



Authority	Honourable Minister of Health
Type	Decision
Number	06
Category	COVID-19: travel
Start date	01 February 2022

**DECISION 06. HEALTH CLEARANCE AND RISK CLASSIFICATION PROCESSES  
AND ADDITIONAL MEASURES FOR TRAVELLERS FROM HIGHER RISK AREAS**

I, Mr Silas Bule Melve, Minister of Health, by virtue of the Public Health Act [Cap. 234] and amendments thereof, and all other enabling powers, hereby confirm the following decision:

1. The Ministry of Health periodically conducts a COVID-19 risk assessment for countries and areas that are foreign travel origins for those arriving in Vanuatu. Higher Risk Countries and Areas (such as states of Australia and District Health Boards in New Zealand) are generally those with 10 or more incident COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population for the previous 14-day period, or those for which case reporting is limited
2. Individual travellers to Vanuatu (including those from Higher Risk Countries and Areas) must receive health clearance from the Ministry of Health for approval to travel to Vanuatu.

This requires:

- a. Evidence of negative SARS-CoV-2 PCR test result in advance of entry to Vanuatu (in accordance with Decision 03); and
- b. Evidence of full vaccination against COVID-19 in advance of entry to Vanuatu (in accordance with Direction 04); and
- c. Reported absence of COVID-19 signs and symptoms in the 14-days prior to travel; and
- d. Reported absence of contact with an active COVID-19 cases in the 14-days days prior to travel.

3. All travellers arriving to Vanuatu from foreign origins are subject to 14-day quarantine and testing at days 5 and 11 of quarantine (in accordance with Decision 02). Travellers from Higher Risk Countries and Areas are subject to the following additional measures:
  - a. Physical separation from passengers from low-risk countries during travel and arrival processing; and
  - b. SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing shortly after arrival on day 0 or 1 of quarantine (in accordance with Decision 02); and
  - c. No controlled outdoors physical exercise opportunities unless a negative SARS-CoV-2 test result is received on day 0 or 1.
4. The Ministry of Health are confident that the measures in place, including health clearance requirements for individual travellers (e.g., testing and vaccination) and the additional measures for travellers from Higher Risk Countries or Areas, are sufficient to reduce the risk of importation of COVID-19 and reduce the likelihood of community transmission.
5. Therefore, travellers from Higher Risk Countries and Areas are permitted to enter Vanuatu at the discretion of the Health Emergency Advisory Committee and contingent on pre-travel health clearance with additional measures applied for those from Higher Risk Countries and Areas in accordance with Section 3 of this Decision.

This Decision comes into effect on 1 February 2022 and shall remain valid during the period of the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19, or as amended in writing by the Minister of Health or the Health Emergency Advisory Committee. This decision replaces any other previous decision or decisions by the same authority regarding the same topic.

Signed

  


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Honourable Silas Bule Melis  
Minister of Health

Dated

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14 February 2022