The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak – Singapore Government's Latest Measures and Implications to Employers

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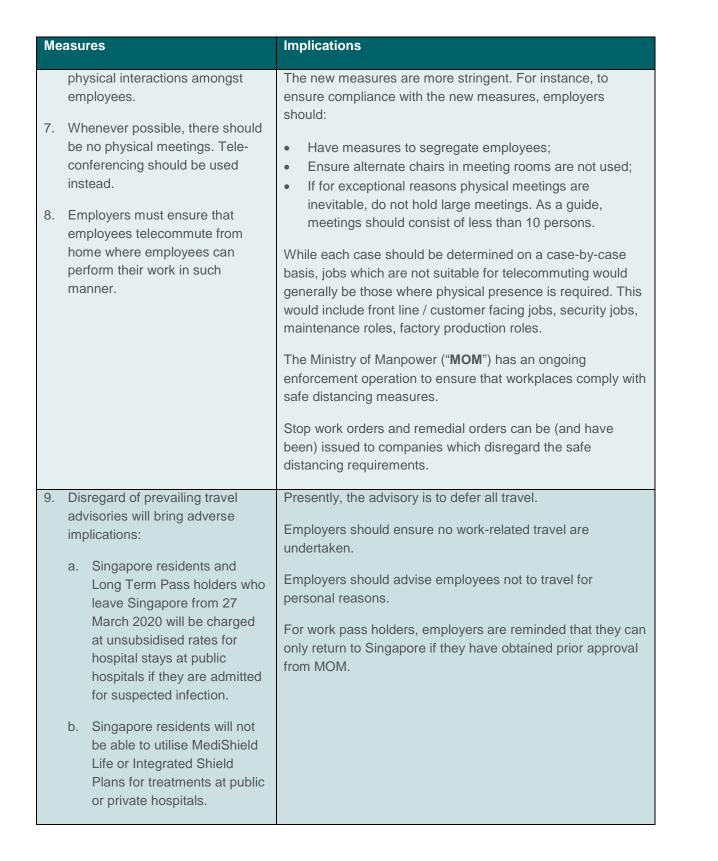
On 24 March 2020, the Singapore government announced new measures to minimise further spread of COVID-19. Please refer to the full advisory (available <u>here</u>) for details. We outline some of the measures which are of particular note to employers:

Measures		Implications
1.	Gatherings outside of work are limited to 10 persons or fewer. There should be physical distancing of at least one meter between persons where interactions are non-transient.	Employers should limit work related meals / after work gatherings and advise employees to reduce social meetings.
2.	Groups of diners are limited to 10 persons or fewer.	
3.	Centre-based tuition and enrichment classes are to be suspended.	Parents face additional child care pressures. Employers are encouraged to provide flexible work arrangements during these exceptional circumstances.
	School children who are living with persons who had returned from the UK, US or any ASEAN country on or after 14 March 2020 AND school children who are living with person who will be returning from any other country from 2359 hours 25 March 2020 will be placed on 14 day Leave of Absence.	
5.	All events and mass gatherings must be deferred or cancelled.	If client events / conferences are being contemplated, they must be cancelled. Companies can consider using virtual meeting apps or tools to conduct such events.
6.	At the workplace, employers are also to put in place measures to ensure that there is no close	The existing measures for workplaces are to continue to apply.

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c. Any work pass holder or his / her dependent who leaves Singapore from 27 March 2020 could face significant delays before they are allowed to return to Singapore	
10. Reiteration of earlier recommendation that all persons who are unwell, even with mild symptoms, should see a doctor.	Employees should be encouraged to be socially responsible. Any person who exhibits any flu like symptoms should be told to see a doctor and leave the workplace immediately.

This update sets out the position as at 25 March 2020. The situation is constantly evolving. Thus, please closely monitor the government announcements as changes can occur quickly.

If you would like information on this or any other area of law, you may wish to contact the partner at WongPartnership whom you normally work with or any of the following partners:



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