



OBJECTIVE / OBJECTIF

This document provides a situational update on airport status and Customs entry points during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ce document fait le point sur le statut des aéroports et des points d'entrée des douanes pendant la pandémie de COVID-19.

NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES AT THE GHRP'S DATE / NOMBRE DE CAS DE COVID-19 A LA DATE DU GHRP

24,811

NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES ON 1 JULY 2020 / NOMBRE DE CAS DE COVID-19 LE 1 JUILLET 2020

227,662

Latest updates highlighted in **yellow**.

COUNTRY BRIEF / COMPTE RENDU

Iran was included in the United Nations' 2020 COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), with no specific response plan; under 'Other'. A needs and gaps analysis were conducted and a response approach will be implemented.

*"Iran has a strong health-care system and there is a National Mobilization Plan for COVID-19; however, the epidemic has **overstretched its capacities**. Sanctions have impacted the health system and there are shortages of medical supplies."*

Internal restrictions apply; universities, schools, and cultural and sports centers remain closed. The ban on inter-city travel has been lifted, and those businesses judged to pose only a "medium risk" of spreading the coronavirus may reopen. **All government employees working from home returned to their offices on 30 May.**

AIRPORT STATUS / STATUT DES AEROPORTS

1. Airport / Flight restrictions (updated 15 June 2020).

According to an ICAO update, scheduled international flights are still only accepted at Tehran Imam Khomeini International Airport including cargo flights. Flights to other international airports require special permission. Repatriation flights out of Iran, emergency flights and humanitarian/medevac/United Nations flights are only accepted to international airports given prior special permission from Iran's Civil Aviation Authority (source: ICAO, 9 May 2020). **Special permission from the address specialpermissions@cao.ir is required for international flights, to use international airports other than Tehran (source: WFP, 15 June 2020).**

As of 11 April, all air operators arriving at international airports are required to send detailed passenger lists at least one hour prior to arrival (source: ICAO, 11 April 2020).

As of 29 March, all flights from China are banned until further notice. As of 8 March, IranAir has suspended all flights to and from European destinations until further notice (source: ICAO, 29 March 2020).

2. Passengers / Quarantine (updated 22 May 2020).

Passengers are subject to medical screening and quarantine on arrival. A completed self-declaration form concerning Coronavirus (COVID-19) must be presented upon arrival (source: IATA, 22 May 2020).

In order to observe health standards and curb COVID-19, all passengers will be physically distanced and screened upon arrival. An ICAO update reported that passengers must fill in a "passengers' affidavit" form, delivered to them by the Airline before boarding. Passengers returning from high-risk countries, and from low-risk countries with symptoms will be tested for COVID-19 upon arrival. Such passengers will be isolated until their test results are available. If a passenger tests positive, they must be quarantined (at hospitals / makeshift hospitals) for 14 days according to medical protocols currently applicable.

Only non-Iranian nationals are able to depart from Iran, via Qatar Airways, Iran Air and Mahan airlines.



All neighbouring countries to Iran, aside from Afghanistan, have closed joint borders, and a number of countries have banned flights from Iran.

(source: ICAO, 5 May 2020).

3. Airlines cargo Operations status (updated 29 May 2020).

Qatar Airlines Cargo continues to support UNICEF with the transportation of medical shipments to Iran through freight charters (source: IATA, 29 May 2020).

IMPORTATION AND CUSTOMS / IMPORTATION ET DOUANES

4. Customs, land, sea (updated 14 April 2020).

According to an update from Iran's Customs Administration, a number of extraordinary Customs procedures have been put in place in Iran. This includes:

- Extending office hours for many of the customs offices and border crossing points during the holidays and weekends in order to prevent the delay of the movement of shipments and reduce the overcrowded conditions;
- Fast clearance of current shipments, especially relief supplies and medical equipment for COVID-19 treatment including diagnostic kits, various types of respirators, gloves, ethyl alcohol, etc. which are the first priority;
- Clearing of the above-mentioned shipments, which had the registration of a bank order and were in the process of providing bank currency, was announced;
- Releasing of essential supplies and equipment for COVID-19 with a minimum set of documents and without tracking code, when they are approved by the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education. Each case will be notified to the relevant points of entry with the invoice number and type of goods to be released immediately;
- The license of international transportation companies will be renewed automatically for a certain period of time in order to prevent in-person visits;
- Accepting of customs clearance documents via office e-mail with no need to visit in person;
- Customs headquarters announced to all Customs offices to extend all temporary entry and export licenses that are due to expire in near days in order to prevent the commuting of the stakeholders to Customs offices;
- Customs headquarters requested all Customs offices to send the information of all voided declarations of health-oriented goods which are prohibited to export, and announce to the Ministry of Industry every day.

Prohibition and restrictions:

- The government has restricted the export of medical devices and supplies including masks and other medical items, in accordance with the list of HS codes announced by the Ministry of industry, as well as the export of machinery for the production of these items;
- It is emphasized to track the exit of goods such as diagnostic kits, all types of respirators, gloves, ethyl alcohol, etc. as well as obtaining the number and information of similar goods which already exist in Customs places to follow up with the importers to declare and release the shipment.

A number of further restrictions and regulations have also been put in place related to staff safety and sanitation at Customs offices including the use of personal protective equipment and frequent sanitization of all equipment and tools.



(source: Customs Administration, 9 April 2020).

All Iranian border points are open for transit via the territory of Iran, provided drivers observe the published guidelines (*see Country Specific Useful Links*). As there are no specific restrictions, there is no requirement for a green lane and all transit routes are currently open to transport. Customs authorities are facilitating the transport of medicines and food.

(source: Ministry of Health and Medical Education, March 2020).

Circulars have been released by government agencies regulating the export of materials relevant to the fight against coronavirus.

(source: Government of Iran, undated (Persian)).

5. Customs, importation procedure

Tariff classification: (updated 9 April 2020)

As of a decree published on 9 April, the Government has reduced duties and taxes on the import of 14 items of equipment and 13 items of supplies which are necessary for combating the COVID-19 with a minimum import duty of 5% (of customs value).

(source: Customs Administration, 9 April 2020).

Customs which are open for export and import: (updated 29 June 2020)

- Dogharoun BCP (**Afghanistan**) goods transport is permitted. Passenger transport is prohibited;
- Mahirood BCP, Milak BCP (**Afghanistan**) goods transport and entry of Iranian and Afghan nationals is permitted;
- Meghri BCP (**Armenia**) although most commercial fleet and passenger fleet are prohibited, exceptions apply for medical cargo (**see below**);
- Astara BCP, Pilehsavar BCP and Jolfa BCP (**Azerbaijan**) are open for trade (**see below**).
- Parvizkhan BCP, Bashmaq BCP and Tamarchin BCP (**Iraq**), BCPs in Kurdish territory: Iranian export fleet, admission of national fleet from both sides as the border and border transshipment are authorized. Third party fleet border crossing, Iraqi export fleet border crossing, departure of Iranian and Iraqi citizens and transit of third-party citizens are prohibited by Iraq;
- Iran's land borders with **Pakistan** are open for food and essential from 08:00AM to 14:00PM for 20 trucks and 40-50 per day;
- Makhachkala BCP (**Russia**) is open for trade (food only) (**see below**);
- Sari Su BCP (**Turkey**) is open for "health products". Bazargan BCP (**Turkey**) only allows 60 trucks per day. Land border crossings between Turkey and Iran have been open since 4 June 2020.

Customs which are closed for export and Import: (updated 29 June 2020)

- Mehran BCP, Shalamcheh BCP, Chazabeh BCP (**Iraq**) commercial fleet is prohibited and national fleet are permitted by Iraq;
- The Iranian border crossing points with Federal Iraq are closed for cargo and passengers;
- Sarakhs BCP, Lotfabad BCP, Inchehboroun BCP, Bajgiran BCP (**Turkmenistan**) commercial fleet is prohibited; national fleet are permitted by Turkmenistan.



(source: Customs Administration, 5 May 2020; IRU, 8 April 2020).

Other: (updated 12 May 2020)

Afghanistan: Although the land border with Afghanistan is open for cargo, drivers must comply with sanitary standards and test COVID-19 negative.

Azerbaijan: Rail routes to Azerbaijan are open for cargo. According to an update from a spokesperson of Iran's Customs Administration shared on 5 May, the joint three BCPs mentioned above are now open.

Kuwait: Kuwait's borders are open only for food and essential cargo.

Turkey: Rail routes to Turkey are open for cargo. Turkey has imposed restrictions with the open border crossing points with Iran: transportation is for essential cargo and mandatory transshipment is applicable for Turkish trucks.

Air cargo is allowed into Afghanistan and ports are open to cargo subject to disinfection procedures and health checks.

Russia: According to an update from a spokesperson of Iran's Customs Administration, Makhachkala BCP is open for trade (food only). All road, railway, maritime and passenger traffic is suspended by Russia until further notice.

(source: Iranian Government, 12 May 2020; Customs Department, 5 May 2020).

Armenia: According to Decision No.31 of the Commandant's Office of the Republic of Armenia, the transportation of all goods between Iran and Armenia (export, import, transit) can be carried out at the Meghri BCP. All goods from the Islamic Republic of Iran are subject to transshipment, except for those goods which have the written permission of the State Revenue Committee. All trucks from Iran must have two drivers. Drivers must comply with sanitary standards and test COVID-19 negative.

(source: Government of Armenia, 3 April 2020).

6. Annex J-5 of the Revised Kyoto Convention: Not ratified

7. Annex B.9 of the Istanbul Convention: 20 September 2016

8. ASYCUDA user: No

9. ASYREC user: No

USEFUL LINKS / LIENS UTILES

CIQP Bulletins for other countries are available [here](#).

Country-specific:

World Health Organization, [Iran page](#)

[OCHA, Iran - COVID-19 flash update \(28 May 2020\)](#)

[International Road Transport Union \(IRU\), Impact on freight and passenger transport of the COVID-19 outbreak](#)



Islamic Republic of Iran, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, [Guidelines for Environmental Control to Combat COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) in Points of Entry \(Passenger and Cargo\) \(March 2020\)](#)

Islamic Republic of Iran, Customs Administration, [Best Practices document \(9 April 2020\)](#)

Islamic Republic of Iran, Customs Export Office, [Circular on the Prohibition of the Export of Raw Materials for the Production of Medical Masks](#)

Islamic Republic of Iran, Trade Promotion Organization of Iran, [Circular on the prohibition of the export of items required by the Ministry of Health to combat the spread of coronavirus](#)

Islamic Republic of Iran, Customs Export Office, [Circular on the Prohibition of Exporting Domestic Medical Equipment Required for Coronavirus Crisis Management and Control](#)

General:

Agility, [Global Shipping Updates: COVID-19](#)

International Air Transport Association (IATA), [Coronavirus Outbreak – Update](#)

IATA, [Government Measures Related to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

IATA, [Air Cargo Operations status - COVID-19](#)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), [COVID-19 airport status](#)

International Organization for Migration, [Points of Entry Status](#)

International SOS, [Travel Restrictions, Flight Operations and Screening](#)

United Nations, [Global Humanitarian Response Plan: COVID-19](#)

United Nations, [Global Humanitarian Response Plan: COVID-19 – May Update](#)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, [Observatory on Border Crossings Status due to COVID-19](#)

Wilhemssen, [COVID-19 Global Port Restrictions Map](#)

World Customs Organization, [HS classification reference list for COVID-19 medical supplies \(3rd edition\)](#)

World Customs Organization, [COVID-19 – WCO Updates](#)

World Customs Organization, [List of national legislation of countries that adopted temporary export restrictions on certain categories of critical medical supplies in response to COVID-19](#)

World Health Organization, [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-2019\) situation reports](#)

World Trade Organization, [COVID-19: Trade and Trade-related measures](#)



IMPACCT

IMPortation And Customs Clearance Together !

COVID-19 [Iran]

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(Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

[If you have any questions / comments / additions, please contact:](#)

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