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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Ref. No. **MFA/PROT/SEC/02/VOL.III/ (08)**

25th JANUARY, 2022

All Heads of Kenya Missions & Consulates Abroad

RE: REVIEW OF VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS UPON ENTRY INTO KENYA

Reference is made to a letter Ref. MOH/DC/9/1/33 dated 12th January, 2022 on the above subject matter.

Following the global emergence of the new COVID-19 Variant-B.1.1.529 (Omicron) as a highly transmissible variant of concern, different countries have instituted varied travel restrictions to limit and control the transmission of the diseases. The measures are in line with the World Health Organisation's advice issued on Friday 26th November, 2021 and based on the assessed risk in each country.

To minimize the risk of importation of the Omicron variant of concern into the country, the Ministry of Health in consultation with the National Emergency Committee on Coronavirus (NERC) introduced a number of mitigation measures. All travelers arriving into Kenya through any point of entry must have a certificate of COVID-19 vaccination. Travelers below the age of 18 years are exempted from this requirement with effect from 21st December, 2021. and later extended to begin 4th January, 2022.

In view of the above and in order to facilitate travel into the country, the Ministry of Health has considered and amended the vaccination requirements so that the following categories of travelers may be exempted from providing a vaccination certificate upon arrival into the country.

- a) Children below 18 years are exempted from the vaccination requirement
- b) Travelers with medical conditions precluding vaccination- risk of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome, history of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia, persons with a history of myocarditis or pericarditis, and other such condition for which vaccination is contraindicated. Such persons shall be required to provide a letter from a recognized medical practitioner detailing the medical reason precluding vaccination.
- c) Travelers who have recovered from an active COVID-19 infection or received Convalescent plasma in the preceding 90 days. Such persons shall be required to provide a letter from a recognized medical practitioner showing that the person may have recovered from an active infection in the preceding 90 days.
- d) Returning unvaccinated Kenyans who have difficulties accessing vaccines in their current country of residence. Such persons must be prepared to be vaccinated immediately upon entry and must register for vaccination on Chanjo-Ke platform before departure. Proof of registration shall be required before entry into the country.
- e) All incoming travelers will be required to upload both negative COVID-19 PCR test results conducted within 72 hours of travel and the COVID-19 vaccination certificates onto the Global Haven program of the Trusted Travel platform. The site can be accessed through www.globalhaven.org and following the prompts.

In this regard, you are requested to furnish the Ministry with any information of Kenyans experiencing any difficulties in accessing COVID-19 vaccines under your jurisdiction.

You are requested to publicize these guidelines through your official websites.



AMB. MACHARIA KAMAU, CBS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY