

SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT NATIONAL COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE (NACOVERC) FREETOWN

Freetown 10th June, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

NaCOVERC would like to inform the general public that upgrades have been made to the COVID-19 testing system for international travellers. These upgrades ensure that Sierra Leone's testing system continues to be fully in line with standard travel requirements worldwide, and maximises technological solutions to make the process of travelling from Sierra Leone to any other destination even easier. Key upgrades affecting departing travellers are as follows:

- COVID-19 test certificates now state the date and time the COVID-19 swab was conducted: many travel destinations require swab-dated certificates on arrival.
- COVID-19 test certificates will be available 24-48 hours from the day the swab was conducted: certificates are guaranteed to be available 48 hours from the day the swab was conducted.
- COVID-19 test certificates are now e-certificates (electronic-certificates) and can be downloaded directly from the Travel Portal: 24-48 hours from the day the swab was conducted, travellers can go to www.travel.gov.sl, click on 'Track Progress', enter their unique SO code, and download their certificate. Travellers can print their certificates and show the hardcopy at the airport, or, if they have a smart phone, they can just show the downloaded certificate to the airport officials on their smart phone screen. There is no need for travellers to go to the Emergency Operations Centre before they travel.

For detailed guidance on these new upgrades and on all COVID-19 travel procedures please see the <u>latest FAQs - COVID-19 International Travel Procedures To/From Sierra Leone</u>¹ dated 10th June, 2021.

Please note, while the new upgrades are taking effect, all exemptions are temporarily suspended for a period of 30 days (until the 10th July). *Everyone* is required to

¹ https://dhse.gov.sl/updated-faqs-on-covid-19-international-travel-procedures-to-from-sierra-leone-10th-june-2021/

Visit our websites <u>www.mic.gov.sl</u> and <u>www.dhse.gov.sl</u> Dial *468# or SMS 468 for COVID self-checks, tips and updates



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register on the Travel Portal and pay for COVID-19 tests, including diplomats. Anyone who would ordinarily be exempt must register and pay during this suspension period but can contact NaCOVERC to claim a refund at a later date.

NaCOVERC will continue to review and upgrade the system as the global COVID-19 landscape changes, in order to keep Sierra Leone, and all those who travel to/from Sierra Leone, safe.

Remember, get vaccinated, wear your mask, keep your distance.

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