Global – COVID-19 Pandemic

On Call International’s Incident Level: WATCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Nigeria announces it will lift pre-arrival testing for vaccinated travelers.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>South Africa relaxes additional COVID-19 measures.</td>
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<td>Madagascar and Mauritius moved to Level 4 Advisory by US CDC.</td>
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<td>Africa</td>
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<td>· Belize has announced it will no longer require fully vaccinated travelers to provide a negative COVID-19 test upon arrival.</td>
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<td>· Beginning April 1 Canada will no longer require a negative test result for fully vaccinated travelers to enter the country.</td>
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<td>· Costa Rica beginning April 1 will no longer require proof of vaccination or health insurance for entry into the country.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
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<td>· South Korea drops quarantine mandate.</td>
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<td>· Hong Kong to lift flight ban and other Covid restrictions.</td>
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<td>· Thailand amends entry requirements.</td>
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<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
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<td>· France records a surge in cases since restrictions were lifted.</td>
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<td>· Italy eases COVID-19 restrictions.</td>
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<td>· Spain lifts quarantine requirements for asymptomatic cases.</td>
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<td>Europe</td>
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<td>· COVID-19 related deaths in Egypt have dropped 48% from last week.</td>
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<td>Middle East &amp; North Africa</td>
<td>· Israel’s Health Ministry’s COVID-19 team will convene today to discuss the rising infection rate in the country.</td>
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<td>· Jordan will ease COVID-19 restrictions during the month of Ramadan.</td>
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<td>· Starting 1 April, Iraq will no longer require travelers to present a negative COVID-19 test result for entry.</td>
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Issued by On Call International Global Security & Medical Teams

Date March 23, 2022

NOTABLE WEEKLY UPDATES:
GLOBAL SUMMARY:

The On Call Security & Medical Teams are continuing to monitor the global outbreak COVID-19. As of the issuance of this report on Wednesday March 23, 2022, there have been 474,284,060 confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally with 6,100,131 deaths. For updated information on individual countries’ travel advisories, COVID-19 case trends, travel restrictions, and healthcare capabilities review On Call International’s COVID-19 Travel Outlook Map.

REGIONAL SUMMARIES:

AFRICA

Starting 4 April, fully vaccinated travelers to Nigeria will no longer be required to take a pre-arrival COVID-19 test. Upon arrival, however, travelers will be subject to a rapid antigen test, but will not have to pay for it. Travelers who are partially vaccinated or unvaccinated are still required to take a COVID-19 PCR test, no more than 48 hours prior to arrival in Nigeria, or do a day-two and day-seven test on arrival. Unvaccinated travelers who opt for testing after arrival will be expected to pay for their PCR tests.

South Africa has relaxed many of its remaining COVID-19 restrictions. Previously, all travelers to South Africa were required to produce a negative PCR test, but now, fully vaccinated travelers are exempt from mandatory testing requirements if they can provide proof of vaccination. Fully vaccinated individuals and individuals with a negative test result will also be allowed to attend sporting events, theaters, and concerts. The country has also removed its outdoor mask mandate but will continue to enforce mask use in indoor public spaces.

Earlier this week, the island of Madagascar was moved up from a Level 3 travel advisory to a Level 4 by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicating a very high risk of COVID-19 transmission. In addition to Madagascar, Mauritius, a much smaller Indian Ocean island was also moved to a Level 4 category, last week. Although the number of places in the highest level category has been decreasing, there are still 120 nations categorized as Level 4, by the US CDC.

AMERICAS

Belize has announced it will no longer require fully vaccinated travelers to provide a negative COVID-19 test upon arrival. Those who are unvaccinated must still provide either a negative PCR test result from within 72 hours or a negative antigen test result from within 48 hours for entry. Purchasing of Belize Travel Health Insurance remains obligatory for all travelers entering the country.

Beginning April 1 Canada will no longer require a negative test result for fully vaccinated travelers to enter the country. The elimination of the testing requirement comes after Canada adjusted the requirement this past month to permit antigen results rather than solely PCR results. Random tests are reportedly still going to be distributed to some travelers upon entry, but there is no requirement for fully vaccinated travelers to
quarantine while awaiting those results. Foreign nationals who are not fully vaccinated will continue to be only permitted entry under specific circumstances.

**Costa Rica** beginning April 1 will no longer require proof of vaccination or health insurance for entry into the country. Additionally, proof of vaccination will no longer be required to access public spaces such as restaurants, bars, and sport events. Currently travelers must either show proof of vaccination or proof of health insurance covering COVID-19 related expenses to be allowed entry.

The **US** Department of State and Centers for Disease Control downgraded **Bolivia, Colombia, and Guyana** from Level 4: Do Not Travel to Level 3: Reconsider Travel on Monday. Prior to that all three had been designated Level 4: Do Not Travel due to COVID-19 since late January 2022.

**ASIA-PACIFIC**

**South Korean** officials announced Tuesday that starting April 1 travelers will no longer be required to quarantine upon arrival. Travelers must have been vaccinated within 180 days of arrival time. Visitors from Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and Myanmar are still required to quarantine for 7 days. Internal restrictions remain such as a facemask mandate and 11pm curfew.

**Hong Kong** Chief Executive Carrie Lam announced Monday that the flight ban for the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, France, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and the Philippines would be lifted on April 1. Travelers from these countries will only need to quarantine for seven days instead of the previous 14-day requirement. Schools will resume in person learning on April 19, and most public venues will reopen April 21.

Starting April 1, travelers to **Thailand** will no longer be required to provide a negative Covid test result for the Test & Go or Sandbox entry programs. Travelers will still be required to test upon arrival and again five days later. Thailand’s Test and Go entry plan requires travelers to spend the night in a government-approved hotel while awaiting the first test result, and to test again 5 days later. The Sandbox program allows travelers to move freely inside designated areas while awaiting test results in the same timeline.

**EUROPE**

**France** has recorded a 36% increase in COVID-19 cases since social distancing restrictions were lifted about a week ago. This is the biggest jump in cases since mid-February when the country was battling infections from the Omicron variant. People in France are no longer subject to mask mandates, except for on public transportation and in medical facilities. The government has also lifted its COVID-19 vaccine pass requirements, which has contributed to the positive trend in cases. France is currently pushing a 7-day average of almost 100,000 new cases, compared to the 60,000 average new cases one week earlier.

**Italy** has decided to ease some of its COVID-19 restrictions and will not extend its state of emergency, which is set to expire on 31 March. According to Italy's health minister, those who test positive for COVID-19 are
still required to be quarantined, however, close contacts of positive cases will not be subject to quarantine requirements. After 30 April, masks will no longer be required for indoor venues and capacity limits for these venues will soon be lifted. Currently, almost 90% of Italians aged 12 and older have been fully vaccinated and about 30% of children aged 5-12 have also completed the vaccine cycle.

Starting 28 March, Spain has decided to get rid of quarantine requirements for individuals who test positive for COVID-19 but show no symptoms. Under the current regulations, anyone testing positive for COVID-19 is subject to seven days of isolation. Quarantine will still be compulsory for those who have severe symptoms or are classified as high-risk individuals such as pregnant women, those over the age of 60, and those with compromised immune systems.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Egypt’s Acting Minister of Health and Population announced COVID-19 related deaths dropped 48% from 14 March to 21 March compared to the previous week. Minister Khaled Abdel-Ghaffar said the percentage of hospitalizations and ICU occupancy rates also dropped by 50%. The Ministry announced COVID-19 reports will now be released weekly rather than daily. They say the decision was made after Egypt started seeing a continuous decline in infections and deaths.

Israel’s Health Ministry’s COVID-19 team is convening today to discuss the accelerating rate of new cases. The team will also discuss whether to launch another campaign to promote vaccinations. After weeks of declining cases, the country’s transmission rate has passed 1. Israel’s “R” statistic dropped below 1 on 19 January indicating the Omicron wave that started in December had passed. This statistic meant that each COVID-19 carrier was infecting less than 1 other person on average. Now Israel is seeing each COVID-19 carrier is infecting 1 other person on average. The Health Ministry believes the BA.2 (similar to Omicron’s BA.1 variant) is responsible for the increase of infections.

Jordan will ease COVID-19 restrictions during the holy month of Ramadan from 2 April to 2 May this year. Social-distancing requirements in mosques will be removed. Face masks will no longer be required in open-air places but will still be required in closed areas. Limitations on seating capacity in restaurants and cafes will also be removed.

Starting on 1 April, Iraq will no longer require travelers entering the country to present a negative COVID-19 test result upon arrival. Currently, travelers are required to present a negative COVID-19 test result upon arrival and prior to departing Iraq. Iraq’s Civil Aviation has announced travelers leaving Iraq will still be required to meet their destination country’s testing requirements. Travelers will also be required to present proof of two COVID-19 vaccine doses for entry into Iraq.
STANDING ADVICE:

- Review On Call International’s COVID-19 Travel Outlook Map for updated information on individual countries’ travel advisories, COVID-19 case trends, travel restrictions, and healthcare capabilities.
- Maintain enhanced personal hygiene. This includes washing your hands often with soap and water, clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe, wear a face covering at all times while in public locations, and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Practice good cough etiquette by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when coughing or sneezing. Do not use your hands because subsequent contact of your hands to surfaces or other people can spread the infection.
- If feeling ill, remain indoors and limit your contact with others.
- Be advised that many countries maintain entry/exit restrictions, applicable to citizens and non-citizens alike. Review a country’s specific travel restrictions prior to making travel arrangements.
- Consider that commercial flight availability may be limited. Even if a country does not restrict entry, it may be difficult to find flights to the area.
- Expect enhanced health screening procedures to be conducted at transportation hubs such as airports.
- Many countries have imposed domestic social distancing measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If traveling to a country, review its domestic restrictions prior to setting out.
- If you believe you may be infected with COVID-19, contact a medical facility by phone or email prior to arrival to ensure the medical facility have the proper time to prepare for your arrival. Be advised that due to the volume of confirmed cases in some locations, medical workers may advise you to self-isolate at home if your symptoms are not severe.
- Review the CDC’s website and the WHO’s website for the most up-to-date information relating to COVID-19 exposure, risk, and prevention.
Incident Classification

**MONITOR**
Definition: Continue to conduct normal operations without significant security concerns.
Conditions:
- Standard security operations protocols are in place
- Operating environment is considered stable
- Daily activities within the locality are proceeding as normal
- Operations expected to proceed with no impediments
Advice: Continue to follow best practices and travel safety tactics. Follow standing advice indicated in briefing.

**WATCH**
Definition: Continue to conduct normal operations. Indicators and warnings suggest heightened awareness and additional precautions may need to be implemented.
Conditions:
- Noticeable changes in daily activities within the locality
- A small-scale increase of civil unrest or crime
- Natural Disaster seasons are approaching
Advice: Review Emergency Action protocols, liaise with embassy sources and trusted local contacts to ascertain latest on the ground information, and report any pertinent information to travelers and security provider. Follow standing advice indicated in briefing.

**WARNING**
Definition: A specific threat or threats have been identified determined by accurate intelligence and assessment of the situation. The threat has the potential to be ongoing or escalate.
Conditions:
- State Department or relevant health authority issues a warning
- Significant natural disaster is forecast
- Significant intelligence indicating a potential disruptive incident
Advice: Consider restricting movement of personnel in impacted areas, have choice of action in place if situation worsens, ensure constituents have adequate emergency supplies, and establish daily communication windows with constituents in country.

**TAKE ACTION**
Definition: The current, credible, and specific threat is imminent, occurring or has occurred and has caused significant disruption to daily operations and activities in country.
Conditions:
- A major event occurs with significant economic, political or security disruptions expected over a short or long term period
- Large presence of military or police in streets with continuing presence expected; state of emergency declared
- US State department raises the travel rating or evacuates non-essential personnel or staff
Advice: Establish immediate communication with personnel, consider communicating with affected personnel’s emergency contacts and family, and liaise with both local and non-local authorities and like-minded organizations to support your response.
The information provided to you within this briefing has been compiled from a multitude of available sources and is based on current news and analysis at the time of writing. The security team at On Call International, LLC. has provided this analysis, supporting advice, and recommendations in good faith to assist you in mitigating risks that could arise. However, no implied or express warranty against risk, changes in circumstance, or other fluid and unforeseen events can be provided. Based on your request for this assessment, you agree that any reliance you place on this information is therefore strictly at your own risk and that you will not hold On Call International, LLC. or the authors responsible for any inaccuracies, errors or oversights herein.