

COVID-19 HANDLING TASK FORCE

CIRCULAR LETTER

NUMBER 3 OF 2022

REGARDING

**HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS WITH THE TRAVEL
BUBBLE MECHANISM IN BATAM, BINTAN, WITH SINGAPORE DURING THE CORONA
VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

A. BACKGROUND

1. That in order to follow up the situation dynamics of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus as well as efforts to restore the national economy, a productive tourism sector will be reopened safe from Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
2. That the reopening of the tourism sector will be carried out through a travel bubble mechanism in Batam and Bintan areas with Singapore, it is necessary to have a control mechanism for the implementation of the travel bubble to anticipate the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
3. That every party involved in the travel bubble mechanism in the Batam and Bintan areas with Singapore must strictly comply with health protocols and pay attention to regulations or policies that have been set by the government.
4. That based on the considerations as referred to in number 1 number 2, and number 3, it is necessary to stipulate a Circular Letter regarding Health Protocols for International Travelers with the Travel Bubble Mechanism in Batam, Bintan, with Singapore During the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic.

B. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to implement health protocols for international travelers with the travel bubble mechanism in the Batam and Bintan areas with Singapore. The objective of this Circular is to monitor, control, and evaluate the implementation of the travel bubble tourism in the Batam and Bintan areas with Singapore in order to prevent the increase of COVID-19 transmission including the new and future variants of SARS-CoV-2.

C. Scope

The scope of this Circular Letter is the Health Protocols for International Travelers with the Travel Bubble Mechanism in Batam, Bintan, with Singapore during the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic.

D. Legal Basis

1. Law Number 4 of 1984 regarding Infectious Disease Outbreaks;
2. Law Number 24 of 2007 regarding Disaster Management;
3. Law Number 6 of 2011 regarding Immigration;
4. Law Number 6 of 2018 regarding Health Quarantine;
5. Government Regulation Number 21 of 2008 regarding Enactment of Disaster Management;
6. Government Regulation Number 21 of 2020 regarding Large Scale Social Distancing to Accelerate the Handling of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
7. Presidential Regulation Number 1 of 2019 regarding the National Agency for Disaster Management, as amended by Presidential Regulation Number 29 of 2021 regarding Amendment for Presidential Regulation Number 1 of 2019 regarding the National Agency of Disaster Management;
8. Presidential Regulation Number 82 of 2020 regarding the Committee for Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and National Economic Recovery, as amended by Presidential Regulation Number 108 of 2020 regarding Amendment for Presidential Regulation Number 82 of 2020 regarding the Committee for Handling Corona Virus and Recovery of the National Economy;
9. Presidential Decree Number 11 of 2020 regarding the Declaration of the National Public Health Emergency Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19);
10. Presidential Decree Number 12 of 2020 regarding the Declaration of Non-Natural Disaster of the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) as a National Disaster;
11. Presidential Decree Number 24 of 2021 regarding the Stipulation of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) Pandemic Factual Status in Indonesia;

12. Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 34 of 2021 regarding the Granting of Immigration Visa and Stay Permits During the Period of Handling the Corona Virus Disease 2019 and National Economic Recovery; and
13. Resolution of the Limited Cabinet Meeting dated January 19, 2022.

E. Definitions

1. International Travelers (*Pelaku Perjalanan Luar Negeri* or PPLN) with the travel bubble mechanism in the Batam and Bintan areas with Singapore are Indonesian Citizens (*Warga Negara Indonesia* or WNI) and Foreign Citizens (*Warga Negara Asing* or WNA) travelers who will carry out tourism activities in Bintan and Batam areas, originating from Singapore and have stayed in Singapore for a minimum of 14 days.
2. Travel bubble is a travel corridor system that aims to divide participants into different groups (bubbles) by separating participants or someone who has a risk of being exposed to COVID-19 (either from contact history or history of traveling to areas where community transmission has occurred) from the general public, accompanied by restrictions on interaction only to people in the same group (bubble) and the application of quarantine principles to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19.
3. Reverse-Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction hereinafter referred to as RT-PCR is a diagnostic test which detects the genetic material of the virus based on a certain sample, such as *nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal* swab test, by using the reverse-transcriptase enzyme and polymerase chain reaction.
4. Quarantine is an effort to temporarily separate a healthy person or people who have been exposed to COVID-19 (either from a history of contact or a history of traveling to areas where community transmission has occurred) even though they have not shown any symptoms or are in an extended incubation period to ensure that there are no symptoms and prevent possible spread to others.
5. Isolation is an attempt of temporary separation of someone who is sick and requires COVID-19 treatment based on diagnostic results, from healthy people with the aim of reducing risk of transmission.
6. Health Insurance is proof of ownership of a guarantee to the insured to reimburse any costs in relation to COVID-19, including costs for treatment, surgery, and medicines.

7. Vaccination Certificate is a physical document or digital evidence that a series of vaccinations have been received by the holder.
8. Community transmission is a condition of high transmission that is detected between residents in an area whose source of transmission can come from within and/or outside the region.
9. A confirmed positive case of COVID-19 without symptoms is a person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 and has no clinical symptoms.
10. A positive confirmed case of COVID-19 with mild symptoms is a person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 with symptoms such as fever, cough, fatigue, anorexia, shortness of breath, myalgia, and other non-specific symptoms, without evidence of viral pneumonia or without hypoxia.
11. A positive confirmed case of COVID-19 with moderate symptoms is a person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 with clinical signs of pneumonia such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, and rapid breathing without signs of severe pneumonia such as oxygen saturation below 93% in room air.
12. A positive confirmed case of COVID-19 with severe symptoms is a person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 with clinical signs of pneumonia such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, and rapid breathing, accompanied by one of the symptoms, namely a respiratory rate above 30 times per minute, severe respiratory distress, or oxygen saturation below 93% in room air.
13. Medical evacuation is an act of mobilization with medical emergency standards for people who are confirmed positive for COVID-19 based on RT-PCR examinations from an area to a treatment referral hospital.

F. Protocol

1. International Travelers(PPLN)with the travel bubble mechanism enter the Batam and Bintan areas through the following entrances:
 - a. Nongsapura International Ferry Terminal to enter the travel bubble area of Nongsa Sensation, Batam; and
 - b. Bandar BintanTelani Ferry Terminal to enter the travel bubble area of Lagoi Bintan Resort, Bintan.

2. Upon arrival at the entrance to the travel bubble area of Batam and Bintan, all PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism must comply with the following conditions/requirements:
 - a. Show the card or certificate (physical or digital) of receiving full dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 (fourteen) days before departure written in English other than the language of the originating country/region of arrival, and verification on the website of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia or International e-HAC of Indonesia;
 - b. Show negative results through RT-PCR examination in the country/region of origin whose samples were taken within a maximum period of 3 x 24 hours before departure and attached at the time of the health check or International e-HAC of Indonesia;
 - c. Show a tourist visit visa or other entry permit in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, except for Singaporean WNA;
 - d. Show proof of booking confirmation and booking payment for the travel bubble tourism package in the Lagoi Bintan Resort or Nongsa Sensation areas;
 - e. For WNA, show proof of health insurance ownership with a minimum coverage value of SGD 30,000 which includes financing for handling COVID-19 and medical evacuation to a referral hospital;
 - f. Use the *PeduliLindungi* and Bluepass applications during activities in the travel bubble area;
 - g. Carry out body temperature checks and RT-PCR checks upon arrival at the entrance to the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintan;
 - h. In the event that the results of the RT-PCR examination upon arrival at the entrance as referred to in letter g show negative results, the PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism can continue the journey by following these procedures:
 - 1) Inspection of immigration documents and customs documents;
 - 2) Baggage collection and baggage disinfection; and
 - 3) Pick-up and drop-off of tourists to the location of the tourist destination accommodation.
 - i. In the event that the results of the RT-PCR examination upon arrival at the entrance as referred to in letter g show positive results, then this will be followed up with the following provisions:

- 1) For travelers who are confirmed positive without symptoms or experience mild symptoms, they will be isolated or treated in an isolation accommodation separate from the travel bubble area, with all costs being borne independently by the WNA or borne by the government for WNI.
 - 2) For travelers who are confirmed positive with moderate or severe symptoms, they will be isolated or treated at a referral hospital with the entire cost being borne independently by the WNA or borne by the government for WNI; or
 - 3) Carry out a medical evacuation to the referral hospital in accordance with the procedures established by the destination referral hospital.
3. While in the travel bubble area of Batam and Bintan, all PPLN travel bubble mechanism must comply with the following conditions/requirements:
- a. Only allowed to interact with tourists or parties who are in one travel bubble area;
 - b. Only allowed to carry out activities in the determined zone in accordance with the settled itinerary;
 - c. Report to health workers within the travel bubble area when experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 to be tested for COVID-19 by an RT-PCR examination; and
 - d. Comply with the mechanisms of close contact tracing, isolation and quarantine applicable in Indonesia if a positive case of COVID-19 is found in the relevant travel bubble area.
4. Officers and employees at facilities or infrastructure within the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintan are required to comply with the following conditions/requirements:
- a. Show the card or certificate (physical or digital) of receiving full dose of COVID-19 vaccine;
 - b. Work with a shift schedule for 14 days and stay overnight in the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintan during the shift schedule;
 - c. Show negative results through a RT-PCR examination taken within a maximum period of 3 x 24 hours before starting the shift schedule;
 - d. Conduct RT-PCR examination before entering the travel bubble area;
 - e. Report to health workers within the travel bubble area when experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 to be tested for COVID-19 by RT-PCR examination;

- f. Carry out RT-PCR examination on the 13th day to complete the work shift schedule;
 - g. It is allowed to return or to leave the travel bubble area after obtaining a negative result of the RT-PCR examination as referred to in letter f; and
 - h. Comply with the mechanisms of close contact tracing, isolation and quarantine applicable in Indonesia if a positive case of COVID-19 is found in the relevant travel bubble area.
5. Mechanisms for tracing close contacts, isolation, and quarantine if a PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism, officers, or employees is found positive for COVID-19 during tourism activities in the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintan are carried out with the following conditions:
- a. For positive cases of COVID-19 without symptoms or experiencing mild symptoms, isolation or treatment will be carried out in isolation accommodation separate from the travel bubble area;
 - b. For positive cases of COVID-19 with moderate or severe symptoms, isolation or treatment is carried out at a referral hospital;
 - c. The cost of isolation or treatment for positive cases of COVID-19 as referred to in letters a and b for WNA is entirely borne independently, for hotel officers and employees is borne by the hotel management, and for non-hotel staff WNI is borne by the government;
 - d. Carry out medical evacuation to the referral hospital in accordance with the procedures established by the destination referral hospital; and
 - e. Close contact tracing was carried out on all participants in the same group (bubble) with the positive COVID-19 case based on the mechanism established and implemented by the local Health Office.
6. All parties involved in the travel bubble mechanism are required to apply strict health protocols while in the travel bubble area as follows:
- a. Use a 3-ply cloth mask or medical mask that covers the nose, mouth and chin;
 - b. Change masks regularly every four hours, and dispose of waste masks in the places provided;
 - c. Wash hands regularly using water and soap or hand sanitizer, especially after touching objects touched by other people;

- d. Maintain a minimum distance of 1.5 meters from other people and avoid crowds;
and
 - e. Use the *PeduliLindungi* application during activities in the travel bubble area.
7. All PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism are required to follow the health protocols or requirements for international travelers that apply in the destination country/region when returning to Singapore.
8. The facilities or infrastructure used in the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintan must comply with the following conditions/requirements:
- a. Have a support staff that at least includes the following:
 - 1) Operational personnel for security and supervision of health protocols;
 - 2) Health care workers are at least doctors and nurses; and
 - 3) Supporting personnel for implementing health protocols are at least administrative staff, cleaning staff, and cooks.
 - b. Have a monitoring system for the implementation of health protocols such as TV cameras;
 - c. Have accommodation rooms that meet the following conditions:
 - 1) Have adequate windows or ventilation;
 - 2) Have adequate lighting;
 - 3) Have covered and plastic bins for infectious waste;
 - 4) Have a room mat that is easy to clean; and
 - 5) Have a bathroom in each room.
 - d. Have accommodation rooms that can be used for more than one person or family and meet the requirements as referred to in letter c;
 - e. Have an area that functions for taking specimens and observing health, equipped with at least a body temperature measuring device, stethoscope, sphygmomanometer, oximeter, medicines, and other basic medical equipment;
 - f. Have an area that functions as a drop-off and pick-up point, a registration area, a decontamination or disinfection area, an area for outdoor activities, an area for collecting or examining specimens, and a place for health checks;
 - g. Have a separate quarantine and isolation room from the travel bubble area as an area for the implementation of quarantine and isolation for PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism as well as officers and employees in facilities or infrastructure within the travel bubble area;

- h. Have a special break room for support personnel who are directly involved in monitoring, supervising, and implementing health protocols;
 - i. Have waste disposal facilities that meet environmental sanitation standards, which at least meet the following conditions:
 - 1) Segregated between organic and inorganic waste;
 - 2) Available in sufficient quantity; and
 - 3) There are temporary waste disposal sites (*tempat pembuangan sampah sementara* or TPS) and hazardous and toxic waste disposal sites (*bahan berbahaya dan beracun* or B3).
 - j. Have equipment and disinfectant materials; and
 - k. Have the availability of Personal Protective Equipment (*Alat Pelindung Diri* or APD).
9. Every operator of modes of transportation at the entry point of the travel bubble areas of Batam and Bintanis required to use the *PeduliLindungi* application.
10. Port Health Office (KKP) of the International Sea Port facilitates WNI or WNA PPLN with the travel bubble mechanism that requires emergency medical services upon arrival in Indonesia is in accordance with applicable regulations.
11. Ministries/Institutions/Local Governments that carry out functions related to the Batam and Bintan travel bubble mechanism with Singapore follow up on this Circular Letter by issuing legal instruments that are in-line and not in contradiction with reference to this Circular Letter and the provisions of the applicable laws and regulations.
12. The legal instrument as referred to in number 11 is an inseparable part of this Circular Letter.

G. Monitoring, Control, and Evaluation

- 1. The manager of the travel bubble area who is assisted by the relevant Ministries/Agencies, the Indonesian National Army (TNI), National Police (POLRI), and the Regional Government in the Riau Islands is required to form a Travel Bubble Area Task Force that carries out the functions of prevention, health care, guidance, and support as an effort to control the implementation of health protocols in the travel bubble area.

2. Monitoring and evaluation of the performance of the Travel Bubble Area Task Force is carried out periodically and in stages by the Provincial COVID-19 Handling Task Force.
3. Ministries/Institutions, TNI, POLRI, and Local Governments have the right to stop and/or implement activities in the travel bubble area on the basis of this Circular Letter that is in-line and not in contradiction with and/or the provisions of laws and regulations.
4. Ministries/Agencies, TNI, POLRI are assisted by the Sea Port COVID-19 Handling Task Force c.q. Port Health Office (KKP) of the International Sea Port to conduct routine supervision to ensure compliance with the implementation of health protocols at the port of entry and travel bubble areas during the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. The relevant authorities (Ministries/Agencies, TNI, POLRI, and Regional Governments) will conduct disciplinary actions for COVID-19 health protocols and law enforcement in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

H. Closing

This Circular Letter is effective from January 24, 2022, until a period that shall later be determined.

This is so that it can be followed and enacted with full responsibility.

Stipulated in : Jakarta

Dated : January 21, 2022

Head of the National Agency for Disaster
Management as the Head of the COVID-19
Handling Task Force,

(Signed and stamped)

Major General of the Indonesian National
Army Suharyanto, S.Sos., M.M.

Copied to:

1. President of the Republic of Indonesia;
2. Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia;
3. Head of Committee for the Policy Committee of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and National Economic Recovery;
4. All Ministers/Heads of Institutions;
5. Commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI);
6. Head of the Police Force of the Republic of Indonesia (POLRI);
7. Head of the National Economic Recovery Task Force; and
8. Head of the Regional Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Handling Task Force.