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WHO warns of racism and anti-Chinese sentiments linked to coronavirus

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Geneva, February 6 (RHC)-- The World Health Organization is calling on countries not to impose medically unnecessary restrictions as the coronavirus spreads, warning these moves can fuel racism without improving public health.

Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said: “We reiterate our call to all countries not to impose restrictions inconsistent with the international health regulations. Such restrictions can have the effect of increasing fear and stigma with little public health benefit.”

The virus’s death toll has reached over 500 people — nearly all of whom are in China — with nearly 25,000 people infected worldwide. The virus has also unleashed a wave of anti-Chinese racism and xenophobia.

Edited by Ed Newman

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