Kazakhstan

Source: WCO/State Revenue Committee

04.05.2020

Measures adopted by the Republic of Kazakhstan to mitigate the effects of «COVID-19» pandemic

1. Protecting society

Imposition of the State of Emergency:

By Presidential Decree No. 285dated from 15 March 2020, the State of Emergency was imposed for the period from 16 March 2020 until April 30, 2020. The State of Emergency was extended until 11 May 2020.

Measures adopted by the Government:

From the Government's Reserve, 39.1 billion KZT was allocated for the fight against coronavirus infection and the purchase of socially essential products.

Measures adopted within the framework of the EAEU:

-Decision No.41 of the EEC Board dated 24 March 2020 introduced a ban on the export of personal protective equipment, disinfectants, medical products from the EAEU countries (comes into force after 30 calendar days);

-Decision No.42 of the EEC Board of 31 March 2020 «On amendments to the list of goods that are essential for internal market of the Eurasian Economic Union and for which temporary bans or quantitative restrictions on exports may be imposed in exceptional cases»;

-Decision No. 43 of the EEC Board of 31 March 2020 «On amendments to the Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission of 21 April 2015 No.30 «On non-tariff regulation measures».

These decisions establish a temporary ban on the export of certain types of food products from the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union. Among them are onions, garlic, turnips, rye, rice, buckwheat, millet, cereals, coarse flour and granules from cereals, collapsed buckwheat, ready-made food products from buckwheat, crushed and uncrushed soybeans, sunflower seeds

2. Supporting the Economy and Sustaining Supply Chain Continuity

Measures adopted by the Government

Decree No. 287 of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 16 March 2020 instructed to grant the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the following rights:

1) to set limitations on tariffs and prices for food and other goods necessary for uninterrupted life support of the population and economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan;

2) to determine the regulatory rules of import and export of goods necessary for uninterrupted life support of the population and economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

- In implementation of Presidential Decree, the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan adopted Resolution No.126 of 20 March 2020, according to which the Ministry of national economy was instructed to ensure the inclusion of “cattle” and “breeding chickens” to the list of imported goods for which value-added tax can be paid by the offset method.

Remarks from the International Road Transport Union

05.01.2022

A state of emergency has been declared in Kazakhstan

On 5th January, a state of emergency has been declared in Kazakhstan, namely in Aktau, the region of Mangystau, Almaty and its region, where a night-time curfew is currently in force. Further updates will be published when new information becomes available.

11.11.2020

With a new decision of the Chief State Sanitary Doctor of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 6 November 2020 No. 64 changes have been made to the previous decision of 23 October 2020 No 59.

Notably, professional drivers performing bilateral road transport operations with Kazakhstan before entry to its territory will have their temperature taken, will have to fill in the questionnaire and will have to present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued no later than 3 days prior to the day of crossing the border. Drivers without a medical certificate will be requested to take a COVID-19 PCR test on the spot. After their sample has been taken, drivers can continue the journey to the place of destination. If the PCR test is positive, the relevant health department will be notified according to the itinerary provided by the driver at the border. The driver will have then to undergo additional medical examination, and medical specialists will decide if the driver needs to be hospitalised.

For professional drivers in transit no changes. As announced earlier, they will have their temperature taken and have to fill in the questionnaire contained in Annex 4 to the decision.

The abovementioned changes entered into force on 10 November 2020.

More information in Russian…

Source: KAZATO

27.10.2020

Following the decision of the Chief State Sanitary Doctor of the Russian Federation No. 59 of 23 October 2020, all drivers engaged in international road transport of goods and:

- Transiting through Kazakhstan will have their temperature taken and have to fill in the questionnaire contained in Annex 4 to the decision; or
- Performing a bilateral transport operation with Kazakhstan (no more than two drivers per vehicle) and holding the relevant driver’s licence, will have their temperature taken, have to fill in the questionnaire contained in Annex 4 to the decision and take a COVID-19 PCR test. After their sample has been taken, drivers can continue to their destination. If the PCR test is positive, the relevant health department will be notified according to the itinerary provided by the driver at the border. The driver will have then to undergo additional medical examination, and medical specialists will decide if the driver needs to be hospitalised.

- By resolution No.141 of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 27 March 2020, the taxpayers classified as micro, small or medium-sized enterprises were granted a deferred payment period for all taxes and other mandatory payments to the budget as well as for social payments until 1 June 2020.

- By order No.111 of the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan dated 2 April 2020, a ban on export from the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan for certain products (buckwheat, buckwheat groats, sugar, potatoes, sunflower seeds, sunflower oil) was introduced.

- By order No.111 of the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan dated 2 April 2020, quantitative restrictions (quotas) were introduced in relation to export of certain goods from the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan (wheat flour or wheat-rye flour; soft wheat and meslin; seed potatoes; raw sunflower oil, unrefined in primary packages with a net volume of 10 liters or less; raw sunflower oil, unrefined in primary packages with a net volume of more than 10 liters).

Measures adopted in the sphere of State Revenue Committee of Kazakhstan

-Number of application of «red and yellow channels» at the border has been reduced;

-On-site Customs inspections scheduled but not started as of 16 March 2020 have been canceled;

-Property tax rate "0" for legal entities and individual entrepreneurs at large retail facilities, shopping centers, cinemas, theaters, exhibitions and sports facilities for tourism, catering and hotel services, airports;

-Land tax rate "0" for agricultural land of agricultural producers;

-Individual income tax (IIT) rate "0" for individual entrepreneurs working in the General regime;

-Export customs duty (ECD) rate "0" until the end of this year for exported light oil products;

-Reception of reports from foreign trade participants to territorial divisions of state revenue authorities in relation to certain customs procedures established by the orders of the Ministry of Finance 367, 247, 360, 173 has been suspended until 1 July 2020.

Measures adopted in the sphere of State Revenue Committee of Kazakhstan

-Number of application of «red and yellow channels» at the border has been reduced;

-On-site Customs inspections scheduled but not started as of 16 March 2020 have been canceled;

-Property tax rate "0" for legal entities and individual entrepreneurs at large retail facilities, shopping centers, cinemas, theaters, exhibitions and sports facilities for tourism, catering and hotel services, airports;

-Land tax rate "0" for agricultural land of agricultural producers;

-Individual income tax (IIT) rate "0" for individual entrepreneurs working in the General regime;

-Export customs duty (ECD) rate "0" until the end of this year for exported light oil products;

The abovementioned decision enters into force on 27 October 2020.

More information in Russian here.

Source: KAZATO

12.05.2020

On 12 May, IRU received confirmation that visa-free procedures in Kazakhstan have been extended to all international drivers up until 1 June 2020. Confirmations came from KAZATO and AIST, who received it from Kazakh Embassy in Berlin.

Full notice can be read here.

Sources: KAZATO, AIST

30.04.2020

Following communications with BGL, KAZATO and the Kazakh authorities, German individuals willing to enter Kazakhstan should be aware of the following:

- **Visa-free entry of German citizens** into Kazakhstan for periods of up to **30 days has been suspended** since 17 April until 1 November 2020 due to the Corona crisis. As a result, German citizens will need a visa of entry into Kazakhstan even if their planned stay is less than 30 days.
- Also, for the duration of the state of emergency in Kazakhstan**, issuance of a visa has been completely suspended.**

Therefore, **entry into Kazakhstan has become impossible for German drivers unless they are in possession of a visa valid for a stay longer than 30 days.**

Further details can be found in the dedicated webpage of German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

IRU is in contact with local authorities for further information on rules applicable to drivers coming from other countries.

Source: BGL

02.04.2020

According to the Kazakhstan Border Service, the following border crossing points will be temporarily closed for road transport as of 4 April in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan - China border:

- Kolzhat (Almaty region)
- Bakhty (East Kazakhstan region)
- Maykapchagay (East Kazakhstan region).

Kazakhstan - Russia border:

- Kandibai (Kostanay region)
- Akbalshik (Kostanay region)
- Kyzyl Zhar (North Kazakhstan region)
- Naiza (Pavlodar region)
- Zheskent (East Kazakhstan region)
- Baitanat (East Kazakhstan region)

-Reception of reports from foreign trade participants to territorial divisions of state revenue authorities in relation to certain customs procedures established by the orders of the Ministry of Finance

3. Facilitating the Cross-border Movement of Relief and Essential Supplies

Measures adopted by the Government

By decree No. 141of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 27 March 2020, VAT rates of 8% are established for imports of goods included in the list of socially essential food products (a total list of goods under 34 HS codes).

Measures adopted in the sphere of State Revenue Committee of Kazakhstan

The impact of red channel on the list of food products (sugar, meat, onions, milk, cabbage, carrots, flour, etc.) with a total of 19 items has been reduced;

-The main importers of socially essential goods are exempt from applying the forms of customs control during their clearance (customs physical examination, customs expertise and control of the customs value of goods);

-Number of application of «red and yellow channels» at the border has been reduced;

-On-site Customs (post-clearance) inspections scheduled but not started as of 16 March 2020 have been canceled;

-Reducing the VAT rate from 12% to 8% for the sale and import of socially essential food products until 1 October this year (19 items of goods for 9 billion KZT);

-In connection with the introduction of a ban on the export of certain products (buckwheat, buckwheat groats, sugar, potatoes, sunflower seeds, sunflower oil), their export is blocked in Customs IT system «Astana-1»;

-Reception of reports from foreign trade participants to territorial divisions of state revenue authorities in relation to certain customs procedures established by the orders of the Ministry of Finance 367, 247, 360, 173 has been suspended until 1 July 2020;

-Certain risk profiles that affect the time of customs clearance for life-support goods have been suspended.

Measures adopted within the framework of the EAEU

Decision No.21 of the EEC Council of 16 March 2020 "On amendments to certain decisions of the Customs Union Commission and on approval of the list of goods imported into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union in order to implement measures by the
Member States of the Eurasian Economic Union aimed at preventing the spread of coronavirus infection 2019-nCoV». This decision provides for exemption from import customs duties of goods, which applies primarily to personal protective equipment, disinfectants, diagnostic reagents, certain types of medical equipment and materials. The import with exemption from payment of import duty is done based on the confirmation of their purpose by the Ministry of health protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MHP RK). Confirmation of the intended
purpose for goods used for the production of medicines and medical devices will be issued by the Committee for quality control and safety of goods and services of the MHP RK. Confirmation of purpose for antiviral disinfection products will be issued by the territorial
departments of the Committee for quality control and safety of goods and services of the MHP RK.

- Koanbai (East Kazakhstan region)
- Orda (West Kazakhstan region)
- Shagan (West Kazakhstan region)
- Karashatau (Atyrau region).

Kazakhstan - Kyrgyzstan border:

- Aukhatty (Zhambyl region)
- Kordai (Zhambyl region)
- Sapatai Batir (Zhambyl region)
- Sartobe (Zhambyl region)
- Kagen (Almaty Region).

Kazakhstan - Uzbekistan border:

- Tselinniy (Turkestan region)
- Sirdaria (Turkestan region).

Source: KAZATO

30.03.2020

The Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan issued a memo for drivers, carriers and transport companies engaged in international freight transport and passengers across the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan. This memo has been prepared to help them comply with the current measures in place to prevent coronavirus (COVID-19) infections in Kazakhstan.

Source: DSLV (from the Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural development of Kazakhstan)

26.03.2020

Freight vehicles and their drivers can now circulate across the state border of the Republic of Kazakhstan without restrictions.

In order to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), and according to the decision of the State Commission following the state of emergency declared on 20 March 2020, freight vehicles and their drivers can cross the state border of the Republic of Kazakhstan without restriction, but will however be subject to sanitary epidemiological measures.

Source: KAZATO

24.03.2020

Authorities have identified the following border crossing points for international road transport of goods:

Kazakhstan - Kyrgyzstan border:

- Karasu (Zhambyl region);
- Aisha-bibi checkpoint (Zhambyl region)

Kazakhstan - Uzbekistan border:

- Kaplanbek (Turkestan region)
- Kazygurt (Turkestan region);
- Tazhen (Mangistau region);

The decision applies to medical products imported into the Union from 16 March 2020 and will be valid until 30 September 2020.

-Decision No. 33 of the EEC Council dated 3 April 2020 "On amendments to certain decisions of the Customs Union Commission and on approval of the list of critical import goods".

-Decision No. 34 of the EEC Council of 3 April 2020 "On amendments to the list of goods imported into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union in order to implement measures by the Member States of the Eurasian Economic Union aimed at preventing
the spread of coronavirus infection 2019-nCoV".

These decisions provide the participants in foreign economic activity with exemptions for payment of import customs duties when importing medical devices and socially essential goods (a total of 155 HS codes).

-Decision No. 36 of the EEC Council of 3 April 2020 "On amending the Rules for determining the origin of goods from developing and least developed countries and on the specifics of submitting a certificate of origin under conditions of the spread of coronavirus infection 2019-
nCov".

The Council of the EEC approved the list of critical import goods for which a tariff exemption is granted in the form of exemption from import customs duties when imported to the Member States of the Eurasian Economic Union for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2020 inclusive.

The list of these products includes certain agricultural and food products (potatoes, onions, garlic, cabbage, carrots, peppers, rye, longgrain rice, buckwheat, juices and ready-made products for baby food), as well as certain ready-made medicines and medical products
(endoscopes, contactless thermometers, disposable pipettes, mobile disinfection units).

In addition, the list of goods used for the production of pharmaceuticals and medical goods (bags, foils for sealing the vials, medical freezers), imported during the period from 16 March to 30 September 2020 is free of duty, subject to the confirmation of their purpose for such goods to the MHP RK.

The current procedure for submission of Certificates of origin of Form "A" issued by developing and least developed countries has also been simplified on a temporary basis. This Decision will allow to use a paper or electronic copy of certificates for 6 months and not to submit their originals during customs clearance. These changes will take effect from 18 April 2020 and will be effective until 30 September 2020.

4. Protecting Staff

Measures adopted in the sphere of State Revenue Committee of Kazakhstan

Mandatory remote thermometry of all drivers and passengers is
carried out;

-Sanitary and Quarantine Points (SQP) have been strengthened by employees of the Sanitary and epidemiological services;

-Training exercises and classes were held for SQP employees to take measures in case of detection of a suspected infectious disease;

-Isolation rooms at automobile check-points have been checked and brought into line.

Kazakhstan - Turkmenistan border:

· Temir Baba (Manistau region);

Kazakhstan - China border:

· Kolzhat (Almaty region);

· Nurzholy (Almaty region);

· Dostyk (Almaty region);

· Bakhty (East Kazakhstan region);

· Maykapchagay (East Kazakhstan region);

Kazakhstan - Russia border:

· Kairak (Kostanay region);

· Zhana Zhol (North Kazakhstan region);

· Karakoga (North Kazakhstan region);

· Sharbakty (Pavlodar region);

· Urlitobe (Pavlodar region);

· Kosak (Pavlodar region);

· Auyl (East Kazakhstan region);

· Ube (East Kazakhstan region);

· Zhaisan (Aktobe region);

· Alimbet (Aktobe region);

· Syrym (West Kazakhstan region);

· Taskala (West Kazakhstan region);

· Zhanibek (West Kazakhstan region);

· Kurmangazy (Atyrau region).

Source: KAZATO

Following a state of emergency declared in Kazakhstan, effective from 08.00, 16 March, the State Border Service has provided guideline for entities involved in import/export operation.

During the emergency period, crossing the states borders by drivers and vehicles engaged in international road transport operations will be allowed only if they meet the following conditions:

- international goods transport by road is performed in compliance with the quarantine and sanitary-epidemiological standards;
- drivers, regardless of citizenship, must use foreign passports to cross the state border;
- in case of arrival at the border crossing point for entry to the territory of Kazakhstan (including for transit) of drivers f rom countries of categories 1a) and 1b), as well as drivers of other countries who visited countries in categories 1a) and 1b) within last 15 days, cargo will be allowed for entry only if a driver is replaced at the territory of the border crossing point in compliance with quarantine and sanitary-epidemiological standards or the truck(tractor) is replaced with a Kazakh one.

The border crossing points listed here have been specified for international road transport of goods.

Source:KAZATO (https://www.kazato.kz/posts/chrezvychajnoe-polozhenie-v-ps-knb-sdelali-zayavlenie)

Abbreviations:
EAEU – Eurasian Economic Union
EEC – Eurasian Economic Commission
SRC MF RK – State Revenue Committee of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan
SQP – Sanitary and Quarantine Points
MHP RK – Ministry of Health Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan

RK – Republic of Kazakhstan

Further Information: http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco....

Russian version : http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco/public/ru/p.....

Source: Ministry of Transport and Communications

Continuation of rail freight, subject to additional health measures and introduced export restrictions on socially-important goods. Source: https://ktzh-gp.kz/ru/media/news/news_main_section_ru/14247/

From 5 March 2020, freight road transport arriving from Iran to the ports of Aktau and Kurik was temporarily stopped. From 1 April, transit of freight vehicles from the ports would be carried out with a convoy until their exit from the national territory. Source: https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/miid/press/news/details/o-prinimaemyh-merah-miir-rk-napravlennyh-na-nerasprostranenie-koronavirusnoy-infekcii?lang=ru

Government works on an uninterrupted road freight movement for medical and socially-important goods which should benefit from a green corridors. Source: https://www.gov.kg/ru/post/s/zhk-tashuuchu-unaalardyn-toskolduksuz-zhrsn-kamsyz-kyluu-maksatynda-alarga-tg-uruksat-berch-kagazdy-ber-zhokko-chygaryldy