



### 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

# 316

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

# 49,109

Latest updates highlighted in **yellow**.

### COUNTRY BRIEF / COMPTE RENDU

Iraq was included in the United Nations' 2020 COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), with a Humanitarian Response Plan. The Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq took note of the strong humanitarian leadership in the country as well as the local risks:

*"Iraq has a **strong humanitarian leadership** and coordination structure with a Humanitarian Coordinator leading the HCT and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group... The humanitarian system is **not sufficiently geared** to focus response on epidemiology for displaced people or the wider population."*

Internal restrictions have been imposed by the government. The nightly curfew timing has changed to 17.00-05.00, including on weekends, until further notice. Individuals are required to wear masks when outside of their homes, or will face legal consequences. Interprovincial movement is restricted to government, emergency or business trips. In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), non-essential overland movement between cities within the KR and between the KR and federal Iraq will be subject to special approval of the Supreme Committee for Coronavirus Response.

### AIRPORT STATUS / STATUT DES AEROPORTS

#### 1. Airport / Flight restrictions (updated 22 June 2020).

Passenger flights to Iraq remain suspended until further notice. This includes the following airports Al Najaf Airport (ORNI), Baghdad Airport (ORBI), Basrah Airport (ORMM), Erbil Airport (ORER), and Sulaymaniyah Airport (ORSU). This does not apply to red cross, humanitarian, medevac, repatriation, emergency, military or cargo flights (source: ICAO, 30 June 2020).

#### 2. Passengers / Quarantine (info dated 23 March 2020).

The authorities have banned the entry of travellers from Bahrain, China, France, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Nigeria, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Turkey and Thailand. The entry ban is for travellers coming directly or indirectly from those countries but exempts Iraqi nationals, diplomats and official delegations. Iraqi nationals and residents who have visited these locations in the last 14 days prior to arrival will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days. All arrivals, coming from the above countries, are subject to compulsory medical examination on the border crossing (source: IATA, 23 March 2020).

#### 3. Airlines cargo Operations status (updated 9 June 2020).

All Sun Express cargo flights to Iraq have been suspended until July 3 2020 (source: IATA, 9 June 2020).

Spicejet has added Almaty, Iraq to its international cargo network (source: IATA, 8 June 2020).

### IMPORTATION AND CUSTOMS / IMPORTATION ET DOUANES

#### 4. Customs, land, sea (updated 23 June 2020).

**Turkey:**

- Serious disruptions impact cross-border road freight between Iraq and Turkey; Turkey has suspended movement through its land border crossings into Iraq.
- In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI): the entry of trucks from Turkey to KRI through Ibrahim Khalil is allowed by Iraq, but Turkish trucks are not allowed to enter KRI and cross-loading at crossing points is mandatory (significant delays to be expected) due to Turkish national regulations.
- In Federal Iraq: Turkey has suspended all cargo movements to Iraq.
- All Turkish passenger, cargo and charter flights to and from Iran have been suspended.

**Syria:**

- The land border between the KRI and North East Syria remains closed.
- These operations are facing serious delays due to limited truckers available and equipment shortage. The border crossing point between KRI and Syria (Feshkhabour) is still closed. The bridge connecting the two sides was washed out due to heavy rains.

**Jordan:**

- Serious delays and disruptions impact cross-border road freight at Iraq – Jordan land borders; borders are closed except for food and essential items.
- Truck cross-docking at Trapiel border crossing with Jordan is mandatory.

**Iran:**

- The Iranian border with Iraqi Kurdistan is open for cargo, but the border with Federal Iraq is closed.

**Kuwait:**

- All of Iraq's entry points with Kuwait are currently closed.
- Sea cargo are operating as normal, but ships from Iraq are not allowed to berth.

**Saudi Arabia:**

- All entry points with Saudi Arabia are currently closed.

(sources: Agility, undated; WFP, various dates)).

The current status of ports varies:

**At Baghdad, Basra and Erbil ports:**

- Airports: terminals are operating normally for cargo but with reduced manpower impacting efficiency. Freighters are flying as normal but capacity is constrained.
- Roads: Some restrictions apply to road networks within city limits and between cities/regions.
- Customs: operating at lower efficiency due to manpower reductions or other restrictions.

At Basra port, sea port operations are operating as normal but is congested.

(source: Agility, undated).

Cargo flights are available to book through the Humanitarian Booking Hub, to Baghdad. The WFP flight schedule is as follows:

- **On Mondays** Cairo, Beirut, Yerevan, Baghdad, Erbil;



- **On Wednesdays** Cairo, Beirut, Yerevan, Baghdad, Erbil.

(source: [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#), undated).

#### **5. Customs, importation procedure** (updated 6 May 2020).

Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI):

- Erbil airport is open.

Federal Iraq (Central and South of Iraq):

- Cargo movements only allowed from 19:00 to 06:00 during weekdays.
- Um Qasr, Trapiel and Qaim ports are open to commercial and humanitarian goods.

Baghdad International Airport remains open for cargo.

The movement of trade exchange at maritime and air points in Iraq is allowed on the condition of presenting a sanitary certificate ensuring the safety of crews and cargo from the virus from the incoming countries.

(sources: Agility, undated; WFP, various dates)).

**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:**

[OCHA, Iraq: COVID-19 Situation Report No. 14, 1 June 2020](#)

[OCHA, Iraq: COVID-19 Humanitarian Bulletin \(17 June 2020\)](#)

#### **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](#)



**IMPACCT**

IMPortation And Customs Clearance Together !

# COVID-19 [Iraq]

**Bulletin n°4 – CIQP : 2 July 2020**

(Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

*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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