

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Modalities of Return to Mauritius

In the wake of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and based on currently available information on the epidemic, the Government of Mauritius will continue to provide consular support to Mauritian nationals who are currently in the People's Republic of China and have expressed the desire to return to Mauritius.

I. Notification of Willingness to Return to Mauritius

(a) All Mauritian nationals will have to officially notify the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade on emergencymfa@govmu.org and/or the Embassy of the Republic of Mauritius in Beijing on mobj@govmu.org, of their willingness to return and to be assisted by Government by **the deadline of 20 February 2020, (23 59 hrs)**.

(b) The notification should include copy of passport biodata and all contact details, including those of their immediate relatives in Mauritius.

(c) All Mauritian nationals or residents having expressed a willingness to travel to Mauritius must carefully weigh their own risk of remaining in China against the risks of travelling, including:

- (i) the risks of greater exposure to the virus caused by internal mass transit, exposure to crowds or prevailing conditions in a third country; and
- (ii) being stranded in a third country if flights are diverted or cancelled or due to any other reason.

II. Assistance to be Provided for Travel Period 17 February to 29 February 2020

To help Mauritians who have expressed a wish to return to Mauritius and requested Government assistance, the following conditions will apply:

- (a) all international outbound flights to return to Mauritius will be from Beijing Capital Airport (PEK);
- (b) provision for the domestic leg will depend on the situation prevailing in the city of residence, including the lockdown areas and will be subject to the applicant being able to travel from his/her city of residence to Beijing;
- (c) the one-way air ticket would normally be from Beijing Capital Airport (PEK) to SSR International Airport (MRU) will **only cover the period 17 to 29 February 2020**, and subject to the availability of seats for internal and international outbound commercial flights from Beijing;
- (d) air tickets will be transmitted to the intended traveller by email; and

- (e) Government will in no circumstances transfer money to any intended traveller for the purchase of an air ticket.

III. Reimbursement of the cost of Air Tickets

Government will meet the cost of one way air tickets to cover domestic and international travel from China to Mauritius for:

- (i) beneficiaries of scholarships by the Government of Mauritius; or
- (ii) beneficiaries of scholarships by the Government of the People's Republic of China; or
- (iii) public officers currently undergoing training courses/studies offered by the Government of the People's Republic of China .

Mauritian nationals studying on their **own** means and all other Mauritian nationals who are in China for various other purposes will be assisted by Government on the basis that the cost of the air tickets will be reimbursed by them or their relatives.

IV. Clearances from Chinese Authorities

Intended travellers should obtain, wherever required, appropriate clearances from the Chinese authorities. In case of difficulty in obtaining same, they should immediately notify the Mauritius Embassy in Beijing for assistance.

V. Sanitary Procedures at Beijing Capital Airport

Intended travellers should be at the Beijing Capital Airport (PEK) **at least 10 hours** before the scheduled departure time in order to undergo the required screening and sanitary procedures being enforced by the Chinese authorities.

VI. Mandatory Quarantine Procedures in Mauritius

In accordance with established sanitary procedures currently applicable in Mauritius, all Mauritian nationals travelling from China will be placed in quarantine for a period of 14 days.

VII. Limitation of Liability

These modalities have been put in place on a purely humanitarian basis and by accepting and having recourse to same, an intended traveller-

- (a) acknowledges that the responsibility of the Government of Mauritius is limited to providing a means of return to Mauritius within the strict confines of these modalities;
- (b) holds the Government of Mauritius harmless for any death, illness, physical injury or loss of property during travel; and

- (c) acknowledges that there is no obligation on the Government of Mauritius to restore him/her in the position he/she was in China prior to the outbreak of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic.

MFA, RI & IT

20 February 2020