OBJECTIVE / OBJECTIF

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

COUNTRY BRIEF / COMPTE RENDU

Ethiopia was included in the United Nations’ 2020 COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), with a Humanitarian Response Plan. The plan took note of response gaps in the country:

“Many health facilities, even at the national level, have sub-optimal infection prevention and control measures, due in part to lack of water and sanitation facilities.”

On 8 April 2020, the Government of Ethiopia declared a State of Emergency under Article 93 of the constitution, for 5 months. Religious, political and other official gatherings of more than four people are prohibited. While exceptions might be made for funeral services and essential services under special circumstances, all attendees will be required to maintain a two-metre distance. While some public transport services remain operational, passenger occupancy cannot exceed half of all seats. Educational institutions, bars and nightclubs remain closed.

AIRPORT STATUS / STATUT DES AÉROPORTS

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

Ethiopia has kept its main airport open for international flights, although Ethiopian Airlines has suspended air traffic to over 110 countries. Domestic flights are still operational.

(source: WFP, 1 June 2020).


Effective 22 March 2020, all incoming travelers into Ethiopia will be placed in a mandatory quarantine at the Ethiopian Skylight Hotel for 14 days at their own expense. Diplomats will be quarantined at their respective Embassies. The 14-day quarantine does not apply to transit passengers. Transit Passengers holding connecting flight bookings will stay at the Ethiopian Skylight Hotel until their connecting flight.

(source: WFP, 22 March 2020).


An International Air Transport Association (IATA) update reported that there were some severe impacts to Air Cargo operations in Ethiopia through Ethiopian Airlines. An update on 18 June states that flights to Bahrain and Zambia were suspended until further notice. An update from 17 June stated that flights to Dublin (Ireland) were suspended until further notice. Flights to Kuwait will resume on 1 July, and to Naironi/Mombasa (Kenya) on 6 July. More information can be found on the Ethiopian Airlines page for COVID-19 travel updates, with a list of countries which are suspended from travel.

(source: IATA, 18 June 2020).

IMPORTATION AND CUSTOMS / IMPORTATION ET DOUANES

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

Flight operations:
Cargo flights are operational with reduced capacity. Ethiopian Airlines cargo flights are still operational but cargo capacity is reduced due to flight cancellations. There are no cargo flights through Lufthansa and Emirates.

**Shipping operations:**

Cargo ships are operational but at limited capacity due to congestion at Djibouti port, which has been caused by the extended lockdown in Djibouti affecting operational hours for Shipping Lines.

**Road transport operations:**

- All land borders have been closed for passengers;
- Rail access is currently operational. There is a reduced rail transport availability due to a spike in demand;
- There is a truck shortage due to an importation influx of Ethiopian Government Cargo. There is a risk of storage and demurrage charges, and a possibility of increased transport rates. Strict controls apply for truckers at borders with potential quarantine for drivers.

*(source: Bollore Logistics, 19 June 2020)*

**Restrictions at land borders:**

The **Djibouti-Ethiopia** corridor remains open; there are no restrictions on cargo movements from Djibouti to Ethiopia.

At the Moyale border with **Kenya**, no passenger transport is allowed. Cargo trucks are also not allowed to cross the border. Transhipment therefore continues to be done at the respective destination country’s yard, i.e. for Ethiopian consignments, Kenyan trucks are offloading on the Ethiopian yard and vice versa for those holding a valid negative COVID-19 certificate. Drivers must undergo quarantine upon entering Kenya.

The Ethiopian border with **Eritrea** remains completely closed for all transport.

The Ethiopian border with **Somalia** remains closed for commercial entities. WFP trucks are allowed to move from Somalia to Ethiopia through the Berbera corridor. Ethiopian authorities are conducting temperature checks.

Major restrictions apply at the border with **Sudan**. The route from Gadarif to Galabat is operating as normal however the Galabat border bridge is fully closed from both sides. It can be operated for humanitarian cargo, following the obtaining of clearance and approval from the Sudanese and Ethiopian Governments.

Major restrictions also apply to the border with **South Sudan**. Land border transportation is only allowed for essential goods. From Ethiopia, road and river access to South Sudan is allowed, however due to the closure of all borders, with exemptions granted for cargo and fuel tanks, strict controls for truck drivers at the borders apply, with potential quarantine for affected drivers. At the Pagak/Denjok Border point, Vehicles are instructed to offload immediately and return to Ethiopia.

*(source: WFP, 10 June 2020)*
5. **Customs, importation procedure** (updated 19 June 2020)

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) cargo operations and World Food Program (WFP) operations are still ongoing.

There is one UNHAS hub in Addis Ababa. UNHAS Ethiopia operates in 7 areas where humanitarian assistance is critically needed. There are connections among Addis Ababa, Dollo Ado, Melkadida, Jijiga, Kebridahir, Gode, Warder and Dire Dawa. Bookings can be made on the Humanitarian Booking Hub at a minimum of 48 hours before the flight. Flights are operating:

- On Thursdays, from Juba, Jomo Kenyatta Nairobi, Mogadishu – Addis Ababa (as of 11 June).

For further information please contact [unhas.ethiopia@wfp.org](mailto:unhas.ethiopia@wfp.org) (source: UNHAS, Humanitarian Booking Hub).

At Customs, Federal offices are operating from 7:30AM to 3:30PM. The working hours of government employees based in Addis Ababa are from 9:30AM to 5:30PM. The Customs Office has waived the requirement for the Original Certificate of Origin for all manufacturers importing raw materials and will provide Customs services using other legal documents (source: Bollore Logistics, 19 June 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](https://example.com).

**Country-specific:**

- *Ethiopian Airlines, Travel updates – COVID-19*
- *Relief Web, [COVID-19 Response: Key Protection Concerns from the National Protection Cluster](https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia)*
- *UNHAS, Humanitarian Booking Hub*
- *UNOCHA, [Ethiopia: COVID-19 Situation Update No. 06 (8 June 2020)](https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia)*
- *WFP, [WFP Ethiopia Situation Report #3 (28 May 2020)](https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia)*

**General:**

- *Agility, [Global Shipping Updates: COVID-19]*
- *Bollore Logistics, [COVID-19 Impact Update]*
**International Air Transport Association (IATA),** [Coronavirus Outbreak – Update](https://www.iata.org)


IATA, [Air Cargo Operations status - COVID-19](https://www.iata.org)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), [COVID-19 airport status](https://www.icao.int)

International Organization for Migration, [Points of Entry Status](https://www.iom.int)

International SOS, [Travel Restrictions, Flight Operations and Screening](https://www.internationalsos.com)


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, [Observatory on Border Crossings Status due to COVID-19](https://un.org)

Wilhelmsen, [COVID-19 Global Port Restrictions Map](https://www.wilhelmsen.com)

World Customs Organization, [HS classification reference list for COVID-19 medical supplies (3rd edition)](https://www.wco忐.ORG)

World Customs Organization, [COVID-19 – WCO Updates](https://www.wco忐.ORG)

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](https://www.wco忐.ORG)

World Health Organization, [Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation reports](https://www.who.org)

World Trade Organization, [COVID-19: Trade and Trade-related measures](https://www.wto.org)

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

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