



Latest updates highlighted in yellow.

### OBJECTIVE

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

### COVID-19 CASES

Number of COVID-19 cases on the date of the GHRP: **24,811**

Number of COVID-19 cases on 16 August 2020: **341,070**

### COUNTRY BRIEF

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; some health measures have been put in place in parts of Iran. There are reports of imposed travel restrictions in several provinces, including to important tourism and pilgrimage areas. 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.

### IMPORTATION MEASURES TO RESPOND TO COVID-19

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<b>GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN</b>	
Is there a Humanitarian Response Plan for the country?	No, but Iran was included in the 2020 GHRP under ‘Other Appeals’
<b>AIRPORT STATUS and FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS</b>	
What is the status of international flights?	<p>Scheduled international flights to <b>Tehran Imam Khomeini International Airport</b> are available for passenger operations and cargo flights. The following conditions are applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resuming international scheduled flights requires obtaining a verification from the air transport bureau of</li> </ul>



	<p>the Iran Civil Aviation Authority. Operators are required to apply for airport slot in advance of operation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The entry of commercial freight through cargo flights is permitted</b> without any restriction by implementing the health protocols, including disinfection of arrival cargo.</li> <li>• All arriving foreign passengers from all air borders are required to follow health guidelines (see below).</li> </ul> <p>(source: ICAO, 16 August 2020)</p> <p>Special permission from the address specialpermissions@cao.ir is required for international flights, to use international airports other than Tehran (source: WFP).</p> <p>Flights from Iran to Turkey are suspended until September 2020 (source: WFP).</p>
<p>What is the airlines cargo operational status?</p>	<p>Qatar Airlines Cargo continues to support UNICEF with the transportation of medical shipments to Iran through freight charters (source: IATA).</p>
<p><b>IMMIGRATION and QUARANTINE</b></p>	
<p>What quarantine measures apply for travelers? What other measures?</p>	<p>Passengers must have a medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result issued at most 96 hours before arrival.</p> <p>Nationals of Iran arriving without a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result are subject to medical screening and quarantine for 14 days at their own expense.</p> <p>Passengers are subject to medical screening and quarantine at their own expense.</p> <p>A completed self-declaration form concerning Coronavirus (COVID-19) must be presented upon arrival.</p> <p>(source: IATA, 27 July 2020).</p>
<p>What visa restriction measures apply?</p>	<p>Visa on arrival facilities have been suspended for passengers traveling as tourists. E-visas can be obtained before departure online. Passengers must have a confirmation email.</p> <p>(source: IATA, 27 July 2020).</p>
<p><b>IMPORTATION and CUSTOMS PROCEDURES</b></p>	
<p>What importation procedures related to <b>taxes and duties</b> have been introduced?</p>	<p><b>Tariff classification:</b> (updated 9 April 2020)</p> <p>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</p>



	<p>items of supplies which are necessary for combating the COVID-19 with a minimum import duty of 5% (of customs value).</p> <p>(source: Customs Administration, 9 April 2020).</p>
<p>What measures have been introduced to facilitate the smooth clearance of goods related to COVID-19?</p>	<p>According to an update from Iran’s Customs Administration, a number of extraordinary Customs procedures have been put in place in Iran. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extending office hours for many of the customs offices and border crossing points;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• The license of international transportation companies will be renewed automatically for a certain period of time in order to prevent in-person visits;</li> <li>• Accepting of customs clearance documents via office e-mail with no need to visit in person;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>(source: Customs Administration, 9 April 2020).</p>
<p>What <b>border closure</b> measures apply (air, land, sea) that affect the importation of goods?</p>	<p>All Iranian border points are open for transit via the territory of Iran, provided drivers observe the published guidelines (<i>see Country Specific Useful Links</i>). 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.</p> <p>(source: Ministry of Health and Medical Education, March 2020).</p> <p><b>Sea ports:</b> Ports are open for cargo. Ships must be disinfected and are subject to health checks.</p>



	<p><b>Airports:</b> Air cargo is allowed.</p> <p><b>Land borders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iraqi land border crossing points with <b>Afghanistan</b> are open for cargo. Drivers must comply with sanitary standards and test COVID-19 negative.</li> <li>• Iraqi land border crossing points with <b>Armenia</b> are open for cargo. Drivers must comply with sanitary standards and test COVID-19 negative.</li> <li>• The border with the Kurdistan Region of <b>Iraq</b> is open for cargo, but the border with other parts of Federal Iraq is closed.</li> <li>• The land border with <b>Turkmenistan</b> is closed.</li> <li>• The Sari Su border crossing point with <b>Turkey</b> is open only for health products and at Bazargan the border only allows 60 trucks per day.</li> <li>• Rail routes to <b>Azerbaijan</b> are open for cargo.</li> <li>• Rail routes to <b>Turkey</b> are open for cargo.</li> <li>• All border crossings with <b>Pakistan</b> are now open.</li> </ul> <p>(source: Iranian government, 7 July 2020).</p>
<b>RESTRICTIONS to EXPORTS</b>	
<p>What <b>restrictions to export</b> certain goods apply in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?</p>	<p><b>Prohibition and restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p>(source: Customs Administration, 9 April 2020).</p> <p>Circulars have been released by government agencies regulating the export of materials relevant to the fight against coronavirus.</p> <p>(source: Government of Iran, undated (Persian)).</p>



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(Bulletin on Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

OTHER	
Has the country ratified Annex J-5 of the <b>Kyoto Convention</b> ? If so, when?	No
Has the country ratified Annex B.9 of the <b>Istanbul Convention</b> ? If so, when?	20 September 2016
ASYCUDA user?	No
ASYREC user?	No

## USEFUL LINKS

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

### Country-specific:

World Health Organization, [Iran page](#)

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](#)

[UN FAO, GIEWS Country Brief – Iran \(20 July 2020\)](#)

### Other links:

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



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*Bollre Logistics, [COVID-19 Impact Update](#)*

*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 Customs Organization, World Health Organization, [List of priority medicines for customs during COVID-19 pandemic](#)*

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

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

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

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