



## Ministry of Health & Medical Services

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July 2022

#### KIRIBATI ENTRY: INFORMATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

##### **Pre-departure Briefing:**

Provided herein is the information for individuals who will be travelling to Kiribati. It is a national requirement from Ministry of Health & Medical Services (MHMS) Kiribati that this pre-travel information is comprehensively understood, accepted, and agreed to by all traveler's prior arrival in Kiribati. At the end of this briefing is the agreement section (page 5) and health declaration (page 6), for each traveler to sign to comply with Kiribati Covid safety procedures. The signed agreements will need to be returned to these email address; [covidentry@mhms.gov.ki](mailto:covidentry@mhms.gov.ki) at MHMS for approval and endorsement of entry to Kiribati. These documents will also be checked upon arrival.

##### **Background:**

Kiribati declares an outbreak of Covid-19 on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2022 since the arrival of repatriated nationals and expats on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. A sheer number of repatriates were detected positive on arrival and despite stringent measures in place and after multiple repatriation flights, covid19 virus finally leaked to the community after confirmation of a case outside quarantine on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. As of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022, the cumulative cases were recorded just over 3000. Genome sequencing in Australia confirms Omicron (B1) as the culprit. The outbreak peaked in the first week of February with continuous declining of new cases. Recent genome sequencing confirmed the co-transmission of B1 and B2. The government had lifted curfew hours however, key public health measures and advice to prevent covid transmission remains. Kiribati has been expediting repatriation missions and entry of citizens and approved expatriate travelers by sea since April 2020 and by air since September 2020. As Kiribati is recovering from the current outbreak, preparation for a second wave is prudent, therefore border opening should take into consideration national health capacity, surveillance capability, vaccination coverage and the epidemiological situation at national and regional level. Inbound travel will continue under new measures in place in line with post covid mitigation and adaptation approach to live with covid-19 virus. In line with cabinet decision, from the 9<sup>th</sup> of July borders will be open allowing travelers to enter without mandatory quarantine and without pre-departure testing. Kiribati will continue to put in risk mitigation measures to prevent the risk of importation of VOC SARS COV2 into the country. Although most of the public health measures are lifted, it is critical that testing upon arrival continues for the purpose of surveillance and genome sequencing.

It is mandatory for all travelers to comply with the Covid safety procedures of entering Kiribati.

For protection of the nation and in accordance with *Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulation 2020*, an individual who breaches the procedures spelled out in this SOP will be liable, to 1 year imprisonment OR

\$2 000 AUD cash penalty. All incoming travelers are deemed as potential Covid19 exposures thus the Covid safety processes pre-departure and on arrival in Kiribati as below.

**\*WHO December 2020; Covid19 symptoms: Suspected Covid19 case definition:**

**1. New onset of Fever AND cough.....OR**

**2. New/acute onset of any 3 or more of the following:**

***Fever, cough, general weakness/fatigue, headache, sore throat, coryza, difficulty breathing, anorexia/nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, altered mental status, change of taste.***

**Pre-departure checklist**

Before you travel to Kiribati it is a mandatory requirement to provide the listed documents to [covidentry@mhms.gov.ki](mailto:covidentry@mhms.gov.ki) and to be presented to health officials upon arrival. If you have symptoms consistent with Covid-19, please refrain from travelling to protect other passengers.

**English language or certified translation**

1. Full vaccination certificate for WHO EUL vaccine (2<sup>nd</sup> dose received at least 14 days before travel, below 18 years are exempted from vaccination until further notice)
2. Signed declaration and agreement to the health SOP\_(page 5)
3. Health Declaration form (free of Covid symptoms recent 14 days), page 6.
4. As applicable, if within recent 90 days of Covid infection, a certification/clearance medical report from recognized institution.

**Flight crews and pilots**

- Full vaccination certificate.
- Negative Covid test results as per airline covid test SOP

**Airline involved**

- Needs to comply with IATA guidance on covid safety measures on cleaning, disinfection and cabin operations.

**Covid safety measures information.**

- All travelers will wear face masks in departure terminal, in flight and at arrival in Tarawa. If wet mask, change to new one. Masks must be always worn correctly, covering nose and mouth fully. They should only be briefly removed to drink or eat. Masks must be worn by all those over the age of 5 years. Children under the age of 5 years are exempted, or anyone with medical exemption.
- Frequent hand washing with water and soap or alcohol-based hand rub.
- Keep social distancing at check in terminal.
- All travelers must be sober on day of travel.
- Congregating in aisles is forbidden

### **Arrival at Tarawa Airport**

- Passengers will disembark keeping to social distancing
- Disembarkation will be coordinated by ground health frontline team.
- Keep face mask on at all times.
- Hand hygiene with alcohol rub before entry to immigration and customs sections
- All checked in luggage will be collected on arrival
- Health declaration and other required documents as per the pre-departure checklist will be presented upon arrival to health team.
- Health check by health team will be carried out at the airport. All incoming passengers will be tested with PCR upon arrival
- Results will be provided and can be accessed through 555 hot line or through a link provided on the information card. Result can be checked after 24 to 48 hours of collection (The turnaround time changes from time to time)

### **Immigration and Customs**

- Staff should wear N-95 mask at all times
- Frequent hand hygiene
- Maintain 1-meter social distancing

### **Home**

- All travelers are required to remain at home for at least three days, or until the results are available, based on the turnaround time. This could take up to 48 hours.
- Avoid visiting multiple households and participating in social gatherings or high-risk settings.
- Individuals with a positive PCR test will be notified and advised of measures immediately and to conduct home isolation as per WHO recommendations. 10 days from day of positive result if symptomatic or 10 days plus 3 days without symptoms from onset of symptoms.
- For the purpose of strain/variant surveillance, all positive samples will be stored and referred overseas for whole genome sequencing.
- Contacts will be traced and managed appropriately.
- All to observe infection prevention control measures
  - Social distancing
  - Mask wearing
  - Regular hand washing with water and soap
- Anyone developing suspected symptoms of Covid-19 will call 555/556/194. Covid surveillance team will be notified. The person should self-isolate and wear mask

### **Travelers/Seafarers coming by sea vessels from all countries/ports**

- All to disembark for testing upon arrival with PCR. The health team will coordinate with agencies timing and sites for testing. (Refer to advise under At Home section above for guidance)
- Full vaccination certificate\*
- Signed declaration and agreement to the health SOP\_(page 5).
- Health Declaration form (free of Covid symptoms recent 14 days), page 6.

*\*Covid test and Covid vaccination certificate requirements can be exempted to ships which are verified to be mainly at sea and do not frequent ports where vaccination is carried out eg. Fishing vessels.*

**Declaration and Agreement to the Health SOP for entry to Kiribati.**

I hereby declare that the above information is clear and well understood. I will abide by all the requirements under the *Infectious Disease Regulation 2020* and all the Covid safety protocols as above. I understand I will be liable to prosecution with a fine of \$2,000 AUD or imprisonment of 1 year if I breach any of the above terms.

Signature.....

MHMS Rep.....

Name.....

Name.....

Date.....

Designation/Date:.....





Ministry of Health & Medical Services  
Republic of Kiribati  
ARRIVAL DOCUMENT



Phone: 686 74028100

email: secretary@mhms.gov.ki

HEALTH DECLARATION FORM

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O. B \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Port of departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address in Kiribati \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you had the following symptoms within the past 14 days? Tick

Fever	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Cough	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulty Breathing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Running nose	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Fatigue	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Nausea/vomiting	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Headache	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Diarrhea	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Muscle cramp	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Sore Throat	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>				Altered mental state	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

2. List countries with country states visited in the past 30 days:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you had any contact with a covid-19 infected person in the past 14 days?  Yes  No

4. I declare the above information to be accurate

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**This is a legal document and giving false information and failure to complete is a criminal offence**