

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

Saturday, February 29 2020

1.20€ · Founded 1962 · N.17165 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A,  
Palma 07011



The world's best pa amb oli is unveiled: See Inside

# CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK 'GETTING BIGGER', WHO SAYS

**T**he rapid rise in coronavirus raised fears of a pandemic yesterday, with six countries reporting their first cases, the World Health Organization warning it could spread worldwide and Switzerland cancelling the giant Geneva car show.

World share markets crashed again, winding up their worst week since the 2008 global financial crisis and bringing the global wipeout to \$6 trillion.

Hopes that the epidemic that started in China late last year would be over in months, and that economic activity would quickly return to normal, have been shattered as the number of international cases has spiralled.

"The outbreak is getting bigger," WHO spokesman Christian Lindmeier told reporters in Geneva.

"The scenario of the coronavirus reaching multiple countries, if not all countries around the world, is something we have been looking at and warning against since quite a while." Switzerland joined countries banning big events to try to curb the epidemic, forcing cancellation of next week's Geneva international car show, one of the industry's most important gatherings. Mainland China reported 327 new cases, the lowest since Jan. 23, taking its tally to more than 78,800 cases with almost 2,800 deaths. China's three-

biggest airlines restored some international flights and the Shanghai fashion show, initially postponed, went ahead online.

## TROOPS DEPLOYED

But as the outbreak eases in China, it is surging elsewhere.

## Fair may be cancelled

*Berlin.* - Germany's *Bild* newspaper yesterday cited the Health Ministry as saying that its new coronavirus criteria, according to which organisers must assess the safety of their

events, meant Berlin's ITB international travel fair should be cancelled. Hundreds of members of the Balearic tourist industry and local officials usually attend this event.

der with Turkey to prevent illegal migrant inflows as steps up measures against the coronavirus. It has not reported any cases.

Mongolia, which has yet to confirm a case, placed its president, Battulga Khaltmaa, in quarantine as a precaution after he returned from a trip to China, state media reported.

Five more countries have reported their first case, all with travel history connected to Italy. They were Nigeria, Estonia, Denmark, Netherlands and Lithuania, Lindmeier said.

Mexico also detected its first cases of infection in two men who had travelled to Italy, making the country the second in Latin America to register the virus after Brazil.

Countries other than China now account for about three-quarters of new infections.

Bulgaria said it was ready to deploy up to 1,000 troops and military equipment to the border

