

The Notification of the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand on Practical Guideline for Air Operators Performing Flights into the Kingdom of Thailand

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In reference to the Notification of the Minister of Public Health, deriving from the advice of the National Communicable Diseases Committee, declaring that Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19) is a dangerous communicable disease under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) and Thailand has continuously implemented measures to monitor and control the disease.

Currently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the escalation of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19) situation to pandemic. Therefore, for the prevention and reduction of potential risks to the general public within the country and the prompt oversight of civil aviation in this necessary situation, the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand hereby issue the following guidelines for air operators entering Thailand.

- 1. The Notification of the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand on Practical Guideline for Air Operators Relating to the Services to be Provided for Passengers from the Territories Outside the Kingdom of Thailand Defined as Disease Infected Zones of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak and from Ongoing Local Transmission Areas announced on 18 March B.E. 2563 (2020) is hereby abolished.
- 2. Passengers traveling into the Kingdom of Thailand must be subject to isolation, quarantine, under observation, or any other measures for the prevention and control of communicable diseases as prescribed by the communicable disease control officials at the international communicable disease control checkpoint.
- 3. Air operators providing services to passengers traveling to the Kingdom of Thailand are required to perform the following screening of passengers at the time of check-in:
  - (1) Check passengers' health certificate certifying that the passengers pose no risk of being infected by the Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19). The health certificate must be issued no more than 72 hours prior to the date of travel.
  - (2) Check passengers' insurance policy that shows minimum medical coverage in Thailand of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), in the amount not less than 100,000 USD.

- 4. For passengers with Thai nationality returning to the Kingdom of Thailand, the air operators are required to perform the screening as follows:
  - (1) Check passengers' health certificate confirming that the passengers are fit to fly.
  - (2) Check passengers' letter issued by the Royal Thai Embassy, Thai Consular Office or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs certifying that the passengers are Thai nationals returning to Thailand.
- 5. If the passengers are unable to present the required documentation according to 3 or 4, the air operator shall not issue a boarding pass and the boarding shall be denied.
- 6. After the required screening has been satisfied as in 3 or 4, and the boarding passes are issued to the passengers, the air operators shall arrange for passengers to provide information on their accommodation that can be contacted in Thailand in Form T.8 in accordance with the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) and submit to the communicable disease control officials at the international communicable disease control checkpoint of the airport of disembarkation. The passengers may also enter their information in the "AOT Airport of Thailand" application.
- 7. Air operators should apply the following protective measures on board the aircraft:
  - (1) Arrange seats to passengers with the greatest possible distance apart from each other when issuing boarding passes. Dedicated space in the passenger cabin should be allocated to monitor passengers with fever, cough or illness if necessary.
  - (2) Inform passengers on how to protect themselves from communicable diseases, to always wear their masks throughout the flight, or prepare other equipment necessary to protect themselves against transmission.
  - (3) Consider limiting services in the passenger cabin to reduce the necessity for flight attendants to get in close contact with the passengers.
  - (4) Require all flight attendants to wear masks.

- 8. When arriving the Kingdom of Thailand, air operators that passengers are required to carry out disinfection or cleaning of aircrafts in accordance with the standards prescribed by the communicable disease control official at the international communicable disease control checkpoint.
- 9. The communicable disease control officials at the international communicable disease control checkpoint of the airport of disembarkation have the power to issue orders in accordance with the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) as follows:
  - (1) Prohibiting any person from entering into or exiting the aircraft entering the Kingdom of Thailand without having undergone screening by a communicable disease control official at the international communicable disease control checkpoint, and prohibiting any vehicle from approaching such aircraft unless authorized.
  - (2) Proceeding or issuing orders in writing for the air operators to take the following actions:
    - (a) remove the infection in order to prevent and control the transmission of the disease
    - (b) detain the aircraft at a specified location until the communicable disease control officials at international communicable disease control checkpoint give permission for its release
    - (c) require the persons on board the aircraft to undergo medical examination; such person may also be isolated, quarantined, confined for observation, or immunized at a specified place and period.
- 10. In case of violation to 3, 4 or 5, air operators shall be responsible for the expenses incurred for the transportation of the passengers to be isolated, quarantined, confined for observation, and immunized, including the expenses for the care, hospitalization of such person and the prevention and control of international communicable disease in accordance to the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015).

- 11. Air operators shall strictly comply with measures for the surveillance, prevention and control of dangerous communicable diseases as issued by the Ministry of Public Health under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015).
- 12. Air operators shall notify their staff at the airport of embarkation and the flight attendants of the above guideline and require their full compliance. The flight attendants shall also make additional on-board public announcement of such guidelines to the passengers.

This notification shall be effective from 22 March B.E. 2563 (2020), 00:00 Thailand local time onwards.

Issued on 19 March B.E. 2563 (2020).

- Chula Sukmanop -

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