TACKLING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) CONTRIBUTING TO A GLOBAL EFFORT

INITIATIVE FOR SAFE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: THE OECD BLUEPRINT

20 July 2021



OECD initiative for safe international mobility endorsed by ministers at MCM meeting on 31 May

WHY -	 Large economic and social impacts of restricting international mobility Need for certainty in international travel on reopening, without compromising on health security or on privacy
WHO -	 Extensive consultation with countries and committees (100+ meetings; 9 OECD bodies) Co-ordination and alignment with ICAO; WHO; UNWTO; IMO Consistency with other international (especially EU) and national arrangements
WHAT -	 A flexible, voluntary, temporary blueprint with policy guidance on measures for safe international travel with recommendations on vaccines, tests, certification, data exchange A temporary forum for knowledge sharing
WHEN -	• For when countries are ready, and aimed at a window between: (1) sustained reduction of cases and (2) until wide vaccination coverage is achieved

Travel requirements

- Vaccinated and recovered travellers exempted from further requirements (must have received full number of doses)
 - Vaccines: recommended by WHO Emergency Use Listing, or approved by a Stringent Regulatory Authority
- Other travellers subject to testing and quarantine schemes based on epidemiological criteria (traffic light system)
 - Tests: RT-PCR and antigen (sensitivity≥80%; specificity≥97% ideally ≥99%)
- Public health measures maintained at all times (facemasks, distancing, hand washing)
- Traveller locator form prior to travel

EU traffic light system + 25% warnings

GREEN	positivity < 4% & cases < 25
ORANGE	positivity >= 4% & cases < 50 or positivity < 4% & cases from 25 to 150
RED	positivity >= 4% & cases >= 50 or cases > 150
DARK RED	cases >= 500 or high prevalence of NVoC
GREY	not sufficient information is available or testing rate <= 300

Orange warning, cases from 18.75 to 25

Red warning, positivity 3% to 4% & cases 37.50 to 50 or positivity < 3% & cases 112.50 to 150

Dark red warning, cases 375 to 500

Positivity: percentage of positive tests among all tests for COVID-19 infections carried out during the previous week

Case notification: total number of newly notified COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population in the previous 14 days (at national or sub-national levels)

Testing, quarantine for the non-vaccinated according to risk

Protocol	Risk	Testing required		
	levels	Pre-departure	Post-entry	required quarantine
A (High potential health impact from importation)	1	Antigen or RT-PCR, 72 hrs before travel	Not required	None
	2	RT-PCR, 72 hrs before travel	RT-PCR on or after day 2 from arrival. Traveller may leave quarantine starting from day 2 if post-entry test is negative.	5 days
	3	RT-PCR, 72 hrs before travel	RT-PCR on or after day 7 from arrival. Traveller may leave quarantine starting from day 7 if post-entry test is negative.	10 days
	4	Essential travel, same as level 3.		
B (Low to moderate potential health impact from importation)	1	Not required	Not required	None
	2	Antigen or RT-PCR, 72 hrs before travel	Not required	None
	3	Antigen or RT-PCR, 72 hrs before travel	Antigen or RT-PCR on or after day 2 from arrival.	None
	4	Essential travel, same as level 3.		

Information requirements and mechanisms for proof

- Common set of information for certificates
 - Three certificates: i) vaccination; ii) recovery; and iii) testing
 - Based on existing initiatives (ICAO, EU etc.)
- Data protection and mechanisms of proof:
 - Limit collection of information (data minimisation) and transfer across borders and abide by the principle of privacy by design
 - Favours decentralised mechanisms for proof relying on QR/bar codes carried by travellers and which can be printed
 - Rely on existing and interoperable mechanisms for verification of authenticity (unique and interoperable identifier or public key)

Some points for continuing discussion

- On the health side:
 - monitoring spread and implications of variants of concern (VoCs)
- On the information and proof side:
 - conversion of existing backlog of paper-based certificates
 - achieving interoperability of different solutions
- On aims:
 - Is this a health certificate or a travel certificate?

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Download the blueprint https://oe.cd/blueprint

THANK YOU

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