

COVID-19 PROTECTIVE MEASURES

IN SRI LANKA -16.COM (DECEMBER)

The safety of the foreign delegates is foremost in our minds. Traveling during this unprecedented time is somewhat different from your previous travel experience, therefore we intend to assist you in familiarizing the prevention and control mechanisms prior to your travel by having access to validated information to make a well informed decision.

H.E. President Rajapaksa's ambitious vaccination effort that spearheads Sri Lanka's COVID-19 response has long surpassed WHO's targets. It is also likely to surpass its own target of vaccinating 60 percent of the population by 30 November. Country's aggressive vaccination rollout has been largely successful and in fact nearly 55 percent of Sri Lanka's population has already been fully vaccinated. It is also evident that the daily new cases in Sri Lanka have been steadily declining over the past four consecutive weeks and health experts believe there are signs of easing travel restrictions on a staggered basis in the ensuing weeks.

At the centre of this success is Country's strong primary health care foundation. This has been adapted quickly for COVID-19 vaccine readiness in whole of Government and whole of society approach. Vaccine deployment was initiated with coverage of frontline workers and then expanded progressively to persons over 60 and, now, over 30 years of age. Importantly this document will serve as a guide containing a comprehensive framework involving COVID-19 Prevention and Control Procedures covering the key locations throughout your journey and we hope you would find it informative and useful.



COVID-19 Measures at the Bandaranaike International Airport

Airport Safety Measures

Precautionary measures have been implemented throughout the airport to maintain the health and safety of our travellers and staff. These measures include hand sanitizer stations around the airport, protective Plexiglas at check-in and immigration counters, thermal temperature screening, social distancing markers and increased levels of cleaning and sanitization in compliance with international standards set out by the relevant authorities. All the gates and passenger movement areas will be thoroughly disinfected after each arrival. All the handling agents and other staff who are engaging in the flight operation in that area will be mandatory to wear PPEs.



Entry and departure formalities at Bandaranaike International Airport

1. COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate/Card

- 1.1 Original certificate of Vaccination (or document of proof).
- 1.2 Documents must be in English or a certified copy in English for any information on the original which is not indicated in English.
- 1.3 Documents must have name of the vaccine & dates of vaccination.
- 1.4 Other verifiable evidence of vaccinations.



Note: These documents will have to be produced to the Health Officers at the Airport of Entry into Sri Lanka.

2. Sri Lankan standard of a Fully Vaccinated Traveler

2.1 If the recommend doses of a COVID-19 Vaccination are completed and

2.2 depart from abroad two weeks after completion of vaccination, they will be considered as “fully vaccinated”.

Note: If the doses taken are incomplete, or the traveler is departing inbound to Sri Lanka with less than 14 days from the final vaccination dosage, the traveler is considered NOT Vaccinated.

3. Pre departure negative COVID-19 PCR Test Report

3.1 All participants arriving in Sri Lanka should mandatorily carry a **negative COVID-19 PCR Test Report** in English language done **within 72 hours prior to embarkation**.

3.2 **Participants** with a history of COVID-19 infection **during the past three months** could arrive with a **negative COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test report** done **within 48 hours prior to embarkation**. They should carry a diagnosis card or verifiable evidence or positive PCR report or positive Rapid Antigen Test report as a proof of past history of illness (in English).



Procedures to be followed after released from the Bandaranaike International Airport.

4. Procedure for fully vaccinated participants

4.1 Fully vaccinated participants who have completed 14 days after recommended doses of vaccination and arriving with a **negative COVID-19 PCR report done within 72 hours of embarkation / negative COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test report done within 48 hours prior to embarkation** (as mentioned in section 3.1) will be released from the Airport and **do not need to do a Day 1 PCR test or undergo quarantine after arriving in Sri Lanka.**

Such participants will be accompanied by the respective country Liaison Officer to the designated hotel that the hotel reservation has been made by the participants.

4.2 If develop COVID-19 like symptoms, participant should inform the assigned Country Liaison Officer jointly with the medical team which is on standby for any medical emergency will make necessary arrangements to get tested for COVID-19.

4.3 Immediate close contacts of the positive person will be quarantined after assessing the risk by area MOH/Regional Epidemiologist.

Note: Participants who are under mandatory quarantine at a Safe & Secure certified Level 1 Hotel are allowed to travel to foreign countries during the quarantine period with negative COVID-19 PCR report.



5. Quarantine measures for participants who have departed from abroad within less than two weeks of completion of recommended doses of vaccination.

Such participants should do Day 1 PCR and undergo quarantine at a Safe and Secure Certified Level Hotel until completion of 14 days post vaccination period.

6. Quarantine measures for participants who have not received COVID-19 vaccination/not completed the recommended doses of vaccination.

Such participants should undergo 14-day quarantine at a Safe and Secure Certified Level Hotel (accompanied by the respective country Liaison Officer). And should perform a COVID-19 PCR test on Day 1 and Exit COVID-19 PCR test/Rapid Antigen Test on Day 12 and can be released from quarantine on Day 14 with negative PCR test results.

Safety Measures within the Hotel Premises: Guest Safety Practices

1. Guest Entrance

- 1.1. Guest should sanitize their hands and foot at the entrance.
- 1.2. They should wear mask at all times in public places.
- 1.3. Prescreening is done at the entrance.
- 1.4. COVID-19 Declaration Form to be filled out by the Guests.
- 1.5. All Guest luggage are disinfected at the entrance.

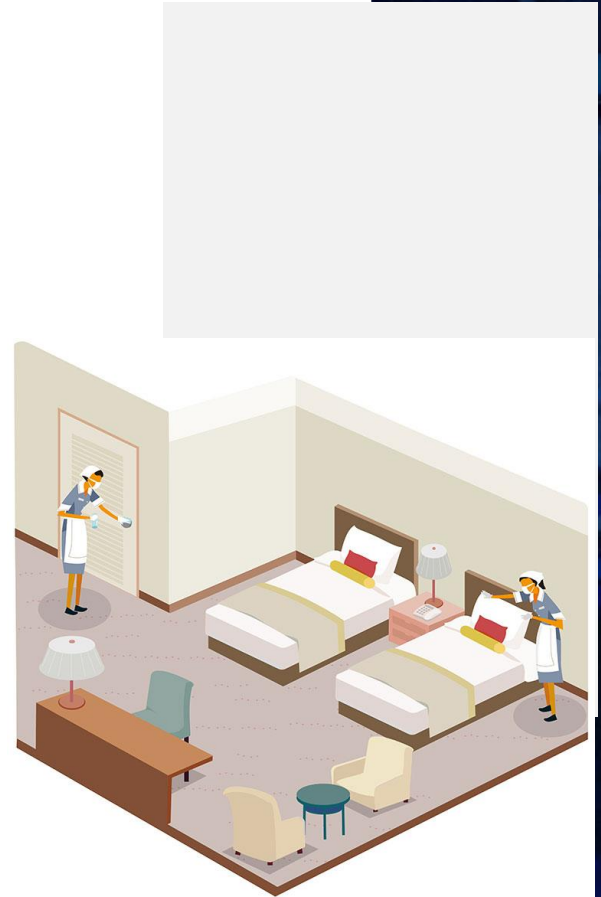


2. Inside the Hotel

- 2.1. Requested to maintain 1.5-meter distance at all times.
- 2.2. They should practice lift safety measures at all times.
- 2.3. Provide hand sanitizing facilities in all hotel spaces and Graded rooms.
- 2.4. Guest should adhere to all safety precautions when using the hotel facilities.

3. Meeting and Events.

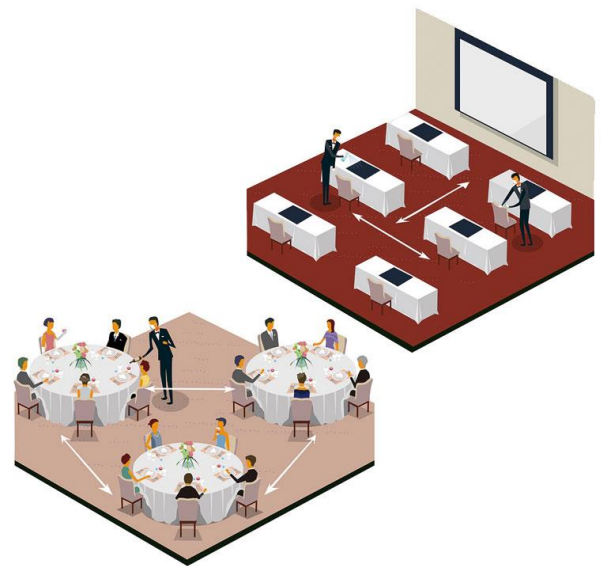
- 3.1. Meeting capacity will be minimized in order to adhere to social distancing norms.
- 3.2. Hand sanitizer dispensers are stationed prominently around the venue.
- 3.3. Doors and Windows will be kept open at all times to increase ventilation and avoid contact.
- 3.4. Contact details of organizers and participants to be shared with local health authorities if necessary.
- 3.5. Details of all participants will be retained for at least one month.



Hotel Staff Safety Measures

1. Collate and share Guest details with the Area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) & Public Health Inspector (PHI) prior to arrival.
2. Regular sanitization of the spaces accessible to the Guests and elevators allocated exclusively for the Guests.
3. All staff are required to work for a period of 07 days.

4. All staff members has to undergo a PCR/antigen test 72 hours prior to assuming duties upon checking into the hotel for isolation and staff with a negative test result report enters into the Bio Bubble.
5. PCR/antigen testing to be repeated on the staff after 48 hours of isolation once the Guests depart.
6. The Chauffers' assigned to assist the delegations will have a designated vehicle which will only serve delegations attending the conference throughout their stay and these service providers will operate as a part of the Bio Bubble.
7. Hence chauffers' just as the staff members are required check into the hotel 72 hours prior to commencing work and persons carrying a negative PCR/antigen test report are accommodated into the Bio Bubble.
8. Chauffers' are required to be attired in full PPE on duty and sanitize luggage before loading into the transportation vehicle.
9. Chauffer should hand over the delegation to Hotel Staff in the Bio Bubble and sanitize the vehicle and discard the PPE kit.
10. All meals will be provided by the room service, set up just outside the room for easy access.
11. Always practice hand hygiene and be equipped with relevant PPEs.
12. Maintain overall good personal health and Hygiene.
13. Maintain social distance at all times when possible.



14. All staff are aware about the COVID-19 safety precautions.
15. Maintain good housekeeping practices in all areas and frequently disinfect the areas.
16. Proper functioning of ventilation, air exchange, and dehumidification equipment is assured.
17. Carry out waste disposal on proper guidelines.
18. Maintain all safety precautions inside the restaurants.
19. Food preparation is done according to the required standards.
20. All security personnel are familiar on COVID-19 preventive measures
21. All employees are monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms.

If a Guest shows COVID-19 symptoms

1. The suspected Guest should continue to wear a mask and kept in isolation in isolation room and all relevant precautions will be taken to limit the spread of the disease, until transfer to hospital. Arrangements will be made to send the Guest to a private hospital Centre, using the standby Emergency Ambulance Service, in consultation with the on-site medical team assigned to the hotel for treating the conference delegates.
2. The asymptomatic Guests identified as close contacts of the symptomatic Guest will be advised to stay in their rooms and will be monitored closely to seek immediate medical attention at the onset of any respiratory symptoms.



3. Contact will be minimized between the staff and symptomatic Guest, his/her roommates and other Guests traveling with the symptomatic Guest. Staff should use appropriate PPE (such as face mask and gown) when in contact with symptomatic Guest, his/her roommates and other Guests traveling with the symptomatic Guest.
4. Once informed the relevant public health officials will assess the risk based on the individual assessment and provide advice on how to manage the staff and Guests based on their assessment of the risk.
5. Disinfect all surfaces that are potentially contaminated using appropriate cleaning solutions.



If a hotel staff member shows COVID-19 symptoms

1. The suspected staff member should continue to wear a mask and kept in isolation in isolation room and all relevant precautions will be taken to limit the spread of the disease, until transfer to hospital. Any Guests that were identified to have close contacts with the symptomatic staff member will be advised to stay in their rooms and any such staff member will be advised to refrain from working and stay at home.
2. Seek assistance from the dedicated COVID-19 medical team for the conference and follow the instructions. Inform the relevant local/national authorities and obtain their specific guidance on the way forward.
3. Once informed the relevant public health officials will assess the risk based on the

individual assessment and provide advice on how to manage the staff and Guests based on their assessment of the risk.

4. Disinfect all surfaces that are potentially contaminated using appropriate cleaning solutions.

Health Measures – Inland Transportation

The conference steering committee has the responsibility to provide all their distinguish Guests arriving in Sri Lanka to attend the conference with safe and secure operating environment. In view of that, we as the host country have arranged the following stringent health practices to prevent infections during inland travelling.



The transport management team's key responsibilities are as follows:

- 1) Handling airport transfers involving receiving the Guests (by Liaison Officers) at the BIA on arrival and until their departure from Sri Lanka.
- 2) Provide safe and secure travelling to the Guests from the BIA to the respective Hotel accompanied by the assigned Liaison officers.
- 3) Handling the inland traveling of the Guests between the conference meeting venue and the hotel during the conference time period.

Therefore, the following health measures and practices will be implemented by the transport management team ensuring safe and secure inland traveling.

1. All individuals accessing transport service vehicle must undergo temperature screening. Any

individual with high temperature or showing other symptoms of COVID 19 will not access the Transport service vehicle.

2. All the Chauffers', Liaison Officers and any other staff handling the transportation service are fully vaccinated.

3. The Driver area must be separated from the passenger areas by polythene or similar material, segregating totally.

4. All officers connected with Transport service vehicles shall be kept in a Bio Bubble not allowing to mingle with general public or to access other public places from the time they report to work.

5. Regularly clean all transport service vehicles and are disinfected too.

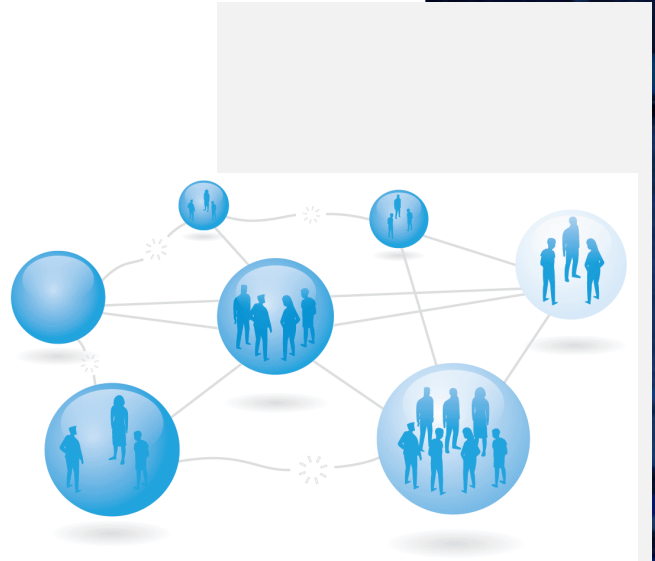
6. The number of passengers shall be limited in order to maintain the safe distance among passengers as per the health guidelines.

8. Every passenger MUST put on a face mask correctly.

9. AVOID hand-shakes and any form of direct contact at all times.

COVID-19 Preventive Measures : Opening Ceremony/Conference

- 1) Sanitization of the Opening Ceremony/Conference meeting venues commencing three days prior to the event on a daily basis.
- 2) At the entrance of the venue of Opening Ceremony/Conference, Mechanical device will be fixed for examining temperature of all participants.



- 3) Sanitize all participants' hands prior to entering the hall.
- 4) Seating plan has been made in order to maintain the social distancing practices.
- 5) During the lunch and refreshment, same social distancing practices will be maintained and proper health guide lines will be adhered.
- 6) No commonly used tools are taken for serving food/Refreshment.
- 7) Greeting will be done with traditional Sri Lanka method and shaking hands will be avoided.
- 8) All operational service staff at both venues (BMICH and Nelum Pokuna) will be in Bio Bubble and strictly adhere COVID 19 preventing health guidelines and follow health and safety practices till the end of the conference.
- 9) All individually used equipment such as microphones, Headphone, Laptops and other devices will be sanitized on a daily basis.

