



MALDIVES CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
Republic of Maldives

AIR TRANSPORT CIRCULAR
AT 14/2020 - Issue 06

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)

27th December 2020

1.0 Introduction

As part of the planned activities outlined by the Government of the Maldives to ease the travel restrictions, all international airports in the Maldives were opened for international travel from 15th July 2020 with precautionary measures against the spread of COVID-19, which are being reviewed from time to time.

2.0 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this Circular is to advise the airlines, aircraft operators and the relevant airport authorities on the health measures taken by the Government of the Maldives relating to the entry of passengers and crew with effect from 27th December 2020.

3.0 Requirements

3.1.0 Inflight

3.1.1 The following announcement should be made inflight:-

The following are the health measures requested by the Health Protection Agency (HPA) of Maldives:

“Please wear your mask during the flight and inside the terminal at your destination.

If you have developed any of the following symptoms;

- Fever,
- Cough,
- Sore throat,
- Runny nose,
- Breathing difficulty,

please stay in your seat and inform the cabin crew.

If you develop any of the symptoms upon arrival, please inform the Immigration desk or the Border Health desk.

3.1.2 Airlines must ensure that the following measures are taken on-board an aircraft by passengers during a flight into Maldives:

(a) Every passenger on board wears a mask, unless he or she:

- (i) is less than 6 years old,
- (ii) is having a medical reason for not wearing facemasks,
- (iii) is eating, drinking or taking oral medication,
- (iv) is removing the mask under a crew member's direction

(b) Passengers must be advised to replace face masks when it becomes wet or soiled.



3.2.0 On Arrival

- 3.2.1 Tourists travelling to the Maldives will be provided visa on arrival. Tourists must have a hotel reservation confirmation for the entire stay in a registered tourist facility.
- 3.2.2 Expatriates travelling to the Maldives shall hold a valid visa issued by Maldives Immigration.
- 3.2.3 The following categories of travelers must hold a negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID-19 prior to entry into the Maldives.
- (a) All Tourist
 - (b) Special Visa holders
 - (c) Business visa holders
 - (d) Foreign diplomats and their accompanying family members
 - (e) Airline/aircraft crew whose transit stay in the Maldives
 - is arranged in an accommodation other than a designated transit facility and/or;
 - duration of stay will exceed seven days
 - (f) Crew of ships who arrive by air to sign onto a ship
- 3.2.4 The sample for the PCR test must be taken not more than 96 hours prior to the scheduled time of departure from the first port of embarkation en-route to the Maldives.
- 3.2.5 Children below one year old are exempt from the requirement of a PCR test.
- 3.2.6 If the passenger makes a transit during the journey, the initial PCR test will be valid if the transit does not exceed 24 hours.
- 3.2.7 If a passenger makes a transit exceeding 24 hours, the passenger must take a repeat PCR test within 96 hours prior to embarkation at the port of transit.
- 3.2.8 The PCR test document containing the test result should state:
- (a) Name of the passenger (name as in passport)
 - (b) Name and address of the testing laboratory
 - (c) Type of test stated as PCR test
 - (d) Date of sampling
 - (e) Result
- 3.2.9 The PCR test result should be presented in paper or electronic form during airline check-in and if required at arrival
- 3.2.10 All arriving passengers and airline crew should complete and submit the online Traveller Health Declaration form available from Maldives Immigration website portal <https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv/> within 24 hours prior to their departure to the Maldives. Passengers are required to present PCR Test results on arrival and should attach the results when completing the online Traveller Health Declaration form.
- 3.2.11 All arriving passengers and airline crew should report to the Immigration counter if they have fever, runny nose, cough, sore throat or breathing difficulties or report directly to the International Border Health counter.
- 3.2.12 The following categories of travelers are exempted from mandatory home quarantine requirements,
- (a) Tourist(s) staying at an approved tourist establishments
 - (b) Special Visa holders whose duration of stay in the Maldives will be not more than 7 (seven) days
 - (c) Business visa holders whose duration of stay in the Maldives will be not more than 7 (seven) days
 - (d) Foreign diplomats and their accompanying family members
 - (e) Airline/aircraft crew whose transit stay in the Maldives
 - is arranged in an accommodation other than a designated transit facility; and/or
 - duration of stay will exceed 7 (seven) days
 - (f) Crew of ships who arrive by air to sign onto a ship
 - (g) Children below one year old



- 3.2.13 Business Visa Holders and Special Visa holders whose planned duration of stay in the Maldives is more than 7 (seven) days will be required to undergo mandatory home quarantine for 10 (ten) days (in their place of residency or work) if they are staying in a place outside the Greater Male' (Male', Hulhumale' and Villimale'). Such passengers must obtain a COVID-19 negative PCR Test result before they are released from quarantine.
- 3.2.14 Maldivian citizens and Work Visa holders travelling to the Maldives from the United Kingdom are required to undergo mandatory home quarantine for 10 (ten) days.
The 10 day mandatory home quarantine will also apply to Maldivian citizens and Work Visa holders who;
- (a) stayed in transit in the United Kingdom for more than 12 (twelve) hours, or
 - (b) travelled to the United Kingdom within the last 14 (fourteen) days.
- 3.2.15 Maldivian citizens and Work Visa holders travelling to the Maldives from countries other than the United Kingdom are exempted from mandatory home quarantine if they are;
- (a) in possession of a COVID-19 negative PCR Test result (test sample taken not more than 96 hours prior to the scheduled time of departure from the first port of embarkation en-route to the Maldives); and
 - (b) staying in Greater Male'
- It is strongly recommended that the individuals and/or employers (of work visa holders) upload COVID-19 negative PCR Test result to Maldives Immigration website portal <https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv/> prior to departure to the Maldives.
- Further information on mandatory home quarantine requirements for Maldivian citizens and Work Visa holders travelling to Maldives are provided in HPA's public notice No: (IUL)23-L/452/2020/5 dated 16th December 2020 and (IUL)23-L/452/2020/6 dated 26th December 2020 (Refer website https://covid19.health.gov.mv/downloads_dv/?c=0).
- 3.2.16 The operating airline shall assist and cooperate with the International Border Health Officials in carrying out contact tracing and aircraft disinfection when required, in accordance with the applicable HPA's regulations and guidelines.
- 3.2.17 It is the responsibility of the operating airline to ensure that their passengers are in compliance with the entry requirements prior to boarding. The operating airline shall also ensure that those passengers presenting their PCR Test results at the time of check-in or boarding are holding a COVID-19 negative PCR Test result.
- 3.2.18 HPA will hold the operating airline and passengers liable for violations of its guidelines, and may take appropriate legal and administrative actions corresponding to the extent of such violations.
- 3.3.0 **On Departure**
- 3.3.1 It is the responsibility of the passenger and airline crew to fulfil the health requirements for the country of departure. If required, passenger and crew must carry COVID-19 negative PCR Test results with them when arriving at the airport check-in counter.
- 3.3.2 All departing passengers and airline crew must report to the COVID-19 hotline number 1676 if they are having any of the following symptoms, within 24hrs of their departure time;
- Fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, or breathing difficulties
 - They must verify with the COVID-19 hotline if they need to cancel their current booking
- 3.3.3 All departing passengers and airline crew must complete the online Traveller Health Declaration form for departure. The Health Declaration form for departure must be submitted before the time of departure but not exceed 24hrs before the time of departure. The online Traveller Health Declaration form is available from Maldives Immigration website portal <https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv/>
- 3.3.4 Tourist Visa holders residing in guest houses shall provide COVID-19 negative PCR Test result done within 72hrs prior to check-in at the airport. Tourists shall contact the respective guest house

management to facilitate their PCR Tests. It is advised to stay in guest house and not to proceed to the airport before a negative PCR Test result is obtained.

4.0 Applicability

- 4.1 The requirements in this Circular applies to all international airlines, aircraft operators operating to and from the Maldives, passengers arriving to and departing from Maldives by air and relevant airport authorities in the Maldives.

5.0 Effectivity

- 5.1 This Circular will come into effect from 27th December 2020, and will supersede Circular AT 14/2020 – Issue 05 dated 17th December 2020.



Hussain Jaleel
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

