



MALDIVES CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
Republic of Maldives

AIR TRANSPORT CIRCULAR
AT 01/2021 - Issue 01

ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION (API)
AND
PASSENGER NAME RECORD (PNR)

10th January 2021

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), in Annex 9 – Facilitation, mandates Member States to establish an Advance Passenger Information (API) system and recommends to consider developing regulations that meet the needs of all involved agencies, define a common set of API data elements required for that jurisdiction in accordance with message construction standards and appoint one government agency to receive API data on behalf of all other agencies..
- 1.2.1 Maldives Customs Services, as part of the ongoing efforts to facilitate expeditious passenger clearance processes at international airports, and to strengthen the protection of national security at the border, has established an API system. Their Regulation number 2018/R-92 (published in the Maldives Government Gazette on 26th August 2018), Circular Number 14-CGO/CIR/2019/03 dated 05 May 2019 and Circular Number 14-CGO/CIR/2021/1 dated 06 January 2021 prescribes the procedure concerning the provision of Advanced Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by airlines operating international air services to and from the Maldives.

2 Purpose

- 2.2 The purpose of this Circular is to designate the national agency for API and PNR data in the Maldives, and to inform and advise airlines and aircraft operators operating international flights to and from the Maldives to facilitate the provision of API and PNR data relating to passengers and crew members to that agency.

3 Requirement

- 3.2 The Implementing Agency for API and PNR requirement in the Maldives is;

Maldives Customs Service
Boduthakurufaanu Magu,
District: 20-02, Postal Code: 20250
Maafannu, Male',
Republic of Maldives



3.2 API and PNR data relating to passengers and crew on board all international flights including commercial, non-commercial, regular and non-regular air transport service operators operating to and from the Maldives shall be provided to the Maldives Customs Service pursuant to the legal and technical requirements appended to this Circular as Appendix A, B and C.

5.0 **Effectivity**

5.1 The Circular will come into effect from 17th January 2021 and will apply to airline operators operating international flights (commercial, non-commercial, regular and non-regular air transport service operators) to and from the Maldives.



Hussain Jaleel
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Appendix A: Maldives Customs Services Regulation number 2018/R-92/ (published in the Maldives Government Gazette on 27th August 2018), and the unofficial English translation of the Regulation

Appendix B: Maldives Customs Services Circular Number 14-CGO/CIR/2019/03 dated 05 May 2019

Appendix C: Maldives Customs Services Circular Number 14-CGO/CIR/2021/1 dated 06 January 2021

1- معلومات

ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION (API) & PASSENGER NAME RECORD (PNR)
DATA ELEMENTS

1.1 Data relating to the Flight

#	Data Element
1	Flight Identification (IATA Airline Carrier Code and Flight no.)
2	Scheduled Departure Date and Time (Plane departure date/time based on the local time of origin)
3	Scheduled Arrival Date and Time (Plane arrival date/time based on the local time of destination)
4	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Departure (Aircraft departed from this foreign place/port of call to go to "Place/Port of Aircraft Initial Arrival")
5	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Initial Arrival (Place/port in the country of destination where the aircraft arrives from the "Last Place /Port of Call of Aircraft")
6	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Transit (Place/port in the country of destination where the aircraft arrives from the "Last Place /Port of Call of Aircraft")
7	Number of Passengers/Crew (Total number of passengers/crew on flight)

1.2 Data Relating to the Passenger/Crew Member

#	Data Element
1	Surname/Given name(s) (Family name and given name(s) in accordance with that stated in the official travel document)
2	Gender (Gender of the holder)

3	Date of Birth (Date of birth of the holder)
4	Nationality (Nationality of the holder)
5	Official Travel Document Number (Number of passport or other official travel document)
6	Official Travel Document Type (Indicator identifying travel document type)
7	Issuing State or Organization of the Official Travel Document (Name of the State or Organization responsible for the issuance of the official travel document)
8	Issuing Date of the Official Travel Document
9	Expiration Date of Official Travel Document (Expiration date of the official travel document)
10	Place/Port of Embarkation (Place/port where traveler originates travel)
11	Place/Port of Debarkation (Place/port where traveler is traveling to)
12	Traveler's Status (Crew/ Passenger, In-transit)
13	Seating Information (Specific seat assigned to the passenger for this flight)
14	Baggage Information (Number of bags, bag tag number(s), all pooled baggage information, bag destination/ offload point)
15	Passenger Name Record Locator Number (or unique identifier) (As available in the traveler's Passenger Name Record in the carrier's airline reservation system)
16	Visa Number (Number of the Visa issued)
17	Issue Date of the Visa (Date of the Visa issuance)

18	Place of Issuance of the Visa (Name of the place where the Visa was issued)
19	Other Document Number Used for Travel (The other document number used for travel when the official travel document is not required)
20	Type of Other Document used for Travel (Indicator to identify type of document used for travel)
21	Primary Residence (where the traveler resides for the most of the year) - Address, Road, City, State, Country, Postal code
22	Destination Address (where the traveler going to stay at particular trip) - Address, Road, City, State, Country, Postal code
23	Place of Birth (Place of birth such as city and country)
24	Contact Number (Telephone details)
25	Frequent flyer information (Frequent flyer account number and elite level status)
26	Passenger Travel Status (Standby information)
27	All date information (PNR creation date, booking date, reservation date, departure date, arrival date, PNR first travel date, PNR last modification date, ticket issue date, "first intended" travel date, date of first arrival, late booking date for flight)
28	Split/divided PNR information (Multiple passengers on PNR, other passengers on PNR, other PNR reference, single passenger on booking)
29	All ticketing field information (Date of ticket issue/purchase, selling class of travel, issue city, ticket number, one-way ticket, ticket issue city, automatic fare quote (ATFQ) fields)
30	All travel itinerary for PNR (PNR flight itinerary segments/ports, layover days, alternate routing unknown (ARNK) segments, inbound flight connection details, on-carriage information, confirmation status)

31	Form of payment (FOP) information (All FOP (cash, electronic, prepaid ticket advice (PTA), exchange), details of person/agency paying for ticket, staff rebate codes)
32	Travel agent information (Travel agency details, name, address, contact details, IATA code)
33	Received-from information (Name of person making the booking)
34	No-show information (Only available after flight close-out: no-show history)
35	General remarks (If any)

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**REGULATION TO PROVIDE ADVANCE PASSENGER AND FLIGHT INFORMATION TO
MALDIVES CUSTOMS SERVICE**

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|--|---|---|
| Introduction and title | 1 | (a) This is a regulation to prescribe the procedure concerning advance passenger and flight information, in pursuant to article 5 (c), article 60, article 70 and article 84 of the Act number 8/2011 (Maldives Customs Act) and drives its legal status under article 5 (c) and article 110 of the above act in reference to resolution number 2178(2014) of United Nations security council.

(b) This regulation shall be cited as “Regulation to provide advance passenger and flight information to Maldives Customs Service”. |
| Objective | 2 | The objective of this regulation is to ensure the protection of national security at the border by preventing the smuggling of illegal items and monitor the import of controlled items by establishing an advanced passenger and flight information system to Maldives Customs Service. |
| Jurisdiction | 3 | For the purposes contemplated herein, jurisdiction of this regulation will extend to flights boarding from and arriving to the Republic of Maldives, and to the respective flight operators, all the parties registered in Maldives Civil Aviation Authority, flight handling agents and representatives. |
| Required information and time frame to submit the same | 4 | (a) Flight operators, handling agents, flight representatives or flight agents must, in accordance to the regulation report all information to Maldives Customs Service regarding passengers and crew aboard the flight en route to Maldives within 15 minutes of flight departure (for inbound flight). |

- (b) Flight operators, handling agents, flight representatives or flight agents must, in accordance with the regulation, report all information to Maldives Customs Service regarding passengers and crew aboard the flight embarking from Maldives within 15 minutes after the passenger check-in has been closed (for out bound flight).
- (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) and (b), Maldives Customs Service reserves the right to permit agents to submit lesser information than required under this regulation.
- (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) and (b), Maldives Customs Service reserves the right to permit agents to submit information at a time later than required by the regulation.
- (e) The prerequisite information of passengers entering and exiting the Republic of Maldives is specified in Annex 1 of this regulation.
- (f) The obligations to submit any information under this regulation does not limit the duty to provide similar information under any other act or regulation.

Penalties for offence	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) It is an offence to refrain any information or delay in submitting information according to terms of this regulation. Penalty for such an offense is prescribed in Annex 2. (b) A fine under Subsection 5 (a) shall only be imposed on the date following 03 months of this regulation coming into effect.
Financial burden	6	The financial burden of assigning an intermediary to provide prescribed information under this regulation shall be carried on by the party providing such information.
Handling information	7	(a) The Commissioner General of Customs shall establish a specialized Section or a Unit under this regulation comprising of Customs officers to undertake the responsibilities of analysing and utilizing the

information obtained therein.

- (b) Any information obtained as per the regulation shall only be used to enhance and improve Customs intelligence and risk management and to facilitate passengers as well as to those government institutions established for the protection of national security of Maldives.
- (c) International best practice and norms in obtaining such information have been followed as a main principle in obtaining the required information under this regulation.
- (d) If Maldives Customs Service requires to exchange any information obtained under this regulation with a third party, the third party must undertake an agreement to follow the guidelines under this regulation.

Maintaining the confidentiality	8	Any information received by the Maldives Customs Service under this regulation shall be considered confidential information under the Maldives Customs Act, and shall not be revealed to any third party including unassigned staffs. Maldives Customs Service must ensure the confidentiality of information received as such.
Preservation of Information	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Maldives Customs Service reserves the right to retain information obtained under this regulation for a prescribed period of time.(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this clause, if any information obtained herein is recorded in writing; such a recording shall be discarded according to established respective regulations.
Commencement	10	This regulation shall take effect on the date following 01(one) month of this act being approved and published in the Government Gazette.

ANNEX-1

ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION (API) & PASSENGER NAME RECORD (PNR) DATA ELEMENTS

1.1 Data relating to the Flight

#	Data Element
1	Flight Identification (IATA Airline Carrier Code and Flight no.)
2	Scheduled Departure Date and Time (Plane departure date/time based on the local time of origin)
3	Scheduled Arrival Date and Time (Plane arrival date/time based on the local time of destination)
4	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Departure (Aircraft departed from this foreign place/port of call to go to "Place/Port of Aircraft Initial Arrival")
5	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Initial Arrival (Place/port in the country of destination where the aircraft arrives from the "Last Place /Port of Call of Aircraft")
6	Place/Port of Call of Aircraft Transit (Place/port in the country of destination where the aircraft arrives from the "Last Place /Port of Call of Aircraft")
7	Number of Passengers/Crew (Total number of passengers/crew on flight)

1.2 Data Relating to the Passenger/Crew Member

#	Data Element
1	Surname/Given name(s) (Family name and given name(s) in accordance with that stated in the official travel document)
2	Gender (Gender of the holder)
3	Date of Birth (Date of birth of the holder)
4	Nationality (Nationality of the holder)
5	Official Travel Document Number (Number of passport or other official travel document)

6	Official Travel Document Type (Indicator identifying travel document type)
7	Issuing State or Organization of the Official Travel Document (Name of the State or Organization responsible for the issuance of the official travel document)
8	Issuing Date of the Official Travel Document
9	Expiration Date of Official Travel Document (Expiration date of the official travel document)
10	Place/Port of Embarkation (Place/port where traveler originates travel)
11	Place/Port of Debarkation (Place/port where traveler is traveling to)
12	Traveler's Status (Crew/ Passenger, In-transit)
13	Seating Information (Specific seat assigned to the passenger for this flight)
14	Baggage Information (Number of bags, bag tag number(s), all pooled baggage information, bag destination/ offload point)
15	Passenger Name Record Locator Number (or unique identifier) (As available in the traveler's Passenger Name Record in the carrier's airline reservation system)
16	Visa Number (Number of the Visa issued)
17	Issue Date of the Visa (Date of the Visa issuance)
18	Place of Issuance of the Visa (Name of the place where the Visa was issued)
19	Other Document Number Used for Travel (The other document number used for travel when the official travel document is not required)
20	Type of Other Document used for Travel (Indicator to identify type of document used for travel)
21	Primary Residence (where the traveler resides for the most of the year) - Address, Road, City, State, Country, Postal code
22	Destination Address (where the traveler going to stay at particular trip) - Address, Road, City, State, Country, Postal code
23	Place of Birth (Place of birth such as city and country)
24	Contact Number (Telephone details)
25	Frequent flyer information (Frequent flyer account number and elite level status)
26	Passenger Travel Status (Standby information)

27	All date information (PNR creation date, booking date, reservation date, departure date, arrival date, PNR first travel date, PNR last modification date, ticket issue date, "first intended" travel date, date of first arrival, late booking date for flight)
28	Split/divided PNR information (Multiple passengers on PNR, other passengers on PNR, other PNR reference, single passenger on booking)
29	All ticketing field information (Date of ticket issue/purchase, selling class of travel, issue city, ticket number, one-way ticket, ticket issue city, automatic fare quote (ATFQ) fields)
30	All travel itinerary for PNR (PNR flight itinerary segments/ports, layover days, alternate routing unknown (ARNK) segments, inbound flight connection details, on-carriage information, confirmation status)
31	Form of payment (FOP) information (All FOP (cash, electronic, and expiry date, prepaid ticket advice (PTA), exchange), details of person/agency paying for ticket, staff rebate codes)
32	Travel agent information (Travel agency details, name, address, contact details, IATA code)
33	Received-from information (Name of person making the booking)
34	No-show information (Only available after flight close-out: no-show history)
35	General remarks (If any)

ANNEX 2

Following penalties shall be imposed in the order, on those who refrain from or delays in issuing information prescribed under this regulation.

1. Reprimand in the form of written notice for those who fail to submit or delay information of consecutive 6 flights.
 2. Following a reprimand as per article 1 of annex 2, a written warning to take legal action shall be issued for further failure to submit or delay information of consecutive 4 flights.
 3. Following a warning of legal action as per article 2 of annex 2, a fine of Rf2000.00 (two thousand rufiyaa) shall be levied for those who fail to submit or delays in giving information of consecutive two flights and a fine of Rf300.00 (three hundred rufiyaa) shall be levied upon for every subsequent two flights.
 4. One shall be considered a repeated offender, for the failure to submit the information within three months following the reprimand as per article one of annex 2.
 5. For the purpose of this regulation number of flights shall be counted as separate for arrival and departure respectively.
 6. Failure to submit information due technicalities shall be considered as an exception if an airline or agent informed of such error in advance.
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MALDIVES CUSTOMS SERVICE
MALE'
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

CIRCULAR

30 Sha'ban 1440

Number: 14-CGO/CIR/2019/3

05 May 2019

Customs Act 8/2011 and Customs Regulation R-92/2018 require all airlines to submit cargo and passenger manifest (API/PNR) containing complete information of the consignees of each cargo consignment and passengers, to Maldives Customs Service prior to arrival of the aircraft as shown in the table below.

Flight Duration	Time to submit manifest
Less than 3 (three) hours	30 (thirty) minutes prior to landing
More than 3 (three) hours	1 (one) hour prior to landing

In addition, all airlines are required to submit outward manifest of cargo and passengers, 15 (fifteen) minutes prior to departure of the aircraft from Maldives.

The manifests should be forwarded to the following email addresses:

aircargo.manifest@customs.gov.mv

passenger.manifest@customs.gov.mv

This is a mandatory requirement for Customs clearance purposes and failure to comply will result in penalties as depicted in Customs regulation.

05 May 2019

Ahmed Numan

Commissioner General of Customs

#Professionalism



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MALDIVES CUSTOMS SERVICE
MALE'
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

CIRCULAR

22 Jumada al-Ula 1442

Number: 14-CGO/CIR/2021/1

06 January 2021

Subject: Amendment to the Circular number 14-CGO/CIR/2019/4 dated 16 June 2019

Regulation number R-92/2018 (published in the Maldives Government Gazette on 27 August 2018) requires all international airlines to provide Advanced Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data to Maldives Customs Service. It drives its legal status under Customs Act and in reference to resolution number 2178(2014) of United Nations Security Council. It applies to passengers on board all international flights including commercial, non-commercial, regular and non-regular air transport service operators, providing services to and from the Maldives.

Any information obtained as per the regulation shall only be used to enhance and improve Customs enforcement effort and to facilitate passengers as well as for the protection of national security of Maldives. Any information received by the Maldives Customs Service under this regulation shall be considered confidential information under the Maldives Customs Act.

Annex-1 of the above mentioned regulation prescribes the data fields required by the Maldives Customs Service. It is an offence to refrain any information or delay in submitting information according to the said regulation.

For further technical details, please refer to the information sheet attached with this circular.

We look forward to your full co-operation.



Abdulla Shareef
Commissioner General of Customs

API AND PNR REQUIREMENTS

A regulation requiring all international airlines to provide advance passenger information to Maldives Customs Service was published in the Maldives Government Gazette on 27 August 2018. This circular provides additional information to assist airlines in meeting their regulatory requirements for the provision of Advanced Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data to the Maldives Customs Service.

A. START DATE

Entry into force: **19 June 2019 to send Production data**

Maldives Customs will be connected to SITA Messaging platform and airlines are requested to **send 'Testing' Messages commencing 16 June 2019.**

Grace period of 30 Days for the completion of technical requirements, will be given to those airlines which newly commence operations to Maldives.

B. TYPE OF PROGRAM AND ADDRESSES

API and PNRGOV messages can be sent to the following Addresses:

Type B Addresses:

MLEMCXH (Production) and **MLECUXH** (Testing)

Type X Addresses:

XHMLEPR (Production) and **XHMLEPT** (Testing)

Airlines that fly to/from any international airports in Maldives have to submit API and PNR messages.

C. SCOPE OF PROGRAM

Applies to all passengers and crews on board international flights including commercial, non-commercial, regular and non-regular air transport service operators, providing services to and from the Maldives.



D. DATA ELEMENTS

API: UN/EDIFACT PAXLST

PNR: UN/EDIFACT PNRGOV

To be sent via Type B Messages / Type X Messages

E. WHEN ARE THESE ELEMENTS TO BE SENT?

For both Inbound and Outbound Flights:

API messages will be sent in 2 pushes.

- 1st at close of Check In
- 2nd at close of Boarding/Doors Closed prior to departure.

PNRGOV messages will be sent in 2 pushes.

- 1st at 24 hours prior to departure
- 2nd at 1 hour prior to departure.

F. DATA FROM NON-RPT FLIGHTS

For Non-RPT Flights such as charter flights and private jet operations, the passenger / crew manifest of inbound and outbound flights should be send through

<https://portal.customs.gov.mv>

All parties are required to submit inbound manifest to Maldives Customs Service prior to arrival of the aircraft as per table below;

Flight Duration	Time to submit manifest
Less than 3 (three) hours	30 (thirty) minutes prior to landing
More than 3 (three) hours	1 (one) hour prior to landing

Outward manifest should be submitted 30 (thirty) minutes prior to departure from Maldives.

G. FOR WHICH AIRPORTS?

Airlines that fly to/from any international airports in Maldives have to submit API messages and PNR. Airports concerned are:

- Velana International Airport (MLE)



- Gan International Airport (GAN)
- Hanimaadhoo International Airport (HAQ)

H. GOVERNMENT POINT OF CONTACT

Maldives Customs Service

Mr. Mohamed Rishfan (mohamed.rishfan@customs.gov.mv)

Mr. Ibrahim Naaif (ibrahim.naaif@customs.gov.mv)

Mr. Mohamed.Ziyad (mohamed.ziyad@customs.gov.mv)

I. SITA POINT OF CONTACT

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