

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE TO BELGIUM AND MISSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

TRAVELLING GUIDELINES FOR SIERRA LEONE (COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE)

Freetown 13th March 2020

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation of the Republic of Sierra Leone is pleased to inform Diplomatic Missions, International Organizations and the general public, about the following precautionary measures:

- 1. All Citizens and residents in Sierra Leone are strongly advised to postpone intended travel to any country, which has reported confirmed case (s) of COVID 19, with or without community transmission until the outbreak is halted, unless it is absolutely necessary. For those who cannot postpone intended travel, we urge you to observe all necessary precautionary measures instituted by the means of travel and the host country.
- 2. Travelers arriving at any point of Entry (POE) in Sierra Leone with any of the following signs and symptoms will be immediately taken into isolation facility for investigation and management:
 - a. Fever above 37.5 °C
 - b. Persistent cough
 - c. Difficult breathing
- **3.** Travelers from countries with less than 50 confirmed cases will be documented and followed-up by designated surveillance officers/contact

tracers at home for a period of 14 days to ensure compliance with surveillance procedures.

- 4. Travelers arriving at any point of Entry in Sierra Leone from countries with 50 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 at any point in time will have to undergo either of the two quarantine methods:
 - a. Travelers whose embassies/missions/organizations have identified an isolation facility verified by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation will be taken to the facility to be quarantined for a period of 14 days Embassies/missions/organizations who opt for this method will be responsible for safe transportation from the point of Entry to the identified facility. The Embassy/mission/organizations should provide the names and expected date of arrival of these travelers at least three days before arrival and will be responsible for all expenses incurred during the quarantine processes (Please contact +232 76 657703 for more details)
 - b. All other persons will be taken to the MANDATORY QUARANTINE FACILITY managed by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and observed for a period of 14 days.
- 5. We strongly recommend that individuals intending to visit Sierra Leone from countries with 200 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 should consider deferring their visits during this critical period. However, if they have very crucial or essential functions to perform in the country, they may visit but will still be quarantined as required.
- 6. All passengers who arrive with a Laissez-passer/emergency travel certificate/ID card will be immediately taken to the quarantine facility for secondary screening. If there is any suspicion of an illegal attempt to undermine the process, such a visitor will be kept in the designated quarantine facility for 14 days.
- **7.** This advisory will come to effect on Monday 16th March 2020 till further notice.

Stamped and Signed.