**COVID-19 HANDLING TASK FORCE**

**CIRCULAR LETTER**

**NUMBER 26 OF 2021**

**REGARDING**

**HEALTH PROTOCOLS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELS DURING THE CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. That in order to follow up on the handling of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus on an international scale and results of the intersectoral evaluation, it is necessary to adjust the control mechanism for international travel.
2. Whereas to anticipate the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 Virus in the future, it is necessary for international travelers to partake in strict health protocols in compliance with the regulations and policies as enacted by the State.
3. That based on the considerations as referred to in numbers 1 and 2 above, it is necessary to stipulate a Circular Letter concerning International Travel Health Protocol During the Corona Virus (COVID-19) Disease Pandemic.

**B. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to implement health protocol for International Travelers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective of this Circular Letter is to conduct monitoring, control, and evaluation in order to prevent an increase in the transmission of COVID-19 including new variants of SARS-CoV-2 or alike in the future.

**C. SCOPE**

The scope of this Circular Letter is the Health Protocol for International Travelers.

**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 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;
8. Presidential Decree Number 11 of 2020 regarding the declaration of the National Public Health Emergency Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19);
9. Presidential Decree Number 12 of 2020 regarding the declaration of Non-Natural Disaster of the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) as a National Disaster;
10. 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
11. Resolution of the Limited Cabinet Meeting dated December 20, 2021.

**E. DEFINITIONS**

1. International Traveler means persons who has traveled internationally within the past 14 days.
2. Reverse-Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (hereinafter “**RT-PCR”**) is a diagnostic test which detects the genetic material of the virus based on a sample taken from a nasopharynx/oropharynx swab test, using the Reverse-Transcriptase enzyme and Polymerase chain reaction.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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/or medicines.
6. Vaccination Certificate is a physical document or digital evidence that a series of vaccinations have been received by the holder.
7. 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.
8. Centralized quarantine is the act of quarantining for international travelers who are concentrated in one place of quarantine accommodation, either in quarantine locations owned by the government or hotels.
9. Self-quarantine is the act of quarantining for international travelers carried out at their respective residences or other quarantine accommodation places other than the centralized quarantine locations.
10. Honourable persons are former heads of state or former heads of government of a country.
11. Distinguished persons are individuals who hold positions of high social and economic value in the eyes of the international community, such as: Nobel laureates, global religious figures, global community figures, and global economic figures.
12. Dispensation is the decision of a competent government official as a form of approval of the application of a Citizen which acts as an exception to a prohibition or order in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

**F. PROTOCOL**

1. International Travelers who are Indonesian Citizens (*Warga Negara Indonesia* or “**WNI**”) from overseas are allowed to enter Indonesia so long as they comply with the strict health protocols as enacted by the Government.
2. Temporarily closure of the entry of Foreign Citizens (*Warga Negara Asing* or “**WNA**”), either directly or in transit in a foreign country, who has lived and/or visited within the last 14 (fourteen) days from the country/region with the following criteria:
	1. Confirmed community transmission of the new variants of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529: South Africa, Botswana, and Norway;
	2. Countries/regions that are geographically close to countries with confirmed community transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 variant: Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Eswatini, and Lesotho; and/or
	3. Countries/regions with more than 10,000 confirmed cases of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 variant: United Kingdom, and Denmark.
3. Temporary closure of the entry of Foreign Citizens into the territory of Indonesia, either directly or in transit in foreign countries, except for travellers who meet the following criteria:
	1. Do not have a history of travel and/or stay within the countries referred to in paragraph number 2;
	2. Are in accordance with the Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation No.34 of 2021 on the Granting of Immigration Visa and Stay Permits During the Period of Handling the Corona Virus Disease 2019 and National Economic Recovery;
	3. Are in accordance with certain bilateral agreements, such as the *Travel Corridor Arrangement* (TCA); and/or
	4. Have obtained special considerations/permission in writing from a Ministry/Agency.
4. All International Travelers, whether with the status of Indonesian Citizens and Foreign Citizens, must comply to the following provisions/conditions:
	1. Follow the health protocol enacted by the Government;
	2. Provide a card or certificate (physical or digital) statingthat they have been vaccinated for COVID-19 with a full dose for a minimum of 14 (fourteen) days prior to its departure as a requirement of entering Indonesia with the following conditions:
		1. Indonesian Citizens must provide a card or certificate (physical or digital) that they have received the full dosage of the COVID-19 vaccine prior to entering Indonesia, in the event that they have not been vaccinated, they will be vaccinated at the quarantine location after arriving in Indonesia subsequent to a second RT-PCR test showing a negative result.
		2. Foreign Citizen must provide a card or certificate (physical or digital) that they have received the full dosage of the COVID-19 vaccine prior to entering Indonesia.
		3. In the event that a Foreign Citizen has not been vaccinated, they will be vaccinated at the quarantine location subsequent to a second RT-PCR test showing a negative result, as long as:
5. WNA aged 12 – 17 years old;
6. Holders of diplomatic stay visa and service stay permits; and/or
7. Holders of Limited Stay Permits (*Kartu Izin Tinggal Terbatas* or “**KITAS**”) and Permanent Stay Permits (*Kartu Izin Tinggal Tetap* or “**KITAP**”).
	* 1. Foreigners that are already in Indonesia and are planning to travel, both domestically or internationally, shall be be vaccinated through the program schemes or mutual cooperation (gotong royong) schemes in accordance with the laws and regulations;
		2. The obligation to provide a COVID-19 vaccination certificate or card (physical or digital) as a requirement to enter Indonesia does not apply to:
			1. Foreign Citizen holding a diplomatic visa or an official visa related to governmental business at or above the ministerial level and Foreign Nationals entering Indonesia in accordance with the Travel Corridor Arrangement scheme, in accordance with the principle of reciprocity and strictly complying with the health protocol.
			2. Foreign Citizen who have not been vaccinated who intend to travel domestically and then proceed to travel internationally out of Indonesia, do not need to provide proof of vaccination as long as they do not leave the airport transit area while waiting in transit for the international departure, provided that:
				1. They have received permission from the Port Health Office (KKP) to conduct the domestic travel in transit for a flight out of Indonesia; and
				2. They provide the ticket and flight details for a direct transit from the airport of departure through an international airport in Indonesia with the final arrival being in another country.
			3. International Travelers below 18 years old; and
			4. International Travelers with certain health conditions or a comorbid disease which causes the traveler in question not to be able to be vaccinated, with the requirement that they provide a medical certificate from a State Hospital of the departure state which states that they cannot/will not be vaccinated for COVID-19.
		3. The card or certificate (physical or digital) of receiving the full dose of COVID-19 vaccine shall be written in English, other than the language of the State of origin.
	1. Provide a negative result of the RT-PCR test from the state of origin, from which the which sample shall be taken in the period of maximum 3 x 24 hours before departure and furnished at the health screening or International e-HAC of Indonesia;
	2. In the case that the International Traveler conducts Centralized Quarantine bearing the costs on their own, they must provide proof of payment or booking of the place where they will be quarantining;
	3. For Indonesian Citizens coming from overseas who are Indonesian Migrant Workers (*Pekerja Migran Indonesia* or “**PMI**”), students, and certain people with certain tasks;
	4. At the time of arrival to be subjected to RT-PCR testing for International Travelers and be required to go through centralized quarantine for 10 x 24 hours;
	5. In the case of an Indonesian Citizen coming from a country referred to in No.2, they are still allowed entry as long as they are subjected to RT-PCR testing on arrival and required to go through centralized quarantine for 14 x 24 hours;
	6. The quarantine requirements as stated in letter f and g are as follows:
		1. For Indonesian Citizens, who are Indonesian Migrant Workers; Students who have finished their overseas studies; Government employees coming back from government business; or Indonesian Representatives for an International Competition or Festival in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations regarding Entry Points, Place of Quarantine, and Requirement of RT-PCR for Indonesian International Travelers with the costs being borne by the government.
		2. For Indonesian Citizens other than the above stated in number 1) and for Foreign Citizens, including foreign diplomats, other than head of the representatives and family, must be quarantined in a place which accommodates quarantine.
	7. The place which accommodates quarantine as stated in letter h.2) must procure a recommendation from the Covid-19 Task Force which has fulfilled the requirements and conditions from the Indonesian Hotel and Restaurant Association (*Perhimpunan Hotel dan Restoran Indonesia* or “**PHRI**”) for cleanliness, health, safety, and environment sustainability (CHSE) and the Ministry in charge of health for the region of Jakarta and its surroundings or the Provincial Office in charge of health in the area in relation to the COVID-19 health protocol certification;
	8. In the event that the RT-PCR test on arrival as regulated in letters f and g shows a positive result, then Indonesian Citizens will be treated at a hospital at the State’s expense while Foreign Nationals will bear their own expenses;
	9. In the case that the Foreign National is not able to bear the expenses for self-quarantine or treatment at a hospital, then the Sponsor, Ministry/Agency/State-Owned Enterprises (*Badan Usaha Milik* *Negara* or “**BUMN**”) who gives the consideration of entry permit for such WNA can be asked for the responsibility of the referred;
	10. For both Indonesian Citizens and Foreign Nationals the second RT-PCR test is conducted as follows:
		1. On the 9th day of quarantine for International Travelers with a quarantine duration of 10 x 24 hours; or
		2. On the 13th day of quarantine for International Travelers with a quarantine duration of 14 x 24 hours
	11. In the case that the second RT-PCR test shows a negative result, both Indonesian Citizens and Foreign Citizens are allowed to continue with their travels and are recommended to self-quarantine for 14 days while complying with health protocols;
	12. In the case that the second RT-PCR test shows a positive result, then Indonesian Citizens will be treated at a hospital at the State’s expense while Foreign Citizens will bear their own expenses;
	13. The RT-PCR test regulated in the above letter l can be appealed in writing by filling in the form provided by the Port Health Office (*Kantor Kesehatan Pelabuhan* or “**KKP**”) or Ministry in charge of health for the Jakarta area and its surroundings, with costs being borne privately by the International Traveler;
	14. The appeal RT-PCR test as stated in above letter o can be conducted in the lab of Cipto Mangunkusumo National Central Public Hospital (RSCM), or Gatot Soebroto Army Central Hospital (RSPAD), or Bhayangkara Raden Said Sukanto Hospital (RS. Polri) is carried out concurrently or simultaneously by the Port Health Office or laboratories in collaboration with quarantine accommodation facilities;
	15. The Port Health Office of the International Airport and Sea Port must facilitate emergency medical services for Indonesian Citizens or Foreign Citizens who require it in accordance with applicable provisions;
	16. Ministries/Institutions/Local Governments which is in charge of any functions related to Indonesian Citizens or Foreign Citizens in relation to this Circular Letter must issue a legal instrument that is in-line and not in contradiction with the subject of this Circular Letter and the applicable laws and regulations; and
	17. Legal instruments as referred to in letter r shall be an integral part of this Circular Letter.
8. Indonesian Citizens with the status of an Echelon 1 (one) official and above in a governmental institution, leaders of governmental institutions, members of the People’s Representative Council, members of the Regional Representative Council, and judicial institutions in the course of their duties can conduct individual self-quarantine.
9. In the case of Indonesian Citizens with the status of an Echelon 1 (one) official and above in a governmental institution as noted above in number 5 that are not on official business, must conduct centralized quarantine.
10. In the case of Indonesian Citizens with the status of an Echelon 1 (one) official and above in a governmental institution as noted above in number 5 that are not on official business may be given dispensation towards centralized quarantine obligations of 10 x 24 hours as regulated in the above number 4.f in the form of a reduced quarantine duration.
11. Foreign Citizens with the head representative status deployed to Indonesia and family may be given a dispensation towards centralized quarantine obligations of 10 x 24 hours as regulated in the above number 4.f in the form of individual self-quarantine.
12. Exemptions of the requirement for quarantine may be given to Indonesian Citizens with emergency conditions, such as: having a life-threatening health condition, having a health condition which requires special care, or mourning the death of an immediate relative.
13. Exemptions may be given for the temporary closure for Foreign Nationals entering Indonesia and requirement for quarantine, under the condition of the application of the bubblesystem and strict health protocols, for Foreign Citizens fulfilling the following requirements:
	1. Holder of diplomatic and official visas;
	2. Governmental Officials at the ministerial level and above with their delegation who are conducting state business;
	3. Travelers entering Indonesia under the Travel Corridor Arrangement;
	4. Delegations of G20 member States; and
	5. Honourable and Distinguished Persons as defined above.
14. The reduction of quarantine duration and/or dispensation for individual self-quarantine as regulated in numbers 7,8, and 10 must be applied for to the National COVID-19 Handling Task Force at minimum 7 (seven) days before arrival in Indonesia, and can be given selectively, with individual applications, and with a limited quota based on the understanding of the COVID-19 Handling Task Force, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime & Investment Affairs, and the Ministry of Health.
15. The reduced quarantine duration for Indonesian Citizens with pressing conditions as stated in number 6 must be applied for to the National COVID-19 Handling Task Force at a minimum of 3 (three) days before arrival in Indonesia, and can be given selectively, with individual applications, and with a limited quota based on the understanding of the COVID-19 Handling Task Force, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime & Investment Affairs, and the Ministry of Health.
16. The self-quarantine as regulated in numbers 5 and 6 must fulfil the following requirements:
	1. Separate bedroom and bathroom for each individual International Traveler;
	2. Minimum contact at the time of food distribution and consumption;
	3. No physical contact with other Travelers in quarantine or other individuals;
	4. There is an officer in charge of monitoring the quarantine who must report daily to the Port Health Office (KKP) in the area; and
	5. A second RT-PCR test is conducted on the 9th day of the quarantine and the result must be reported to the Port Health Office (KKP) in the area.
17. In the case of the application for dispensation for self-quarantine as regulated in numbers 5 and 6, the International Traveler must provide evidence of the self-quarantine location having a separate bedroom and bathroom for each individual International Traveler, and documents which include the identity of the monitoring officer validated by the Ministry of Health c.q. Port Health Office.
18. The strict health protocol as regulated in number 4 must fulfil the following requirements:
	1. Facemasks must cover the mouth and nose;
	2. The mask used must be 3-ply fabric facemask or a medical facemask;
	3. Not allowed to converse (one-way or a dialogue) through telephone or directly for the duration one is on a public mode of transportation; and
	4. Not allowed to eat or drink for the duration of a flight that is less than 2 hours, other than individuals who must consume certain medicines which might endanger them if they do not.
19. Every international traveller is required to use the *PeduliLindungi* application as a condition for international travel to enter Indonesian territory.
20. Every operator of transportation mode at the entry point for international travel is required to use the *PeduliLindungi* application.
21. Monitoring of quarantine on cargo ships and crew must be done in accordance with more specific and technical regulations regulated by the Ministry of Health through monitoring by the Port Health Office of each international departure entry point.
22. International Travelers who are Foreign Citizens (WNA) with the intention of tourism who do not have a history of traveling and/or staying in the last 14 days in the countries stated in number 2 may enter Indonesia with the following requirements:
	1. Going through the entry point of Bali and Riau Airport;
	2. Other than the requirement to show proof of vaccination and negative RT-PCR test as regulated in 4.b and 4.c., the International Traveler must provide:
		1. A Short-Term Visa or other means of entry in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations;
		2. Proof of ownership of a health insurance with a minimal value of USD 100,000 which covers expenses related to COVID-19;
		3. Proof of booking and payment of a place of accommodation from a provider of accommodation for the duration of their stay in Indonesia.

**G. Monitoring, Control, and Evaluation**

1. The COVID-19 Handling Task Force assisted by the public transport operator will conduct the control of travel and public transportation free of COVID-19 by forming Integrated Security Posts;
2. Authorities, organizers, and operators of public transportation will be in charge of monitoring for the duration of operation of any public transport;
3. Ministries/Institutions, the Indonesian National Army (TNI), National Police (POLRI), and Regional Government has the right to stop and/or conduct prohibition of travel of persons on the basis of this Circular Letter that is in-line and not in contradiction and/or the provisions of laws and regulations;
4. Ministries/Institutions, TNI, POLRI is assisted by the Airport and Sea Port COVID-19 Handling Task Force c.q. Port Health Office (KKP) of the International Airport and Sea Port shall conduct routine supervision to ensure compliance of the implementation of health protocols and self-quarantine through telephone calls, video calls and field checks during this COVID-19 pandemic; and
5. The relevant authority (Ministry/Agency, Army, the Police, and the Regional Government) will conduct disciplinary actions for COVID-19 health protocol and law enforcement in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

**H. Closing**

1. This Circular Letter is effective from December 25, 2021 until a later date and will be evaluated further as needed.
2. With the entry into force of this Circular Letter, Circular Letter Number 25 of 2021 is no longer in effect and is declared not binding.

May this letter be followed and enacted with full responsibility.

Dated : December 25, 2021

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.