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Government of Pakistan  
National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC)  
ISLAMABAD  
Fax 051-9224720



Subject: **Revision of Inbound Air Passengers Travel Categories**

Our Letters No 803/A/Ops-III/NCOC-03 dated 27 November 2021 and No 803/A/Ops-III/NCOC-03 dated 03 November 2021 referred.

1. Prevalent COVID situation across the globe has been reviewed at NCOC in order to revise the policy for categorization of air travel and Cat C list. **Revised categories** basing on disease profile and **health / testing protocols** applicable to travelers from these countries are given in ensuing paragraphs:-

2. **Cat 'C' List**

a. Fresh List of Cat 'C' countries is as under: -

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| (1) Croatia.     | (9) South Africa. |
| (2) Hungary.     | (10) Mozambique.  |
| (3) Netherlands. | (11) Lesotho.     |
| (4) Ukraine.     | (12) Eswatini.    |
| (5) Ireland.     | (13) Botswana.    |
| (6) Slovenia.    | (14) Zimbabwe.    |
| (7) Vietnam.     | (15) Namibia.     |
| (8) Poland.      |                   |

b. **Health / Testing Protocols for Inbound Air Travel** from Cat C countries are as under: -

- (1) Complete **ban on Inbound travel** from Cat C countries.
- (2) **Essential travel** from above mentioned countries would necessitate obtaining **exemption certificate** from exemption committee with following health protocols: -
  - (a) 100% vaccination for all inbound pax. Manifestation as per obligatory vaccination regime vide our letter no 801/A/Ops-III/NCOC-01 dated 30 September 2021.
  - (b) All pax of 06 years age and above (locals / foreigners) are required to be in possession of negative PCR test report (max 48 hours old) before boarding. Deportees are exempted from PCR test / report requirement.
  - (c) RAT on arrival at airport for all inbound pax (6 years and above) travelling via direct / indirect flights from Cat 'C' countries.

- (d) RAT negative cases will be **allowed** to proceed. However, RAT negative cases from **Omicron variant countries** mentioned at para 2 a (9) to (15) (South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, Eswatini, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Namibia) will have to undergo **3 days mandatory quarantine** followed by **PCR test** to be conducted on **3<sup>rd</sup> day by civil administration**.
- (e) RAT positive cases will be **quarantined for 10 x days**. RT PCR test of all RAT positive quarantined passengers will be undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine. In case of negative result, pax will be allowed to proceed. However, in case of positive result, pax will either undergo **additional quarantine or will be shifted to hospital** as per advice of health authorities.

3. **Cat 'B' List**

a. Countries placed in Cat 'B' are listed below: -

- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) Germany.             | (8) UK.           |
| (2) Trinidad and Tobago. | (9) Thailand.     |
| (3) Azerbaijan.          | (10) France.      |
| (4) Mexico.              | (11) Austria.     |
| (5) Sri Lanka.           | (12) Afghanistan. |
| (6) Russia.              | (13) Turkey.      |
| (7) USA.                 |                   |

b. **Health / Testing Protocols for Inbound Air Travel** from Cat 'B' countries are as under: -

- (1) 100% vaccination for all inbound pax. Manifestation as per obligatory vaccination regime vide our letter no 801/A/Ops-III/NCOC-01 dated 30 September 2021.
- (2) All pax of 06 years age and above (locals / foreigners) are required to be in possession of negative PCR test report (max 48 hours old) before boarding. Deportees are exempted from PCR test / report requirement.
- (3) RAT of random flights will be conducted at airport on arrival from Cat 'B' countries.
- (4) RAT negative cases will be allowed to proceed. RAT positive cases will be **quarantined for 10 x days**. RT PCR test of all RAT positive quarantined passengers will be undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine. In case of negative result, pax will be allowed to proceed home. However, in case of positive result, pax will either undergo **additional quarantine period or will be shifted to hospital** as per advice of health authorities.

4. **Cat 'A' Countries.** All other countries not included in Cat 'C' and 'B' will fall in Cat 'A' with following **health / testing protocols** applicable to inbound travelers: -
  - a. 100% vaccination for all inbound pax. Manifestation as per obligatory vaccination regime vide our letter no 801/A/Ops-III/NCOC-01 dated 30 September 2021.
  - b. All pax of 06 years age and above (locals / foreigners) are required to be in possession of negative PCR test report (max 48 hours old) before boarding. Deportees are exempted from PCR test / report requirement.
5. **Screening of Transit flights.** **100% RAT on arrival** for transit flights arriving via **KSA, UAE and Qatar** will be ensured to guard against entry of Omicron variant through indirect flights.
6. **Exemption / Waiver.** **To facilitate stranded Pakistanis,** NCOC has approved following relaxations: -
  - a. All Pakistanis can travel from Cat C countries **without exemption till 15 December 21** but above-mentioned **health / testing protocols on arrival** will remain applicable.
  - b. **Pakistanis** already travelled / travelling to Category C countries on **short term visa and deportees** are permitted to travel back without exemption process.
  - c. Pakistanis unable to get themselves vaccinated abroad (all categories) due to following reasons are **Exempted from mandatory vaccination after producing valid proof** to airline / immigration authorities before boarding: -
    - (1) Expired Visa / Emirates ID or illegal immigrants / deportees.
    - (2) Pending court cases.
    - (3) Medical conditions / issues.
    - (4) Pregnant women.
    - (5) Partially vaccinated from Pakistan.
7. **Aviation Division / Airport Management / ASF only.** Please ensure **screening of passengers** traveling from Cat C countries through **direct / indirect flights** in coordination with health staff deputed at airports.
8. **CHE Only.** Please ensure following: -
  - a. **Ensure all inbound passengers arriving via direct / indirect flights from Cat 'C' countries, KSA, UAE and Qatar are tested through RAT** at all designated airports in coordination with provincial health / airport authorities.
  - b. **Ensure availability of requisite health staff round the clock at all major airports** in coordination with provincial health authorities.
  - c. Maintain sufficient stock of RAT kits and allied equipment at designated airports.
9. **MoNHSR&C Only.** Ensure availability of additional health care staff at designated airports.

10. **Provincial / ICT Administration Only**. Please ensure to arrange following: -
- Quarantine facility** (Government / Self-paid) for RAT positive and RAT negative passengers from Omicron Variant countries.
  - Earmark **separate facilities** for quarantine of **RAT negative cases from Omicron Variant Countries and deportees**.
  - Transportation** of RAT positive passengers and RAT negative passengers from omicron variant countries from airports to designated quarantine facilities.
  - Arrange / manage **adequate quarantine facilities (Government / Self-paid)** within proximity of major airports.
  - Beef up CHE staff with provincial health staff** at respective Airports (on requirement basis) in the province.
  - AJK and GB** are requested to assist federating units especially **Rawalpindi and ICT administration** for smooth management of AJK / GB related inbound travelers landing at IIAP.
11. **MoFA Only**. Please disseminate information to all Pakistan High Commissions and Embassies and assign priority for information of Pakistani diaspora.
12. **NDMA only**. Please ensure availability of sufficient RAT kits in coordination with NCOC.
13. **MoIT / NITB**. Please ensure uninterrupted / continuous availability of Passtrack App.
14. **Revised air travel plan will be effective from mid night 8 December 2021 (0001 PST). Review of Inbound Travel Policy will be carried out at NCOC on 28 December 2021.**
15. Forwarded for necessary action / priority dissemination to all concerned, please.



Deputy Director (Operations)  
(Abdul Qadeer Awan)

**To**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)  
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)  
Headquarters Airport Security Force  
Ministry of Interior (MoI)  
Aviation Division Islamabad  
Directorate of Central Health Establishments (CHE)

**CC**

Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination (MoNHSR&C)  
General Headquarters, Military Operations Directorate (MO Dte)  
Inter Services Intelligence (ISI)  
Chief Secretary Punjab  
Chief Secretary Sindh  
Chief Secretary Balochistan  
Chief Secretary KP

Chief Secretary AJK  
Chief Secretary GB  
Commissioner ICT

**ID:**

NCOC Ops and Plans Branch

**Letter No 801/A/Ops III /NCOC-01 dated 05 December 2021**