

Bulletin n° 1 - CIQP: 31 August 2020

(Bulletin on Customs, Immigration and Quarantine Procedures)

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: 1

Number of COVID-19 cases on 31 August: 12958

COUNTRY BRIEF

Libya was included in the United Nations' 2020 COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), with a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The HRP for Libya took note of the direct health impact on people and systems of a health crisis:

"Libya is vulnerable to an outbreak due to insecurity, political fragmentation, a weak health system and high numbers of vulnerable people, including migrants, refugees and IDPs. Few hospitals have isolation units, and if they do, they are often inadequate."

Internal restrictions have been imposed by local and federal authorities. Curfews are in place, which vary in different regions, and travel restrictions are in place between cities. All land ports in the country are closed for incoming and outgoing passengers. 'Mass public transport' has been prohibited.

IMPORTATION MEASURES TO RESPOND TO COVID-19

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS	
GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN		
Is there a Humanitarian Response Plan for the country?	Yes	
AIRPORT STATUS and FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS		
What is the status of international flights?	Flights have resumed at Mitiga Airport in Tripoli. Flight disruptions are a possibility at Misrata Airport following a fire on 3 August. (9 August 2020, WFP)	
	All other passengers and commercial international and domestic flights through Libyan Airlines	



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	(or Jamahriya Libyan Arab Airlines) are suspended until further notice (source: IATA, 20 May 2020).	
	This does not apply to air cargo flights, transportation of sick people and those wounded by war, as well as staff working in the oil fields (source: UNECE, 15 April 2020).	
What is the airlines cargo operational status?	Libyan Air Cargo service flights are operational. (source: CAPA, undated).	
IMMIGRATION and QUARANTINE		
What quarantine measures apply for travelers?	There are currently no guidelines on passengers and quarantine procedures.	
What visa restriction measures apply?	No information available.	
	A curfew has been imposed until further notice. (UNHCR, 13 August 2020).	
What curfew and lockdown measures apply?	Libya's internationally recognized government in Tripoli imposed a full lockdown in areas of the country it controls until further notice. (9 August 2020, WFP).	
IMPORTATION and CUSTOMS PROCEDURES		
What importation procedures related to taxes and duties have been introduced?	No information available.	
What measures have been introduced to facilitate the smooth clearance of goods related to COVID-19?	No information available.	
What border closure measures apply (air, land, sea) that affect the importation of goods?	At sea ports , for vessels whose previous port call was from COVID-19 high risk countries, ships will not be given clearance until 14 days after the date of its departure from the last port outside of Libya. The Ministry of Health must be informed of positive cases on vessels coming into the country. International Health Offices reserve the right to inspect the ships and crew coming to the ports before arrival. Crew change and shore leave are not permitted. (Source: Wilhelmsen, 30 June 2020).	



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	Cruise ships are also not allowed to dock; these vessels have been barred from entry into Libya since 2011 (source: UNECE, 15 April 2020). The situation of border closures for cargo at countries bordering Libya varies: • Tunisian land borders with Libya are closed; • Chad has closed its land borders to all countries but cargo flights remain operational; • The situation at Sudanese borders is complex; crossborder transport including cargo is banned for entry or exit in North Sudan; • In Niger, cargo flights are still operating and road cargo transportation through land borders is operational after a brief pause. (source: Bollore Logistics, undated).	
What measures relate to the opening/closing times of Customs offices?	No information available.	
What other/general procedures apply regarding the importation of goods relevant to humanitarian operators?	No information available.	
RESTRICTIONS to EXPORTS		
What restrictions to export certain goods apply in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?	On 16 March 2020, the Ministry of Economy and Industry of Libya announced the Presidential Council's publication of Resolution No. 59 of 2020. This was an export prohibition preventing the export of sterile and non-sterile face masks, respiratory devices, and various kinds of sterilizers. (source: Ministry of Economy and Industry, 16 March 2020). Restrictions and rules apply to goods coming in to Libya: • Sterilization of goods that are imported through land transportation applies. This includes spraying them with disinfectants; • Drivers must comply to a quarantine period, and the replacement of drivers with Libyan national drivers can be enforced by local authorities. With regards to the international transport of goods, drivers will not be placed in quarantine if they do not present symptoms of COVID-19. (source: UNECE, 15 April 2020).	



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OTHER		
	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights are suspended. Exemptions will be made for individuals who critically need medical attention abroad. (source: UNHAS, Humanitarian Booking Hub, 30 August 2020).	
What is the availability of UNHAS flights to the country?	There is one UNHAS hub in Tripoli. UNHAS currently makes round-trip flights every week, from Tunis to Tripoli or Zwara, Tunis to Misrata, and Tripoli to Benghazi. The flight also caters to ad hoc destination requests, depending on accessibility and safety restrictions. (source: UNHAS, Humanitarian Booking Hub).	
Has the country ratified Annex		
J-5 of the Kyoto Convention ? If so, when?	Not ratified	
Has the country ratified Annex	37	
B.9 of the Istanbul Convention ? If so, when?	Not ratified	
ASYCUDA user?	No	
ASYREC user?	No	

USEFUL LINKS

CIQP Bulletins for other countries are available here.

Country-specific:

Libyan Ministry of Economy and Industry, Export and import page

Libyan Ministry of Economy and Industry, Resolution No. 59 of 2020 (Arabic) (16 March 2020)

OCHA, COVID-19 - Situation Report No. 7, (22 June 2020)

OCHA, Libya: Humanitarian Bulletin July 2020, (14 August 2020)

WHO, Libya biweekly operational update -16-31 July 2020, (6 August 2020)

Other links:

Agility, Global Shipping Updates: COVID-19



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Bollore 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, <u>Global Humanitarian Response Plan: COVID-19 – May Update</u>

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 Customs Organization, World Health Organization, <u>List of priority medicines for customs during COVID-19</u> pandemic

World Health Organization, Coronavirus disease (COVID-2019) situation reports

World Trade Organization, <u>COVID-19</u>: <u>Trade and Trade-related measures</u>

If you have any questions / comments / additions, please contact:

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