

# Alert on immigration

December 2021

On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021, the Ministry of Health issued Official letter No. 10688/BYT-MT to other relevant Ministries and Provincial People Committees to give guidance on implementation of Covid-19 preventive measures for passengers who enter Vietnam from 01<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Highlighted below are key points to note affecting quarantine procedures:

## **New quarantine regulations effective from 1 January 2022**

### **1. Adjustment on quarantine period for passengers who are fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19**

- Passengers are required to self-supervise their health at home/residence address (including house, hotel, resort, head office of the sponsoring company, dormitory or guest house of the factories, ...) for 3 days from the arrival date in Vietnam. During this time, the passengers are not allowed to go out or have "close contact" with other people.
- Conduct a Covid-19 test by RT-PCR method on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day from the arrival date.
  - If the test is negative, passengers will continue to self-supervise their health up to the 14<sup>th</sup> day from the arrival date in Vietnam
  - If the test is positive, passengers will follow the instructions of the competent authorities.

### **2. Quarantine period for passengers who are not/not fully vaccinated**

- The passengers are required to quarantine at their residence for 7 days from the arrival date.
- Conduct a Covid test by RT-PCR method on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day and the 7<sup>th</sup> day from the arrival date.
  - If the test is negative, passengers will self-supervise their health up to the 14<sup>th</sup> day from the arrival date in Vietnam
  - If the test is positive, they will follow the instruction of the competent authorities.
- For passengers who cannot be/have not been fully vaccinated including those being under 18 years old, over 65 years old, pregnant women or having pathology, they can be quarantined with parents/caregivers who are fully vaccinated or recovered from Covid-19.

## **Other requirements before and after entering Vietnam**

- Have a negative COVID-19 test result with SARS-CoV-2 before entering Vietnam (except for children under 2 years old)
- Conduct the health declaration before entering Vietnam
- Install and use the health declaration app PC-COVID after entering Vietnam
- Pay expenses in relation to Covid-19 test, quarantine, treatment or other related fees (if any) in case of being positive to Covid-19
- During the transportation from the airport to the residence address: the passengers have to follow strictly 5K measures (mask-distance-not flock-disinfection-health declaration)

<sup>1</sup>Qualified passengers are those

(i) fully vaccinated where the last dose was taken within the period of 14 days to up to 12 months before entering Vietnam and having certificate of vaccination recognized by Vietnam or legalized certificate of vaccination if the certificate has not been recognized by Vietnam

(ii) who recovered from Covid-19 within 6 months before entering Vietnam (were tested positive to Covid-19 using RT-PCR method with single sample and were granted with certificate of recovering from Covid-19)

- Requirements for quarantine at home/resident place after arrival in Vietnam: have to follow the instructions in the Official letter No. 5599/BYT-MT dated 14/07/2021 of the Ministry of Health. In case home/resident place does not qualify, the passengers must be quarantined at a designated hotel.
- During the period of health supervision: the passengers must follow strictly 5K measures (mask-distance-not flock-disinfection-health declaration)

Other than the above, passengers

- are encouraged to take a Covid test on the 1<sup>st</sup> day upon arrival in Vietnam; and
- will be vaccinated (free of charge) during the quarantine period if the passengers are Vietnamese citizens, Vietnamese people who resident in overseas and dependents (including spouse, children) and are not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated.

## KPMG notes

With the above guidance, the period for compulsory quarantine is shortened to 3 days for passengers who are fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19 provided that sufficient documents are in place for verification by competent authorities. This shorter quarantine time will give more favorable conditions/flexibility for businesses and their foreign employees when entering Vietnam from 01/01/2022.

Businesses/employees are recommended to revisit their supporting documents and their travel plan in order to enjoy the favorable condition. Also, it is recommended that businesses should always double-check with the relevant provincial authorities for specific guidance on the implementation of the guidance.

Please contact KPMG for further detail on the above guidance.

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