Director General/Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka
Director General/Department of Immigration and Emigration
Chairman/Airport Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Chief of Protocol/Foreign Ministry

Public health measures to be adopted by travellers to Sri Lanka
during the Covid-19 outbreak in Sri Lanka

This is further to the letter of Director General of Health Services, No. DQ/06/2021 dated 09.07.2020 titled “Public health measures to be adopted by travellers during the COVID-19 outbreak in Sri Lanka”

Number (j) under section V. Staff of diplomatic missions and UN organizations of above letter is amended as follows:

j. Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations in overseas who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their accompanying parents, spouses and children are allowed to undergo mandatory 14-day quarantine at their residence with the discretion of Director General of Health Services.

(1) Sri Lankan staff members should make their request to Director General of Health Services at least two weeks prior to the date of arrival to Sri Lanka with a letter from the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) indicating the residence is suitable for home quarantine.
(2) Mandatory 14-day home quarantine is applicable only for the staff members and their accompanying parents, spouse and children arrived from overseas. They should abide with strict home quarantine procedures recommended by Ministry of Health. Rest of the family members in the same household need not undergo home quarantine.

(3) Granting approval will be considered case by case basis subjected to the conditions stipulated by the Director General of Health Services. Violation of stipulated conditions will result in immediate transfer to a quarantine centre/hotel and rejection of future requests for home quarantine by the applicant.

Standard operating procedure for mandatory home quarantine for Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations in overseas who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their accompanying parents, spouses and children is in Annex- 01.

Dr. ASEL AUNAWARDENA
Director General of Health Services
Ministry of Health
"Suwasiripaya"
385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

Dr Asela Gunawardena
Director General of Health Services

Copies:
Secretary, Ministry of Health
DDG (Public Health Services)
Chief Epidemiologist
Director, Quarantine
Provincial Directors of Health Services
Regional Directors of Health Services
Provincial/ District Consultant Community Physicians
Regional Epidemiologists
Medical Officers of Health
A) Eligibility

(1) Only the Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations in overseas who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their accompanying parents, spouses and children are eligible to apply for mandatory 14-day quarantine at their residence. Approval will be granted with the discretion of the Director General of Health Services (DGHS).

(2) The residence where home quarantine is undergoing should have a separate room with separate wash room facility that will not be shared by others during the home quarantine period.

B) Process to obtain the approval

(3) In order to obtain the approval, the eligible officer should submit a request to the Director General of Health Services (dghs@health.gov.lk) with a copy to the Director, Quarantine (quarantinelk@gmail.com) at least two weeks prior to the date of arrival to Sri Lanka.

(4) The request letter should consist of

a) Name, designation, place of work, passport number, contact telephone number and email address of the officer applying.

b) Names, relationship to the officer and passport numbers of parents, spouse and children if they are applying for home quarantine.

c) Copy of the passport of the officer applying.

d) Letter from the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) where the intended residence for home quarantine is located, certifying that the residence is suitable for home quarantine.

e) Travel itinerary with details of all transits.

C) Approval by the Director General of Health Services

(5) All requests received by the Director General of Health Services will be reviewed case by case and decide on granting the approval.

(6) This decision will be communicated to the officer concerned via the email provided.

D) Procedures to be followed by the applicant before arriving

(7) Following details should be sent to Director/ Quarantine Unit (quarantinelk@gmail.com) to get the clearance to release from the airport:
a) Approval letter of the DGHS
b) Name of the staff member / other approved accompanying family members
c) Passport numbers of the staff member / other approved accompanying family members
d) Organization serving
e) Country of origin (beginning)
f) Date of arrival to Sri Lanka
g) Flight details
h) Details of transits
i) Address of the residence undergoing mandatory quarantine in Sri Lanka
j) Phone numbers in Sri Lanka
k) Approval letter of the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) indicating the residence is suitable for home quarantine.
l) Private Vehicle Number that will be used for travelling from the airport to the residence.
m) Details of the driver: Name, National ID Number, Home address, Phone number

(8) The officer/approved accompanying family members should carry negative COVID-19 PCR test results (in English) done within 96 hours of embarkation.

(9) Should inform the arrival details and address of the approved residence in Sri Lanka to Epidemiology Unit (chepid@slt.net.lk, samithag@hotmail.com) and Quarantine Unit (quarantinellk@gmail.com) at least 48 hours before embarkation.

E) Procedures to be followed after arrival
(10) Should submit the Health Declaration Form to officers of Airport Health Office.
(11) After getting the immigration, custom and security clearances, they can leave the airport.

F) Procedure to be followed during travel to home
(12) Officers should arrange a private vehicle with a driver for the transport from the airport to the residence.
(13) A known person (adhering to recommended personal protective measures) should drive the vehicle. Should not use public transport or any other transport method or any other driver for this purpose.
(14) They should directly travel to their approved residence from the arriving airport without getting down at any place in between.

G) Procedure to be followed after arriving the residence
(15) Home quarantine should be done under the guidance and supervision of the area MOH.
(16) On arrival, the area MOH should be informed of the commencement of home quarantine.
(17) COVID-19 PCR test should be carried out on the Day one and between 11th – 14th day after arrival from a Health Ministry approved private sector laboratory.
(18) Test results should be submitted immediately via email to the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@stnet.lk, samithag@hotmail.com) and the Quarantine Unit (quarantinelk@gmail.com).

(19) If febrile or displays symptoms of COVID-19, a PCR test should be done immediately and results should be submitted to relevant units as indicated above.

(20) If the driver of the vehicle becomes febrile or displays symptoms of COVID-19, a PCR test should be done immediately and results should be submitted to relevant units as indicated above.

(21) At the end of the quarantine period, the area MOH should be informed.

H) Procedures to be followed by the area Medical Officer of Health

(22) On request of the Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations in overseas, MOH himself or the Public Health Inspector (PHI) of the area should visit the residence and assess whether the condition of the proposed home is suitable for home quarantine safely. The minimum criteria for eligibility are that there are separate bed rooms and separate wash room exclusively to be used by the repatriating official and/or accompanying parents, spouse and children.

(23) The area MOH should submit his observation in writing to the Director General of Health Services with copies to the Director/ Quarantine and the applicant.

(24) During the quarantine period, the MOH through the area PHI should monitor the quarantining by the repatriating official and/or accompanying parents, spouse and children.

(25) Any breach of the quarantine should be immediately informed to the Quarantine Unit (quarantinelk@gmail.com) and the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@stnet.lk).

(26) At the end of the quarantine period the area MOH should issue the Certificate of Completion of the quarantine period if the both, on arrival and 11th - 14th days after arrival PCR test results are negative.