



**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Task Force Committee for
Prevention, Control and
Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

No. 1380/MOFA.TC
Vientiane Capital, dated 15 May 2020

**Travel advisory
for entry and exit of Lao PDR during the implementation of measures to prevent,
control and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic**

- Pursuant to the decision of the Government to establish a Task Force Committee for Prevention, Control and Response to the COVID-19 pandemic No. 09/PMO dated 03 February 2020.
- Pursuant to the Notice of the Prime Minister's Office on continuing to implement measures to prevent, control, contain and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic for the period of 18 May – 1 June 2020, No. 580/PMO dated 15 May 2020.

The Task Force Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Prevention, Control and Response to the COVID-19 pandemic has the honor to inform that the Lao Government decides to continue closing all border checkpoints to prevent and contain the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. Against this backdrop, any individual and juristic person wishing to enter or exit Lao PDR must follow the following steps and procedures:

1. Entry

a. Prior to the departure to the Lao PDR

- A diplomatic mission and international organization with an urgent need to bring in its diplomats or staffs to carry out its duties both on a short or long term can do so by proposed in writing to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Any Ministry and Agency with an urgent need to bring in experts and foreign students can do so by proposed in writing to the Task Force Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Companies or project owners in Lao PDR with an urgent need to bring in foreign workers and technicians for their large investment projects can do so. First, they have to follow the normal procedures as required under the relevant law and regulations for bringing in foreign workers and after that submit a proposal in writing to the Task Force Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with details on date, point of entry, mode of transportation, transit country if any and reasons why it is so urgent;
- For Lao nationals who wish to return to Lao PDR, they need to register at the Lao embassy or consulate general at the country of their residence and provide necessary information (why he/she has been stranded, date, time and point of entry, etc.) for consideration and facilitation by the latter.

❖ After receiving authorization from Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- Individual with entry visa (not yet expired) can enter Lao PDR;
- For those who do not have an entry visa to Lao PDR must apply for visa at the Lao Embassy or Consulate General at the country of departure;
- Every individual must have a negative test for COVID-19 certification using RT-PCR from a trustworthy medical institution of no more than 72 hours before departure to Lao PDR.

b. On arrival at a border checkpoint or airport

- Every Individual must go through a body temperature check;
- Duly complete a health declaration form;
- In case of an individual found to have fever or suspicious symptoms of COVID-19, he/she will be directly sent to designated hospitals for quarantine and COVID-19 testing;
- In case of no fever or suspicious symptoms of COVID-19, he/she will be recommended to do self-quarantine at a government designated venue and taken COVID-19 testing;
- Check in at immigration counter as required by the law and regulations with maintaining physical distancing of 1-2 meters.

c. After entering the Lao PDR

- Every individual will be subject to take samples for COVID-19 testing;
- Every individual is subject to a strict 14-day self-quarantine at a hotel or center designated by the Task Force Committees at the central and local levels;
- For diplomats, staffs of international organizations and their family members travelling from abroad, they are required to undergo COVID-19 testing upon arrival at the Government-designated Hospitals and after that they can do 14-day self-quarantine at their residence or at a hotel designated by the Government. For those who are residing in Lao PDR but need to travel out of the country for a short period, they can do so by notifying the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in advance and upon returning to Lao PDR they have to make 14-day self-quarantine at their residence and strictly follow the advice by the Ministry of Health for self-quarantine;
- Every individual who takes self-quarantine at the hotel designated by the Task Force Committee shall bear all expenses on food, room and other accidental cost.
- After completion of a 14-day self-quarantine and without any symptoms of COVID-19 infection, the individual will receive a certificate for him/her to stay at their home and live their normal lives, but they also must continue to strictly implement the prevention measures as advised by the Task Force Committee;
- For those who violated the prevention measures as provided by the Task Force Committee for COVID-19 will be prosecuted according to the law and regulations of the Lao PDR.

2. Departure

- For foreign nationals whose Embassy is in Lao PDR, they need to register at their Embassy of their wishes to depart Lao PDR and follow the requirements provided by the country of destination;
- The respective Embassy has to inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in writing together with the list of individuals who wish to depart Lao PDR with details of passport number, date of departure, exit point, mode of transportation and other necessary information for consideration and facilitation by the latter;
- For Lao nationals who need to travel abroad are able to do so provided that it is permissible by the country of destination and they have to fulfil the requirements under the law and regulations of the country of destination.

3. This Travel Advisory replaced the previous Travel Advisory No. 1342/MoFA.TFCC, dated 7 May 2020 and entered into force from the date of signature to 1st June 2020.

Therefore, it is the honor to notify you, for your kind information and strict implementation of this notice.

Deputy Minister
Member of the Central Task Force Committee
Head of Task Force Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

(Signed and sealed)

Thongsavanh PHOMVIHANE