

CIRCULAR

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2021/92

Date: 28th November 2021

To: All Tourist Facilities

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to the **Announcement Number (IUL) 23-L/23/2021/306** published on the on **27th November 2021**, by Health Protection Agency (HPA). With the authority vested with Director General of Public Health under the clause number 34 and 12 of the Public Health Act 7/2012, it has been decided to implement the following measures for those arriving from **South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho and Eswatini**, effective **28th November 2021** until further notice;

- 1. To suspend the entry for travelers (excluding Maldivians and Work permit holders) arriving from the aforementioned countries (including those who have been in any of these countries in the past 14 (fourteen) days and who have been in transit for more than 12 (twelve) hours).
- 2. Maldivians and Work permit holders arriving from the aforementioned countries should undergo mandatory travel quarantine of 14 days as per the guidelines set forth by HPA, and will be released on receiving a negative PCR test result for Covid-19 upon completion of 14 (fourteen) days of travel quarantine; irrespective of presenting a valid negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID-19 upon entry into the Maldives including those who have completed the prescribed dose(s) of Covid-19 vaccines and recovered from Covid-19.
- 3. Those who have started their travel en route Maldives or those who have entered Maldives in the past 14 (fourteen) days from the aforementioned countries, effective 28th November 2021 at 0000hrs. should ensure below;
 - **3.1.** Undergo a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for Covid-19
 - **3.2.** Travelers spending a period of <u>14 (fourteen) days or longer</u> in the Maldives should undergo a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for Covid- 19 soon after the completion of 14 (fourteen) days.
 - **3.3.** If the period of stay is less than 14 (fourteen) days, it is mandatory for travelers to undergo a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for Covid- 19 (only if the duration exceeds 72hrs from the time of PCR test mentioned in 3.1).



Additionally, we also request all tourist facilities to inform us via email to smu@tourism.gov.mv, the departure dates of any in-house guests from the aforementioned countries in the format below.

Name:	
Nationality:	
Passport Number:	
Date of Arrival:	
Date of Departure & Flight No:	
Current Tourist Facility:	

We regret any inconveniences caused in our endeavor to make tourism in the Maldives the safest possible with minimum inconvenience, and as always, take this opportunity to thank all tourist facilities for the support & cooperation extended to us 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