Qatar

Source: Qatar Ministry of Transport and Communications. National Focal Point for the project on ITSAS-GIS (ESCWA/IsDB)

07.04.2020

Land Border Crossings:

The land crossings of the State of Qatar have been closed since 2017 due to the blockade imposed on the state of Qatar.

Maritime Transport:

With regard to the industrial ports, it was agreed to take the following measures:

- Obliging all ships coming from countries where the epidemic has spread and heading to the industrial ports to stay in the hooked area for 14 days (the period of incubation of the virus) since its departure from the port of the country where the epidemic has spread. In case that no suspected disease appears, the ship is permitted to enter the port. In the event of any suspected case, the ship is prevented from entering the port.
- Requesting the Ministry of Health to circulate the procedures to be followed within all state ports to prevent disease.
- Coordination between the ports and the Ministry of Health to provide hot numbers to report any suspected cases of virus.
- Directing the Industrial Security Administration to facilitate the procedures for doctors to enter industrial ports to conduct a medical examination.
- Directing port departments to provide the necessary sterilization tools and masks for port workers, and to provide protective clothes for marine guides.
- The suggestion to the Ministry of Health to provide a quarantine area in each port.

The following procedures have been activated regarding ships arriving at the country's ports through the Suez Canal:

Ships, coming from countries where the virus does not spread through the Suez Canal without stopping, are allowed to enter the country's ports after making sure that there is no suspected case of infection.

1. Ships, coming from countries where the virus does not spread through the Suez Canal without stopping, are allowed to enter the country's ports after making sure that there is no suspected case of infection.
2. Ships coming from countries that do not spread the disease and docked inside the Suez Canal, are stopped in the marine quarantine area designated by the state for a period of 14 days, to ensure that they are free of sick conditions. In the event that it is found that there are suspected cases of injury, it is prohibited to deal with its employees, and it is prohibited for any of its crew to enter the ports. The naval guide is obliged to wear protective clothing, sleeves, and gloves and does not mix with any of the ship's crew until it leaves the port.
3. A directive not to make a change to the crews of ships that sail internationally was taken.
4. A directive not to receive cruise ships at Doha Port was taken.
5. A directive that it is necessary to ascertain in the event that any member of the ship belonging to the armed forces enters the ports and take the necessary measures towards the presence of a medical staff equipped with special devices for detection.

Air Transport:

Remarks from the International Road Transport Union

Forthcoming

Air crossings are still open, but several precautionary measures have been taken in this regard.

1. The Qatari government has restricted entry to the State of Qatar through Hamad International Airport to Qataris, Qatari children, Qatari spouses, Qatari wives and holders of permanent Qatari documents. They will be sent to quarantine for a period 14 days. Other nationalities will not be able to enter the State of Qatar. These restrictions are reviewed continuously.
2. All passengers who stopover in Doha (transit) during their trip to one of the national carrier international destinations are accepted through Hamad International Airport.
3. Travelers from all destinations served by the national carrier and for whom Doha is not the final destination can also book on board the flights of the national carrier and travel through Hamad International Airport, taking into account the restrictions imposed by some countries on entering their territories.
4. Air cargo flights are continuing naturally without any change.
5. Given the current operational challenges due to the spread of the Corona virus (Covid-19), the national carrier has modified or canceled some services.

Urban public transport:

Public transport, such as buses and metro, has been suspended. As for taxis and limousines, they are still operating.

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Source: WCO/General Authority of Customs, State of Qatar

31.03.2020

Precautionary measures to combat the spread of the Corona virus (Covid-19) taken at the General Authority of Customs (GAC) in the State of Qatar:

- By an Emiri decision, food and medical supplies were exempted from customs duties for a period of 6 months, and this procedure was published on the website of the GAC and the local
- The number of employees has been reduced to 20% of the total number, through a structured schedule of shifts, so that work continues 24 hours. Also, a structured schedule has been created for employees working in the
- The remaining 80% of the total employees were assigned to work from their homes remotely and provide all necessary technical
- Employees with chronic diseases were exempted from attending the workplace and only working remotely from their
- Precautionary measures were taken by distributing (protective uniform – gloves, masks and sterilizers) to employees, and hand sanitizers were placed in strategic locations and inspection
- The reception of individuals and companies has been suspended, and an e-mail has been created for the General Authority of Customs to receive requests and respond to inquiries, with a circular issued includes a list containing of all contact information such as phone numbers and e-mail (for senior officials) to provide any assistance, inquiry or support .
- Personnel and all dealers with the General Authority of Customs were educated in various ways about the prevention methods of corona virus (Covid-19) through continuous sterilization, wearing gloves and masks through developing (approved posters and banners by the Ministry of Public Health in the State of Qatar).
- Some of customs clearance companies and brokers have been contacted with them to confirm the workflow quickly and
- A number of TV and social media meetings were held to reassure the public about the progress of import and export operations and the role of customs in providing all the goods needed by the local
- Attendance registration by fingerprint were cancelled, and employee cards
- The work has been divided into small groups to limit the spread of
- On-the-job awareness training workshops were conducted for employees on the front

Further information: http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco/public/global/pdf/topics/facilitation/activities-and-programmes/natural-disaster/covid_19/qatar_en.pdf?la=en