



## COVID-19 updates @ 27 April 2020 & Other News

### Cyber Security - A priority at ITL

The Covid-19 pandemic has increased our reliance on the digital space and the internet is more than ever, a critical tool for companies and anyone who wish to bring back a sense of normalcy into their lives. Unfortunately this also presents an unprecedented opportunity for hackers/cyber-attackers who are toiling the hours away in an attempt to steal sensitive information and divert funds for their personal gains. The World Health Organization (WHO) issued a statement on 24 April to urge public to exercise heightened caution following reports that scammers have been impersonating WHO officials and have been sending out e-mails to the general public requesting for donations.

Increased Information Security (IS) awareness and vigilance are a must nowadays. At ITL, cybersecurity is firmly entrenched in our company's strategy and we have a full-fledged Information Security, Governance, Risk & Compliance and Data Protection team led by a seasoned CISSP (Certified Information Security Systems Professional). Our mission is to safeguard your data and build awareness about cybercrime. For that very reason, our IS expert has put together a booklet titled "Inside the Hacker's mind" to help you navigate through the various techniques used by cybercriminals.

You can access the booklet by clicking [here](#)

We trust that you will find our booklet useful and if you wish to have more information or discuss further, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your usual contact person at ITL or write to us on [ITTeam@intercontinentaltrust.com](mailto:ITTeam@intercontinentaltrust.com)

### Covid-19 Updates at 27 April 2020

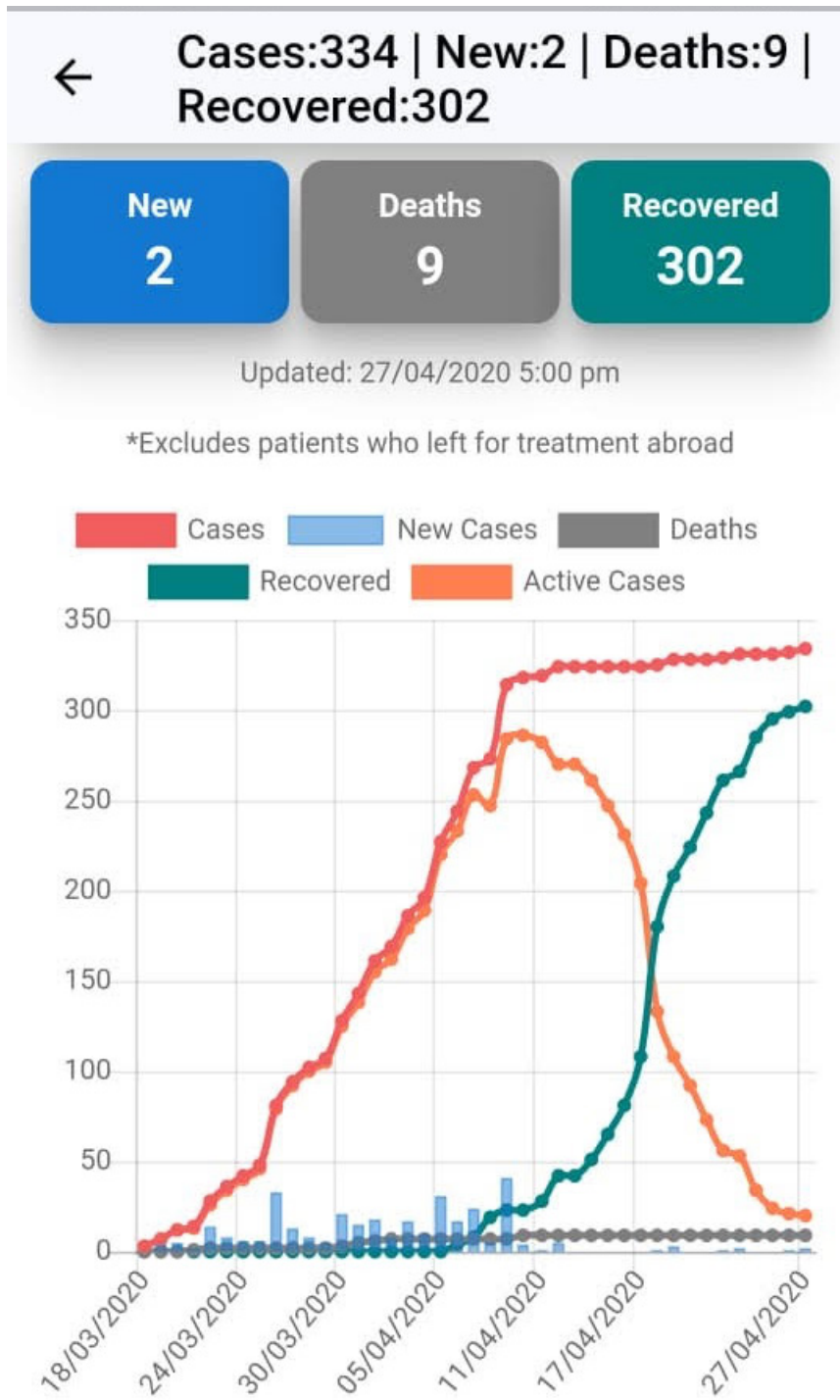
The Covid-19 continues to make headlines around the globe. Its stealth transmission, whereby many infected persons can go asymptomatic for days before developing any kind of complications or even no complication, has been the cause of its rapid spread.

Mauritius has been on lockdown since the 20 March and based on the latest statistics, it has been faring well in comparison with the rest of the world, as depicted below:

Covid-19 cases	Number of Cases - Mauritius	Number of Cases - Worldwide <sup>1</sup>
Confirmed cases	334	2,989,090
Recovered cases	302 (90%)	875,054 (29%)
Fatalities	9 (3%)	207,431 (7%)

<sup>1</sup> Source: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Centre @ 27 April 2020 (<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>)

A graphical representation of the Covid-19 situation in Mauritius as at 27 April 2020:



As [previously](#) communicated, the government is now working on a de-confinement strategy which is expected to be implemented in a staggered and phased manner depending on how the situation evolves in the country. The “Covid-19 Bill” which will pave the way for easing the lockdown currently planned for 4 May 2020, is expected to be promulgated soon. Stay tuned for more information regarding the lift of the sanitary curfew in Mauritius.

## International Benchmarks

### World Happiness Report 2020: Mauritius ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Africa

The World Happiness Report 2020 (WHR 2020) shines a bright light on Mauritius as one of the choicest work and live destination for the region. With a score of 6.101, Mauritius takes the lead in Africa and ranks 49th worldwide (2019: 1st in Africa and 57th worldwide). The report reviews the science of measuring and understanding subjective well-being, and to use survey measures of life satisfaction to track the quality of lives as they are being lived in more than 150 countries. This year's edition has a special focus on social environments for happiness, as reflected by the quality of personal social connections and social institutions.

At the global level, Finland takes the lead (7.809 points) followed by Denmark (7.646 points) and Switzerland (7.560 points).

The World Happiness Index is based on 6 key variables namely: GDP per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom to make life choices, generosity and perceptions of corruption. It is then calculated how these 6 key variables contribute to that country's ladder score, relative to that in a hypothetical country called "Dystopia", so named because it has values equal to the world's lowest national averages for 2017-2019 for each of the six key variables.

You may access the complete WHR 2020 report by clicking [here](#)

ITL boasts a wealth of experience in assisting investors in setting up their offices and relocating to Mauritius. For more information on how we can help relocating your business and/or your family to Mauritius, please liaise with your usual contact person at ITL or write to us on [info@intercontinentaltrust.com](mailto:info@intercontinentaltrust.com)

## ITL v/s Covid-19

Our Management Team is devoting a lot of its time and resources to minimize the impact of the pandemic crisis on our service level whilst ensuring the well-being of our employees. Our Pandemic Preparedness and Response plan has been activated since the beginning of the lockdown and the following operational changes have since then been implemented:

### **Work-From-Home (WFH):**

Effective as from Friday 20 March 2020, all our employees are working from home. We would like to highlight that our WFH facilities have been tried and tested for a number of years already and that these are fully compliant with our data privacy and data security protocols.

### **Suppliers:**

We have Service Level Agreements with our 3<sup>rd</sup> party suppliers to ensure that they are adhering to their forthcoming delivery and equipment servicing commitments, even during the lockdown period.

### **Client Meetings:**

Our employees remain primarily reachable by e-mail but client meetings are being conducted through ZOOM. Our Information Technology and Information Security teams are working behind the curtain on the ZOOM administrative portal to ensure best practices and configurations are followed and implemented in order reinforce the security perimeter around the app.

For any additional information please contact us.

#### Mauritius Office

Email: mauritius@intercontinentaltrust.com  
Website: www.intercontinentaltrust.com

#### Seychelles Office

Email: seychelles@intercontinentaltrust.sc  
Website: www.intercontinentaltrust.sc

#### South Africa Office

Email: sa@intercontinentaltrust.com

#### Singapore Office

Email: singapore@intercontinentaltrust.com.sg  
Website: www.intercontinentaltrust.com.sg

#### Kenya Office

Email: ke@intercontinentaltrust.com



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