and food.

克雷格·布莱克洛克在中国温州的温州肯恩大学教英语。他说，学校已经把春季学期的开学时间从2月9日改为3月1日。他还表示，学校还帮助教师和员工们获取急需的物资和食物。

Blacklock told VOA that people around Wenzhou are taking temperatures and following the advice of the government to reduce the spread of the virus.

布莱克洛克对美国之音说，温州及附近的人们都在测量体温并听从政府的建议尽量减少病毒传播。

How to protect yourself and others

如何保护自己和他人

While governments are taking steps to limit travel and reduce infections, Crystal Watson thinks there are things private citizens can do.

虽然各国政府都在采取措施来限制旅行并减少感染，但克里斯特尔•沃森认为，普通公民也可以出一份力。

“The average person should also be just taking general measures to prevent infection with respiratory diseases. We are in the middle of cold and flu season as well and so - just good practices of covering your cough and sneeze, washing your hands very frequently, avoiding people who have a cough - and just trying to stay well in the midst of cold and flu season.”

“普通人也应该采取一般措施来预防感染呼吸道疾病。我们现在也正处于感冒和流感多发季节，所以谨慎对待咳嗽和打喷嚏，勤洗手，避免和咳嗽的人接触，在感冒和流感季节尽量保持健康。”

Serious cases get the most attention at first

起初都是重视重症病例

With the novel coronavirus, one that did not affect people until now, doctors often pay more attention to the serious cases.

由于这种新型冠状病毒此前从未感染人类，因此医生们通常更为关注严重的病例。

“We are still learning a lot about this new virus...one thing that happens early on in an outbreak, a novel outbreak like this is that you see there’s a bias toward seeing the more severe cases and death. So we’re seeing those now. But as we go through and gather more...data, we’re going to find that there are many more mild cases that are not being now detected. So we anticipate that that fatality rate will decrease significantly as this continues to spread.”

“关于新型冠状病毒，我们仍处于不断学习了解的阶段……在疾病爆发的早期，尤其是像这样的新病毒的爆发，需要注意的一点是，人们会倾向于关注严重的病例及死亡病例。就像我们现在看到的那样。但随着事情发展，更多数据的收集，我们将会发现有很多轻微的病例没有被识别。所以我们预计随着疫情的继续蔓延，致死率将大幅下降。”

The world is better prepared now

全球都做好了更好的准备

Crystal Watson says that the world is better prepared now than it was over 15 years ago when faced with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, known as SARS.

克里斯特尔·沃森表示，与15年前面临严重急性呼吸系统综合症(SARS)时相比，现在的世界已经做好了更好的准备。

“There are definitely very important steps that the world has taken over the last 10 years to get better prepared. We can always do more, but I think people are taking this very seriously and responding in the best way that we can.”

“在过去10年里，世界确实采取了一些非常重要的举措以更好地做好准备。虽然我们本可以做得更好，但我认为人们在非常认真地对待这件事，并以我们能做到的最好方式做出回应。”

I’m Jill Robbins.

吉尔·罗宾斯报道。

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