

Update 1: North Korea - Relaxes COVID-19 Restrictions on Foreign Diplomats

- The North Korean government has lifted a number of restrictions previously placed on foreign diplomats, the Russian embassy in Pyongyang said in a statement
- In a statement, the embassy reported it had received a note from colleagues in the Protocol Department of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) informing them of the new rules
- Foreign diplomats are now permitted to visit a number of department stores in the DPRK capital, including the First Department Store, the Pyongyang Station Department store, the Kwangbok Street Shopping Center, and the Pothonggang Department Store
- The news represents a further relaxation of measures officially put in place in early February
- North Korea continues to officially claim no cases of COVID-19 in its territory

Source(s)

<https://www.nknews.org/2020/05/north-korea-further-relaxes-restrictions-on-resident-diplomats-embassy-says/>

<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/05/9459b6d56050-n-korea-further-eases-virus-restrictions-kims-movements-unknown.html>

Targets Affected:

North Korea

Guidance

Actions to consider:

- Consider implementing suggested actions related to 'Business Recovery/Lifting Restrictions' under the 'COVID-19: Actions to Consider' section below / next page

Related Alerts

May 7, 2020

Medium

North Korea - Reports Speculate
Economic Woes and Panic Buying
Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Impact level Definitions

Impact Level	Definitions
Immediate	Certain - Supply Wisdom recommends considering prompt action. Examples of Immediate level alert events may include bankruptcy filings, data breaches, unexpected curfews, strikes, power black-outs, major geo-political events etc.
High	Highly likely to occur in the near term (within 3 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends being in a state of readiness to take quick action. Examples of High level alert events may include withdrawal of rating by ratings agencies, hostile takeover, multiple cyber-attacks, new business policies causing significant hardship etc.
Medium	Likely to occur in the mid-term (within 3 to 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends reviewing current mitigation steps and being ready to take proactive actions if and when situation deteriorates further. Examples of Medium level alert events may include unplanned C-level exits, suppliers caught in bribery cases, economy slipping into recession.
Low	Possible in the long-term (after 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends taking proactive action if situation does not resolve. Examples of Low level alert events may include lawsuits filed against suppliers, client losses, air pollution alerts issued by country's local authorities, unexpected holidays announced for the location etc.
Informational	The event is pertinent information but does not have a risk element associated with it. Examples of Info level alert events may include launch of new solutions, partnerships signed, industry outlook, positive changes in government policies, announcements regarding launch of software parks/ free trade zones/special economic zones etc.