

**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**

991

**NUMBER OF
COVID-19 CASES
ON 18 JUNE 2020
/ NOMBRE DE CAS
DE COVID-19 LE 18
JUN 2020**

160,118

Latest updates highlighted in **yellow**.

COUNTRY BRIEF / COMPTE RENDU

Pakistan was included in the May update of the United Nations' 2020 COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), under 'Other Appeals'.

Pakistan has temporarily eased restrictions on national and international aid groups seeking to carry out relief work in the country, as well as sectors deemed by the government as 'low risk'. As the nationwide lockdown is slowly being lifted, provincial-level restrictions apply, including various restrictions to business operating hours and social distancing measures. Multiple provinces have banned public gatherings, declared restrictions on movement and imposed restrictions on public transport use. The countrywide shutdown of all schools remains in place and has been extended until 15 July.

AIRPORT STATUS / STATUT DES AEROPORTS**1. Airport / Flight restrictions** (updated 29 May 2020).

As per a decision of the Federal Government, outbound international flight operations (scheduled, non-scheduled and charter flights) are allowed with effect from 23:59 on 29 May 2020.

Both national and foreign airlines shall be allowed to operate from all international airports of Pakistan with the exception of Gwadar and Turbat Airports.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for outbound international flights have already been issued according to which airlines will be required to follow the SOPs of the destination country. Additionally, disinfection of aircrafts will be ensured and no congestion at airports shall be allowed.

(source: Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), 29 May 2020).

2. Passengers / Quarantine (updated 1 June 2020).

Those who are still allowed to travel to Pakistan will be subjected to health screenings on arrival. A completed International Passenger Health Declaration Form must be presented upon arrival. Passengers and airline crew are also subject to health screening (including swab testing, isolation or quarantine).

From 21 March, passengers are required to provide a medical certificate stating the results of a COVID-19 test conducted 24 hours prior to boarding the flight. This will be requested at the point of disembarkation in Pakistan. Passengers will be subject to a minimum 48-hour state-monitored quarantine and required to take a COVID-19 test after 48 hours and the quarantine period can then be extended based on the results.

Crew are not exempt from restrictions. Crew change or disembarkation will not be allowed on inbound international cargo flights.

(source: International Air Transport Association (IATA), 13 May 2020).

3. Airlines cargo Operations status (updated 17 June 2020).



Gulf Air, the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain, has confirmed the return of operations out of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan starting from 31 May 2020, with resumption of direct flights from Islamabad International Airport to its hub Bahrain International Airport, and with flights from other cities in Pakistan being added in the coming days.

(source: IATA, 17 June 2020).

IMPORTATION AND CUSTOMS / IMPORTATION ET DOUANES

4. Customs, land, sea (updated 19 June 2020).

All humanitarian and commercial cargo movements are allowed at Customs ports but operating at lower efficiency.

In terms of **road and rail**, there are a limited number of truckers on duty. Rail freight is still operational. Cross-border road freight into Afghanistan is affected by serious delays and disruptions, affected by moderate driver or equipment shortages and land border restrictions.

(source: Agility, not dated).

Cargo ships will be subjected to mandatory inspections. Crew rotations and shore leave are not permitted in the port. All vessels must submit mandatory documents 72 hours before arrival to Karachi Port and Bin Qasim Port.

(source: Wilhelmsen, 10 June 2020).

At the Taftan – Mirjaveh Border-Crossing Point (BCP) with **Iran**, commercial fleet, passenger fleet, and national fleet are prohibited by Pakistan.

From 11 April, Torkham and Chaman – Wesh BCPs with **Afghanistan** have been opened, for transit with special conditions. These border crossing points will re-close if as a result of the re-opening of these points, the spread of COVID-19 is exacerbated. Pathan – Paktia BCP, Urgon – Paktika BCP and Ghulam Khan – Khost BCP remain closed for export and import

(source: Afghan Customs Administration).

The Ministry of Interior **announced** a number of measures on 15 May 2020 at the Western Border with Afghanistan, at Torkham and Chaman BCPs:

- Torkham border will remain open for 24 hours / six days a week (except Saturday) and an unlimited number of trucks will be allowed per day while ensuring proper SOPs and guidelines for both Afghan Bilateral Trade and Afghan Transit Trade.
- Chaman border will remain open for six days a week (except Saturday) for specified timings (as already notified) and unlimited number of trucks will be allowed per day while ensuring proper SOPs and guidelines for both Afghan Bilateral Trade and Afghan Transit Trade.
- Saturdays will be reserved for pedestrian movement only as per procedure already in place. Standard Quarantine Protocols / SOPs (as applicable for air passengers) will be implemented for pedestrians as well.



(Source: Ministry of Interior, 15 May 2020).

A document published by the Afghan Ministry of Income and Trade stated that:

- Trucks are sprayed with disinfectant by Afghan Ministry of Health personnel while arriving into Afghanistan;
- After trucks are unloaded on the Afghanistan side to go back to Pakistan, the empty truck is sprayed by Pakistan Health authorities.

(source: Afghan Ministry of Income and Trade, 28 March 2020).

5. Customs, importation procedure (updated 7 May 2020).

A document of Best Practices in Pakistan Customs stated that the following measures have been put in place:

- 24/7 **clearance of Cargo** at Ports/Airports and land borders stations. Expedient clearance of medicines, food items, and equipment pertaining to treatment of COVID-19 has been ensured.
- The government has **waived all duties and taxes** on the import of essential medicines and equipment necessary for containing and combating COVID-19;
- A dedicated email has been created for single-contact facilitation to accommodate all trade related queries/grievances for redressal by the Customs Authorities;
- The Federal and Provincial Government have also created a dedicated helpline for the general public as well as business;
- The government has extended **date of filing for goods declarations** (GDs);
- Customs authorities have been provided extra budget to protect staff against COVID-19 by provision of Masks, Sanitizers and other essentials as instructed by the local health authorities;
- Screening and sanitizing facilities have been made available at all work places;
- Customs authorities have been informed of the possible import/supply of counterfeit medical supplies and fake medicines in the wake of COVID-19. Actions taken in this regard will be shared using the common platform i.e. CEN.comm;
- Staff rotation has been introduced in the wake of movement restrictions imposed by the Government. Staff are allowed to work from home to facilitate trade.

(source: Pakistan Customs (Federal Board of Revenue), 7 May 2020)

Items that are banned from exportation:

A Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) published by the Ministry of Commerce (SRO 239) stated that the following items of personal protective equipment have been banned from exportation:

- Tyvek Suits
- Disposable Gowns
- Disposable Gloves
- Face Shields
- Surgical Masks
- N 95 Masks
- Biohazard Bags
- Goggles
- Shoe Covers



- Hand Sanitizers

The ban shall lapse upon the completion of the process of assessment of the baseline requirements of the country and stockpiling is to be notified to the government.

(source: Ministry of Commerce, 24 March 2020).

An SRO published by the Ministry of Commerce (SRO 297) stated that Pakistan has banned the export of anti-malarial drugs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The SRO states that the product will be barred from exportation until further decisions of the National Coordination Committee (NCC) on COVID-19.

(source: Ministry of Commerce, 9 April 2020).

Items that have had import support introduced:

An SRO published by the Ministry of Finance and Revenue (SRO 235) stated that 61 items of medical equipment have been suspended from Customs duty, regulatory duty and additional Customs duty, for a period of three months until 20 June 2020. A second SRO (SRO 318) was published on 16 April 2020, as an amendment clarifying the initial SRO. The items are listed in the SRO, which has been published in English, found in the 'Useful Links' section below.

(source: Ministry of Finance and Revenue, 20 March 2020).

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

7. Annex B.9 of the Istanbul Convention: Not ratified.

8. ASYCUDA user: No.

9. ASYREC user: No.

USEFUL LINKS / LIENS UTILES

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

Country-specific:

Government of Afghanistan – Ministry of Industry and Trade, [Mechanisms for unloading and loading commercial and transit goods \(Dari\) \(28 March 2020\)](#)

Government of Afghanistan – Ministry of Industry and Trade, [Mechanisms for unloading and loading commercial and transit goods \(English\) \(28 March 2020\)](#)

Government of Pakistan – Ministry of Commerce, [SRO 239 \(24 March 2020\)](#)

Government of Pakistan – Ministry of Commerce, [SRO 297 \(9 April 2020\)](#)

Government of Pakistan – Ministry of Finance and Revenue, [SRO 235 \(20 March 2020\)](#)

Government of Pakistan – Ministry of Finance and Revenue, [SRO 318 \(16 April 2020\)](#)

Government of Pakistan – Ministry of Interior, [Sealing of Western Border of Pakistan \(15 May 2020\)](#)



IMPACCT

IMPortation And Customs Clearance Together !

COVID-19 [Pakistan]

Bulletin n°3 – CIQP : 19 June 2020

(Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, [News and Events](#)

[Pakistan Customs \(Federal Board of Revenue\), Best Practices \(7 May 2020\)](#)

Pakistan Federal Board of Review, [Correspondence during COVID-19 outbreak](#)

[UN OCHA, Pakistan: Situation Report as of 19 June 2020](#)

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](#)

Wilhemnsen, [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](#)

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

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