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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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UGANDA.

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

In any correspondence on
this subject please quote no: **PRO/380/04**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions, International Organizations and Honorary Consuls accredited to Uganda and has the honour to refer to earlier note reference no. PRO/161/305/01 dated 1st April, 2020 on measures put in place by the Government to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and inform as follows;

1. With effect from 1st October, 2020, the Government has revised arrival and departure measures at all borders of Uganda and Entebbe International Airport.
2. Entebbe International airport and Uganda's borders are open to tourists and business community class, coming in and going out. However they must have tested negative for COVID - 19 72 hours before arrival into Uganda.
3. Tour operators are required to ensure that tourists follow the standard operating procedures including wearing masks, social distancing and avoid crowded places and meetings.
4. The Immigration Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs has resumed visa and permits facilitations.
5. Immigration shall no longer retain travelers' documents like passports or require clearance from Ministries of; Foreign Affairs, Works and Health for the following categories;
 - a) Foreign nationals with valid resident facilities that include; Certificates of residence, work permit, special passes, dependent passes and Refugees with Uganda CTDs.
 - b) Students/pupils who are finalists in Ugandan schools, colleges and institutions. Entry shall be granted to those that have valid facilities or whose applications for the Pupil/Student Pass have been approved by the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control.

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- c) All Residents whose immigration facilities expired while out of the country are advised to apply for renewal of the facilities and only come after they have been approved and paid for.
6. All persons requiring visas to enter Uganda will be responsible for ensuring that they have the appropriate entry visa in time for their arrival. Further details are available on the Uganda Immigration website (www.visas.immigration.go.ug).
 7. For none visa exempt nationalities it is advisable to submit online visa application a fortnight before the expected date of arrival.
 8. Arrivals from visa fee exempt countries need to have a tour plan, travel itinerary, valid passports, COVID-19 negative test result and yellow fever vaccination.
 9. Additional arrangements have been made for travelers who are unable to access the visa online system to obtain entry Visas on arrival.

Please note that nationalities that are **visa prone** who opt for visa on arrival will bear the inconvenience of queuing at the bank to pay for the entry visa fees upon arrival at the port of entry and then proceed for immigration border control clearance.

On exit;

10. All tourists and other categories who were already in the country and were unable to exit due to the travel restrictions in the COVID-19 pandemic situation shall be allowed to exit. However, those who could have been in the country illegally before the lockdown are advised to validate the visas at Immigration Headquarters before they travel.
11. There shall be no exit permitted at any of Ugandan borders for foreign nationals who seek to start their journeys in Uganda to a country except those who are residents in Uganda (third country rule).
12. Where applicable, persons exiting the country at point of departure will be required to present a certificate of COVID-19 negative results with 72 hours validity.

Port Health regulations;

All arriving passengers at border points whose body temperature is not above 37.5° C (99.5°F); do not have a persistent cough, difficulty in breathing or other flu-like symptoms; have negative PCR based COVID –

b

19 test carried out within 72 hours before travel shall be exempt from quarantine.

- i. For passengers presenting with symptoms at the border points without a test result, a sample will be collected and the individual will be required to quarantine at his/her cost at facilities designated by the Ministry of Health until the results are returned. If they turn out positive, the individual will be taken to isolation facility for medical treatment.
- ii. Testing of any of the recent travelers will be symptom based, in the event that they develop symptoms consistent with COVID -19.
- iii. Contacts to recent travelers that develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be advised to self-quarantine for 14 days and tested if symptomatic. The contacts that are in the high risk category will be prioritized for testing to ensure early diagnosis and management.
- iv. The most vulnerable individuals will be prioritized for tracking, testing and care if infected.
- v. Self-isolation and self-management, under well-defined Standard Operating Procedures and clear referral pathways will be instituted for the asymptomatic non-high risk individuals
- vi. Health facility-based isolation and care will be preserved for the moderately, severely and critically ill case-patients.
- vii. Consideration will be made for auxiliary non-health facility based isolation and management of mild cases especially among the high risk categories.
- viii. All crew shall be exempt from quarantine after operating any flight if they have negative PCR based COVID – 19 test carried out within 14 days before travel, their body temperature is not above 37.5° C (99.5°F); do not exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 and there is no suspected case of COVID-19 on their flight. With a suspected case of COVID-19 on the flight, the crew shall be quarantined at home or designated facility. If results are negative they shall be allowed to resume normal duties.
- ix. The air operators shall be responsible for ensuring: the passengers are tested prior to travel; proper screening; medical briefing and reporting any cases to the relevant authorities.
- x. For those passengers traveling out of the country, they will be required to have an Authentic Valid Negative PCR test Certificate and abide by the particular travel, health and COVID-19 related requirements of the Destination Country.



Travel to and from Entebbe airport during curfew hours;

Passengers arriving on flights after the curfew, with a valid Air Ticket and Boarding Pass shall be allowed to proceed to their hotels and/or residences.

- a) Drivers should have evidence that they have come from the Airport to drop or pick up passengers
- b) Passengers departing on flights after the curfew, with a valid Air Ticket and Boarding Pass shall be allowed to proceed to their departure airport.

Civil Aviation Authority regulations;

Uganda Civil Aviation Authority is reviewing frequency and timing of flights to facilitate physical distancing at the Airport.

- a) In case of Diplomatic flights requests and special flights by Diplomatic Missions, such requests shall continue to be channeled through Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- b) Access to VIP Lounge at Entebbe airport for Diplomats will be after completion of all Port Health Procedures on arrival and departure.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the All Diplomatic Missions, International Organizations and Honorary Consuls accredited to Uganda the assurances of its highest consideration.

Kampala: 1st October, 2019

All Diplomatic Missions,
International Organizations and Honorary Consuls
KAMPALA

