



Tuvalu

CORONAVIRUS PROTECTION MEASURES REGULATION 2020

March 5, 2020



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LN 5 of 2020

MADE UNDER SECTION 4 OF THE EMERGENCIES AND
THREATENED EMERGENCIES (SPECIAL POWERS) ACT.

1 Citation

This Regulation may be cited as the Coronavirus Protection Measures Regulation 2020.

2 Commencement

This Regulation comes into force on the date of publication.

3 Interpretation

In this Regulation, unless the context otherwise requires;-

“Act” means the Emergencies and Threatened Emergencies Special Power Act

“COVID-19” means the novel Coronavirus referred to in these Regulations.

“High-Risk Countries” refers to the countries listed in the notice issued by the Minister from time to time under section 4 of this Regulation.

“Minister” means the Minister responsible.

“Passenger” means any person intending to travel to Tuvalu.

“Suspected person” any person showing signs and symptoms the COVID-19, including a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius and above, after being screened at ports of entry with the Infrared handheld thermometer.

“Taskforce” means the National Preparedness and Response Taskforce.

PART 1 - ADMINISTRATION

4 The Minister

- (1) The Minister responsible shall be the Minister responsible for Immigration.
- (2) The Minister may;
 - (a) issue, by notice, the list of high risk countries from time to time;
 - (b) issue International Travel Advisories, travel restrictions and other directives as are reasonably necessary to give effect to this Regulation;
 - (c) waive any travel restrictions for humanitarian reasons or any other reasons as the Minister deems necessary.

5 National Preparedness and Response Taskforce

- (1) There shall be established a National Preparedness and Response Taskforce for the purpose of this Regulation.
- (2) The taskforce shall consist of Cabinet Ministers, all relevant Border control agencies, enforcement agencies, Non-Government Organisations, Private and civil sectors, community leaders and others as determined by the Minister responsible.

6 Purpose of the Taskforce

The purpose of the Taskforce is to;

- (1) Develop a Preparedness and Response Plan;
- (2) Develop preventive measures and coordinate efforts at all levels to prevent COVID-19 from reaching Tuvalu;
- (3) Coordinate responses to any suspected cases, local transmission and outbreak in the country;
- (4) Advise all relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies of any latest COVID-19 information, risk assessments and all implementation measures prescribed under these Regulations and related protocols.
- (5) Provide information and awareness to the general public through radio, television, printed materials and other media platforms;
- (6) Provide a situation analysis of the current capacity of Tuvalu to address COVID-19;
- (7) Deliberate on the conditions necessary for the declaration of a State of emergency;
- (8) Coordinate meetings to review the situation of the COVID-19.

(9) Coordinate compulsory health screening at Nausori, Nadi and Tarawa of all passengers intending to travel to Tuvalu.

PART 2 – PROTECTION MEASURES FOR IN-BOUND TRAVELLERS AND CRAFTS

7 Conditions for in-bound passengers

- (1) Any person who intends to travel to Tuvalu from a high risk country must remain in self-isolation in a country, other than a high risk country, for at least 14 days before travelling to Tuvalu.
- (2) The airline operating at the port of departure shall refuse the travel of any person who fails to comply with Regulation 7(1).
- (3) Any airline that permits the travel of any passenger in respect of whom Regulation 7(1) applies, shall, by order of the Minister, return the passenger on the same flight at the expense of the airline.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with the conditions of Regulation 7(1), may, subject to the Minister's discretion;
 - (a) be referred to isolation procedures established by the Taskforce; or
 - (b) be subjected to turn-around orders at the expense of the airline.
- (4) Any person who intends to travel to Tuvalu from a high risk country must obtain medical clearance from Fiji or Kiribati, whichever is the relevant point of transit, at least 3 days before travelling to Tuvalu, and must present the medical clearance to the Environmental Health Officer on arrival to Tuvalu.
- (5) Any person who fails to comply with the provision of this Regulation commits an offence and is liable to fine of \$200.
- (6) Any airline who fails to comply with the condition of Regulation 7(2)&(3) commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$500.

8 Conditions for arrivals at the airports

- (1) Any passenger arriving into Tuvalu on airplanes must fill in the required Supplementary Health Form for COVID-19, either on the plane or on arrival to the airport, and present it to the Environmental Health Officer at the point of entry.
- (2) Any person who fails to comply with this Regulation commits an offence and is liable upon conviction to a fine of \$500.

9 Conditions for entry at the Seaport

- (1) Any ship intending to enter Tuvalu must provide, through the shipping agent and in 24 hours prior to arrival, the following information prior to arrival;
 - (a) the places visited by the ship in the last 14 days prior to arrival in Tuvalu;
 - (b) the number of crews, if any, who boarded the vessel within 14 days prior to entering Tuvalu port;
 - (c) the ship's last port of entry;
 - (d) any person with recent travel history to China or any high-risk country;
 - (e) any suspected cases of FLU-like symptoms on board during the voyage.
- (2) Any ship that fails to comply with this Regulation is not permitted to enter the port and is subjected to turn-around orders from the Minister.
- (3) Any ship that fails to comply with conditions of this Regulation and enters the Port commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$2000.

PART 3 – HEALTH PROTECTION MEASURES AT PORTS OF ENTRY**10 Procedures at the airport**

- (1) The Environmental Health Officer must carry out the following compulsory Health procedures at the point of entry;
 - (a) Check each Supplementary Health Form for COVID-19 is completed by any person intending to enter Tuvalu;
 - (b) Test each passenger using the Infrared handheld thermometer;
 - (c) Immediately refer any person with a travel history to any high-risk country without quarantine to isolation procedures.
 - (d) Immediately refer any suspected person to the attending doctor to carry out further checks
- (2) The Medical Doctor in attendance at the airport must comply with the protocol for suspected persons and re-check the temperature with the Infrared handheld thermometer and carry out further travel and clinical history taking.
- (3) The attending Doctor at the airport and his or her designated team must escort any persons suspected of COVID-19 to the designated isolation area as prescribed in the Health airport protocol for COVID-19.

11 Procedures at the Seaport

- (1) The Health surveillance officers must board all vessels and carry out the following procedures at the port of entry;
 - (a) Check each Supplementary Health Form for COVID-19 is completed by each passenger
 - (b) Test each passenger using the Infrared handheld thermometer;
 - (c) Refer any suspected persons to further travel and clinical history taking, or other isolation procedures.
- (2) Any suspected person, carrying a Tuvaluan passport, must be quarantined for at least 14 days in the designated isolation area.

12 Conditions for suspected cases

- (1) Any person suspected of COVID-19 must comply with all Health procedures in respect of imported cases.
- (2) A person suspected of COVID-19 must remain in the designated isolation area and must comply with all protection and preventive measures until such time as the person is declared safe to be discharged.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with this Regulation commits an offence and is liable upon conviction to \$500.
- (4) Any suspected person who is ordered to return on the same airplane must comply with the turn-around procedures.

PART 4 – PENALTIES**13 General Penalties**

For the purpose of this Regulation, any person who:

- (a) falsely declares his Arrival Cards;
- (b) falsely declare his Supplementary Health Form for COVID-19; or
- (b) is in contravention of this Regulation

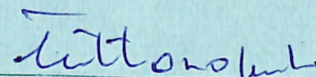
shall be liable upon conviction to a fine of \$1000.

PART 5 - MISCELLANEOUS

14 Repeal

This Regulation repeals the Coronavirus Protection Measures Regulation 2020.

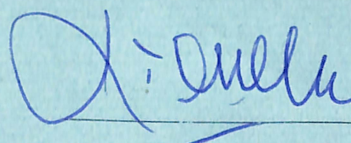
Made at Funafuti this _____ day of March, 2020.



TENIKU TALESI

Acting Governor General

Published by exhibition at the public office of the Government this 12th day of March 2020.



TINE LEUELU

Secretary to Government