

CIRCULAR

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2021/99

Date: 27th December 2021

To: All Tourist Facilities

Subject: Update on Travel Restrictions regarding the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to our Circular Number **88-PS/CIR/2021/92** (28th November 2021) and Announcement Number (**IUL**)**23-L/452/2021/12** published on **26th December 2021**, by Health Protection Agency (HPA).

Pursuant to the HPA announcement, it has been decided to implement below additional measures effective 26th December 2021.

- a) All travelers to Maldives should hold a negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for Covid-19 prior to entry in to the Maldives, including those who have completed the prescribed dose(s) of Covid-19 vaccines. The sample for the PCR test must be taken at most 96 hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- b) Travelers **excluding tourists** shall undertake a PCR test for Covid-19 within the $3^{rd} 5^{th}$ day of arrival to Maldives.
- c) Maldivians and Work permit holders who have not completed the prescribed dose(s) of Covid-19 vaccines shall undergo a mandatory travel quarantine of 14 days followed by PCR testing for Covid-19 upon completion of this 14 day period.

Additionally, please be informed that the suspension on the entry for travelers (*excluding Maldivians and Work permit holders*) arriving from the South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho and Eswatini, has been lifted effective 26th December 2021.

We take this opportunity to thank all tourist facilities for the support & cooperation extended at all times. For further clarification, please contact our Situation Monitoring Unit (SMU) on (+960) 9423131 or email us at smu@tourism.gov.mv.

Yours sincerely

Ali Razzan

Senior Executive Director