Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Health

Rwanda Biomedical Centre

Healthy People, Wealthy Nation

INFO NOTE FOR PASSENGERS ARRIVING OR DEPARTING FROM RWANDA

ARRIVAL

As part of Rwanda's Response to the Covid-19 Omicron variant, which has been designated a Variant of Concern by World Health Organization, the following is mandatory upon entry into Rwanda as of 28th November 2021:

a. Direct flights between Rwanda and Southern Africa are temporarily suspended.

b.   All travelers arriving in Rwanda must have a negative Covid-19 certificate. The only accepted test is a SARS-CoV 2 Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) performed within 72 hours prior to departure (meaning travelers must be tested and get results within 3 days of their first flight). Other tests, such as Rapid Diagnostics Tests (RDTs), are not accepted. **COVID-19 Test is not mandatory for accompanied children under 5 years.**

c.   All arriving passengers must quarantine for 24 hours at a designated hotel at their own cost. A Covid-19 PCR test will be taken upon arrival at own cost, and an additional test, covered by the Government of Rwanda, taken on day 7 from the arrival date at a designated testing site.

d.   At the airport, the payment for Covid-19 test taken on arrival of 60 USD (50USD for covid-19 test and 10USD for specific logistics to the airport) will be done as per the indications of the passenger locator form. For passengers who opt for a cash payment at arrival, the balance will be given in Local currency (FRW). **The passenger who wouldn't use the payment methods on the passenger locator form may be required to pay again at arrival and claim for refund for any previous payment made.**

e. All arriving passengers from (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) or visited any of these countries within seven (7) days of arrival in Rwanda are required to quarantine for seven (7) days at their own cost at the designated hotels (Ubumwe Grande Hotel, Igitego Apartment Hotel, Parador Boutique Hotel, Corina K. Guest house and Best Inn Motel), and an additional test, covered by the Government of Rwanda, taken on day 7 from the arrival date at a designated hotel.

f.   All travelers arriving or transiting in Rwanda must complete the passenger locator form and upload the Covid-19 PCR test certificate before heading to the airport. Please see passenger locator form and list of designated transit hotels on www.rbc.gov.rw.

g. All travelers transiting for more than 12 hours through Rwanda will be screened upon entry and take a second Covid-19 PCR test on arrival. Sample collection will be conducted at the airport upon arrival and passenger will wait for the results at the designated transit hotel. The Covid-19 Test Results for transiting passengers for more than 12 hours will be fast-tracked so that passengers can get the results before their next flight.

h. All travelers transiting/connecting who are not leaving the airport for less than 12 hours will be screened upon entry and not required to take a second test **(This is not applicable for transiting passengers by land border, in that case, passengers will be tested using RT-PCR Test and waiting for the results from the designated transit hotels before proceeding).**

i. The Government of Rwanda has negotiated special rates at designated transit hotels for the 24 hours waiting period. Should a guest wish to remain in the hotel after receiving negative test results, they are welcome to extend their stay at the hotel's applicable rates.

DESIGNATED HOTELS

Once at the hotel, the process is as following:

Test results will be checked on RBC website of covid-19 results portal by using phone number entered while filling Passenger Locator Form and Unique code received when submitted Passenger Locator Form prior to departures or by SMS and/or email, and the turnaround time for results is **24hrs from the time a sample is collected.** If the results are not out and you are beyond 24 hours, please contact the hotel reception or RBC Medical Team on Duty at Airport 24/7: (+250) 781415724 for quick follow up.

If a traveler's test result is positive for COVID-19 (even if asymptomatic) while in Rwanda, they will be treated as indicated in the National Covid-19 Management Guidelines until they have fully recovered, **at their own cost.** We encourage all travelers to have international travel insurance.

DEPARTURE:

- All travelers departing from Rwanda must test negative for COVID-19. The only accepted test is a SARS-CoV 2 Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) performed within **72 hours before departure** performed by the Rwanda Biomedical Center/National Reference Laboratory, Provincial or District Hospitals. Other tests, such as Rapid Diagnostics Tests (RDTs), are not accepted. **COVID-19 Test is not mandatory for accompanied children under 5 years.** We encourage travelers to book and pay for their tests at least 2 days prior to departure through the online platform available on www.rbc.gov.rw. Travelers are advised to check with airlines about the COVID-19 requirements of the final destination and/or transit countries.

- Travelers must do a PCR test 48 hours before the time of departure and they are not allowed to go to the airport without negative COVID-19 PCR test results, if the results are not yet out within 48 hours as mentioned above, please contact BIOS LAB HELP DESK on (+250) 787243836 or (+250) 788793446 or (+250) 784026239.

- If travelers test results are positive for COVID-19 (even if asymptomatic) while in Rwanda, they will be treated as indicated in the National Covid-19 Management Guidelines until they have fully recovered, **at their own cost.** We encourage all travelers to have international travel insurance.

REMINDER

The preventive measures announced by the Ministry of Health must be observed by all, especially frequent hand-washing, proper wearing of face masks in public, and maintaining safe physical distance from others (at least one meter apart). For more details about COVID-19 clinical management guidelines, please visit www.rbc.gov.rw.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

- Toll free number: 114
- RBC Medical Team on Duty at Airport 24/7: (+250) 781415724
- Email: covid@rbc.gov.rw

Once again, we thank you for your cooperation in the fight against COVID-19.