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சுவசிரிபாய
SUWASIRIPAYA
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சுகாதார அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

මගේ අංකය)
எனது இல) DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021
My No.)
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உமது இல)
Your No. :)
දිනය)
திகதி) 07.07.2021
Date)

All Deputy Director Generals
Director, Quarantine
Chief Epidemiologist
Coordinator In Charge COVID-19 Operations of Ministry of Health
Provincial Directors of Health Services
Regional Directors of Health Services
Provincial/District Consultant Community Physicians
Regional Epidemiologists
Medical Officers of Health
Medical Officer, Airport / Port Health Offices

**Quarantine measures for travellers arriving
from overseas during the pandemic of COVID-19**

Due to the current COVID-19 situation in Sri Lanka and globally, following quarantine measures are imposed for travellers arriving in Sri Lanka.

Following letters issued by the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) are hereby cancelled.

- Letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 06.04.2021 on Quarantine measures for travellers arriving from overseas during the pandemic of COVID-19.
- Letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 26.06.2021 on Quarantine measures for travellers arriving from overseas during the pandemic of COVID-19.
- Letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 12.04.2021 on public health measures to be adopted by travellers to Sri Lanka during the Covid-19 outbreak in Sri Lanka / Foreign National staff members serving in the diplomatic missions/UN organizations.

A Approvals to enter into the country

- A.1 Sri Lankan Citizens (including Sri Lankan Seafarers arriving by air) or Dual Citizens (if using the Sri Lankan passport to arrive) do not need to get the prior approval from the Foreign Ministry and Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka to arrive in Sri Lanka. They have to liaise with the airline and arrive in Sri Lanka. They can request a Quarantine Hotel/ Government Quarantine Centre after arriving in Sri Lanka at the arriving airport.
- A.2 Travellers arriving via Sri Lanka Tourism, should obtain Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) using the protocol stipulated in following Sri Lanka Tourism website,
<https://www.srilanka.travel/helloagain/>.

Tourists / Foreign Nationals (including Valid Resident Visa Holders) / Dual Citizens / Sri Lankan Citizens, are allowed to enter through Sri Lanka Tourism and they do not need to get the prior approval of the Foreign Ministry. They have to abide by operational guidelines of Sri Lanka Tourism in addition provisions of this letter and other Health Ministry protocols on COVID-19 preventive measures.

- A.3 Dual Citizens (if using the foreign passport to arrive) and Foreign Nationals (including Valid Resident Visa Holders) should get the prior approval from the Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka (Email: entry.permission@mfa.gov.lk) to arrive in Sri Lanka, if not arriving via Sri Lanka tourism.
- A.4 Foreign Nationals arriving for important projects / meetings / discussions as invited by the Sri Lankan Government / Private Organizations, should get prior approval from the Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka (Email: entry.permission@mfa.gov.lk) for them to arrive by submitting necessary details with the letter of invitation from Sri Lankan counterpart.

B Approval for Foreign national staff members of the diplomatic missions or UN organizations / UN Specialized agencies / International Organizations with permanent offices in Sri Lanka (mentioned in Annex 01) who are holding Diplomatic / UN / Official passports to quarantine at a residence

- B.1 Foreign National Staff members and their **accompanying** spouse, parents and children are allowed to undergo mandatory Quarantine at a Quarantine Hotel/ Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel/ Quarantine at an area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) approved residence.
- B.2 If Foreign National staff members of Diplomatic Missions or Foreign National staff members of organizations/agencies are undergoing mandatory quarantine at a residence, respective Diplomatic Mission / Organization / Agency with permanent offices in Sri Lanka should take prior approval in writing from area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) mentioning that the residence is suitable for mandatory quarantine.
- B.3 Details of the Foreign National Staff members and their accompanying spouse, parents and children undergoing mandatory quarantine at approved residences should be informed to area MOH on Day one of arrival, as they have to quarantine under the supervision of area MOH

C Pre departure negative COVID-19 PCR test report

All travellers arriving in Sri Lanka should mandatorily carry a negative **COVID-19 PCR test report** in English language done **within 72 hours prior to embarkation**.

Note: Pre departure COVID-19 Rapid Antigen test report is not accepted

D COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate/Card

Travellers who have received the recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine should carry the original vaccination certificate / card (together with a certified copy of English language translation if the certificate/card is not in English or if relevant data are not indicated in English in a non - English certificate / card) or a verifiable evidence of vaccination.

E "Fully Vaccinated" travellers

- E.1 If the **recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccination are completed** and **departs from abroad two weeks after completion of vaccination**, they will be considered as **"Fully Vaccinated"**.
- E.2 As there are positive cases reported among fully vaccinated persons in Sri Lanka and in other countries, it is important to minimize COVID-19 or its variants entering in to the country. Therefore, fully vaccinated travellers should not relax the preventive measures and should abide by the COVID-19 preventive measures imposed by the Government of Sri Lanka.

F Procedures to follow at the arriving airport in Sri Lanka

- F.1 Each traveller should submit a completed **Health Declaration Form** to the staff of the Airport Health Office at the health counters of arriving airport. Separate forms should be submitted for each of accompanying children if any.
- Travellers who have completed the recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccination and departs from abroad after two weeks of completion of vaccination, should produce the vaccination certificate/ card to Airport Health Officer at arriving airport.
- F.2 After completion of formalities at the airport, all travellers will be transferred to a Quarantine Centre managed by the Government of Sri Lanka or to a hotel designated

for quarantine or to a Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel. Transport shall be provided by the government authorities or the Hotel Management on a pre-determined manner. Respective Diplomatic Mission / Organization / Agency with permanent offices in Sri Lanka should arrange their own transport (adhering to preventive measures imposed by Government of Sri Lanka) to transport Foreign National staff members, if undergoing quarantine at an area MOH approved residence.

G. On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR testing

- G.1 PCR testing of the travellers after arriving in Sri Lanka should be conducted by a Health Ministry approved laboratory (Private sector or State sector).
List of approved Private Sector Laboratories is available at Ministry of Health Website (http://www.health.gov.lk/moh_final/english/news_read_more.php?id=999)
- G.2 Travellers (**including Fully Vaccinated travellers**) should undergo On Arrival COVID-19 PCR (Day One) test while staying at a Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre/ Safe & Secure Certified Level One Hotel.
- G.3 Foreign National staff members of the diplomatic missions or UN organizations/ UN Specialized agencies/ International Organizations **with permanent offices in Sri Lanka**, who are undergoing mandatory quarantine at an area MOH approved residence should conduct On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR test at the approved residence, if undergoing mandatory quarantine at the residence.
- G.4 All travellers of **two years and above** should undergo On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR test from a Ministry of Health approved laboratory (Private sector or State sector laboratory).
However, if the children are continued to be quarantined at an Institution (Quarantine Hotel / Quarantine Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel), children **below twelve years** of age will be exempted from On Arrival (Day One) PCR testing.
- G.5 If the On Arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, exempted children will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.

H Quarantine measures for travellers with a negative On Arrival (Day One) PCR report

- H.1 **Quarantine measures for travellers who have not received COVID-19 vaccination/ not completed the recommended doses of vaccination / departed from abroad within less than two weeks of completion of recommended doses of vaccination**

If the On Arrival (Day One) PCR report is negative, these travellers have to **mandatorily quarantine until completion of 14 days** after arrival in Sri Lanka

- H.1.1 Sri Lankans (including Sri Lankan Seafarers/Sea Marshalls arriving to go home), Dual Citizens, Tourists, Foreign Nationals (including Valid Resident Visa Holders) should be mandatorily quarantined at a Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel until **completion of fourteen days**.
- H.1.2 Foreign national staff members of the diplomatic missions or UN organizations/ UN Specialized agencies/ International Organizations with permanent offices in Sri Lanka (Annex 01) who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their **accompanying** spouse, parents, and children should be mandatorily quarantined at a Quarantine Hotel/ Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel/ Quarantine at a residence approved by area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) until **completion of fourteen days**.
- H.1.3 If the On Arrival (Day One) PCR test report is negative, Tourists arriving via Sri Lanka Tourism are allowed to move between Safe & Secure Certified Level 1

Hotels in a bio-secure travel bubble and allowed to visit approved important sites in a bio-secure travel bubble during the quarantine period.

H.1.4 **Exit PCR testing for travellers undergoing mandatory quarantine**

- H.1.4.1 All travellers of **two years and above** should undergo PCR testing on **Day 14**, if undergoing Institutional Quarantine (Hotel/ Centre) or Quarantine at the residence approved by area MOH.
- H.1.4.2 Children **below two years** are exempted exit COVID-19 PCR testing. However, if the exit PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.
- H.1.4.3 Travellers should be released from the Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel/ approved Quarantine residence **after completion of fourteen days** with a negative COVID-19 test results done on Day One (On Arrival) and Day 14 after arrival in Sri Lanka.

H.2 **Quarantine measures for "Fully Vaccinated" Travellers**

- H.2.1 If the recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccination are completed and departs from abroad two weeks after completion of vaccination, they will be considered as "fully vaccinated" and following measures should be taken.
- H.2.2 No further quarantine is necessary for fully vaccinated travellers if the **On Arrival (Day One) PCR test report is negative**.
But they have to conduct a **PCR test on Day 7** after arriving in Sri Lanka from a Ministry of Health approved laboratory as mentioned in **Section H 4.6**.
- H.2.3 In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Centre or Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should discharge the traveller after verifying the status of vaccination (through documents) and issuing a "Discharge Document".
- H.2.4 When discharging Fully Vaccinated Travellers after On Arrival (Day One) negative PCR report, In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Quarantine Centre or Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should issue a "Discharge Document" and email the details to the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com) of the Ministry of Health.
- H.2.5 If there are **children below eighteen years**, they can be discharged with fully vaccinated parents by adhering to following measures:
 - Children of **two to eighteen years** should be subjected to an on arrival (Day One) PCR testing and they should have negative results.
 - Children **below two years** will not be subjected to PCR testing after arrival to Sri Lanka and they will be discharged with fully vaccinated caretakers. However, if the on arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child below two years will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.
- H.2.6 Should arrange their own transport to travel to residence / home and should not use public transport for this purpose.
Throughout the travelling, they should strictly adhere to COVID-19 preventive measures imposed by Government of Sri Lanka.
Driver and the passengers of the vehicle should properly wear a facemask throughout.
Should travel directly to the destination without any stopovers.

H.3 **Quarantine measures for travellers who complete the two weeks period of recommended doses of vaccination during their stay at Quarantine Hotel / Quarantine Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel / Approved Quarantine Residence after arriving in Sri Lanka**

- H.3.1 They should be discharged **with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result (done after completing the two weeks from last vaccination date)** and NO further quarantine is necessary.
- H.3.2 Children **below eighteen years** should be discharged with fully vaccinated parents after conducting a **PCR test** of children of **two to eighteen years** and with the negative results. This PCR testing should be done on the date where their parents completing the two weeks from last vaccination date.
Children **below two years** will not be subjected to PCR testing after arrival to Sri Lanka and they will be discharged with fully vaccinated caretakers. However, if the on arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child below two years will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.
- H.3.3 After verifying the status of vaccination and if completed two weeks after obtaining the recommended doses of vaccination, In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Quarantine Centre or Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should issue a "Discharge Document" and email the details of discharging travellers to the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com) of the Ministry of Health.
- H.3.4 If discharged from mandatory quarantine within less than seven days of arriving in Sri Lanka, travellers have to undergo a PCR test on **Day 7** after arriving in Sri Lanka from a Ministry of Health approved laboratory as mentioned in **Section H 4.6.**

H.4 **Procedures to be followed by fully vaccinated travellers after going to residence / home / hotel (hotel is allowed only for fully vaccinated foreigners exempted from further quarantine)**

- H.4.1 All travellers should immediately inform the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) by telephone or email, soon after their arrival to residence / home.
- H.4.2 Fully vaccinated foreigners (including Valid Resident Visa Holders) should immediately inform the area MOH by telephone or email, soon after their arrival to residence / home / hotel. Foreigners could get the assistance of the hotel management/ travel agents to find the contact details of area MOH. Sri Lanka Tourism should inform the details of Tourists arriving via Sri Lanka Tourism to area Medical Officer of Health.
- H.4.3 Fully vaccinated travellers who are having a negative On Arrival (Day One) PCR report **shall not be further quarantined** at home / residence/ hotel.
- H.4.4 The discharge document issued by the Quarantine Hotel / Centre / Safe and Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should be submitted to the area MOH upon request.
- H.4.5 If febrile or display COVID-19 like symptoms, should inform immediately to area MOH.
- H.4.6 **Day Seven PCR test for Fully Vaccinated Travellers with negative On Arrival PCR reports**
- H.4.6.1 **All fully vaccinated travellers** and their **children of two to eighteen years discharged from mandatory quarantine** should undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on **Day Seven** after arriving in Sri Lanka from a Ministry of Health approved Private Sector or State Sector Laboratory.
- H.4.6.2 Day Seven PCR test results should be immediately informed to the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) by telephone or email.

Foreigners should get the assistance of the hotel management/ travel agents to find the contact details of area MOH to inform about the PCR reports.

Travellers arriving via Sri Lanka Tourism should submit the PCR report to area MOH and Sri Lanka Tourism (helloagain@srilanka.travel). In addition, Sri Lanka Tourism should inform the PCR reports of Travellers arriving via Sri Lanka Tourism to area MOH.

I Seafarers or Maritime Security Officers (Sea marshals) arriving via airports

- I.1 Foreign national Seafarers or Sea Marshals should obtain approval from the Foreign Ministry to enter the country and should be quarantined in an Isolation Centre (used to quarantine seafarers / sea marshals)
- I.2 Sri Lankan seafarers / sea marshals who intend to board a vessel should be quarantined in an Isolation Centre.
- I.3 Sri Lankan seafarers / sea marshals who do not intend to board a vessel but intend to enter the community should undergo quarantine in a Quarantine Hotel / Government Quarantine Centre as per the provisions of this letter. They are not permitted to enter the country through Sri Lanka Tourism pathway.
- I.4 All seafarer / sea marshal operations including quarantine measures of seafarers / sea marshals **arriving via seaports** should be done adhering to the provisions in Standard Operating Procedures issued by the Ministry of Health.
- I.5 **Fully vaccinated Sri Lankan seafarers arriving via airports**
 - I.5.1 Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankan seafarers arriving via airports should undergo quarantine in an Isolation Centre (used to quarantine seafarers) / Quarantine Hotel / Government Quarantine Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level One Hotel until On Arrival PCR testing is done and the negative PCR report is available.
 - I.5.2 No further quarantine is necessary for "Fully Vaccinated" seafarers if the On Arrival PCR test report is negative
 - I.5.3 After verifying the status of vaccination and if completed recommended doses of vaccination, In charge officer of the Isolation Centre (used to quarantine seafarers)/ Quarantine Hotel / Government Quarantine Centre should issue a "Discharge Document" and email the details to the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@slt.net.lk and samithag@hotmail.com) of the Ministry of Health.
 - I.5.4 All seafarers should immediately inform the area MOH by telephone or email, soon after their arrival to residence / home.
 - I.5.5 **All fully vaccinated Sri Lankan seafarers should undergo PCR test on Day Seven** after arriving in Sri Lanka by a Ministry of Health approved Private Sector or State Sector Laboratory.
 - I.5.6 Day Seven PCR test results should be immediately informed to the area Medical Officer of Health by telephone or email.

J Travel restricted countries

- J.1 Travellers with a travel history (including transit) in the past 14 days to India, Vietnam, South American countries and South African countries (South Africa, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe) will not be permitted to disembark in Sri Lanka until further notice.
- J.2 Sri Lankan Citizens (**Not applicable for Foreign Nationals/ dual citizens**) from India, Vietnam, South American countries and South African countries could be allowed to disembark in Sri Lanka **with the permission** of the Director General of Health Services/ Ministry of Health (dghs@health.gov.lk), followed by the permission of Foreign Ministry (entry.permission@mfa.gov.lk) and Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka. They have to undergo **mandatory Institutional Quarantine (irrespective of their vaccination status) at a Quarantine Hotel / Quarantine Centre**

(Centre: only if facilities are available to separate from travellers arriving from other countries) and will be released from institutional quarantine only after obtaining a negative PCR report done on Day 14 of arrival in Sri Lanka. They shall **NOT** be quarantined at a Safe & Secure Certified Level One Hotel.

K Travellers with Positive PCR test reports

- K.1 If the **PCR testing is positive**, In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Centre or Hotel Doctor/Hotel Management at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel/ Isolation Centre (Quarantine facility for seafarers/ sea marshals)/ local Shipping Agents should immediately inform the area Medical officer of Health (MOH) and email the details to Epidemiology Unit (chepid@slt.net.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
The treatment protocol of the Ministry of Health for COVID-19 patients will follow.
Immediate close contacts of the positive person will be further quarantined after assessing the risk by area MOH / Regional Epidemiologist / Consultant Community Physician of the RDHS office.

L Other Measures

- L.1 Quarantine period of above-mentioned travellers will be extended, if they are identified as immediate close contacts of a COVID-19 positive person or if they arrive from high-risk countries as instructed by health authorities.
- L.2 Travellers who are under mandatory quarantine at a Quarantine Hotel/ Centre/ Safe & Secure Certified Level One Hotel or at an approved quarantine residence are allowed to travel to foreign countries during the quarantine period with negative COVID-19 PCR reports.
- L.3 All COVID-19 PCR test results of the travellers should be informed to area Medical Officer of Health.
- L.4 All approved laboratories (Private and State sector) conducting COVID-19 PCR tests should inform about the Positive PCR tests results immediately to Epidemiology Unit (chepid@slt.net.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).

Summary on quarantine measures for travellers arriving in Sri Lanka is shown in **Annex 02**.

This guideline is effective for the **travellers arriving in Sri Lanka from 00:00 on 08th of July 2021** and for **"Fully Vaccinated" Travellers who have already arrived in Sri Lanka and undergoing mandatory quarantine, if fulfilling the stipulated criteria** mentioned in this guideline.

This guideline will be revised depending on the COVID-19 situation in the country or the global situation.

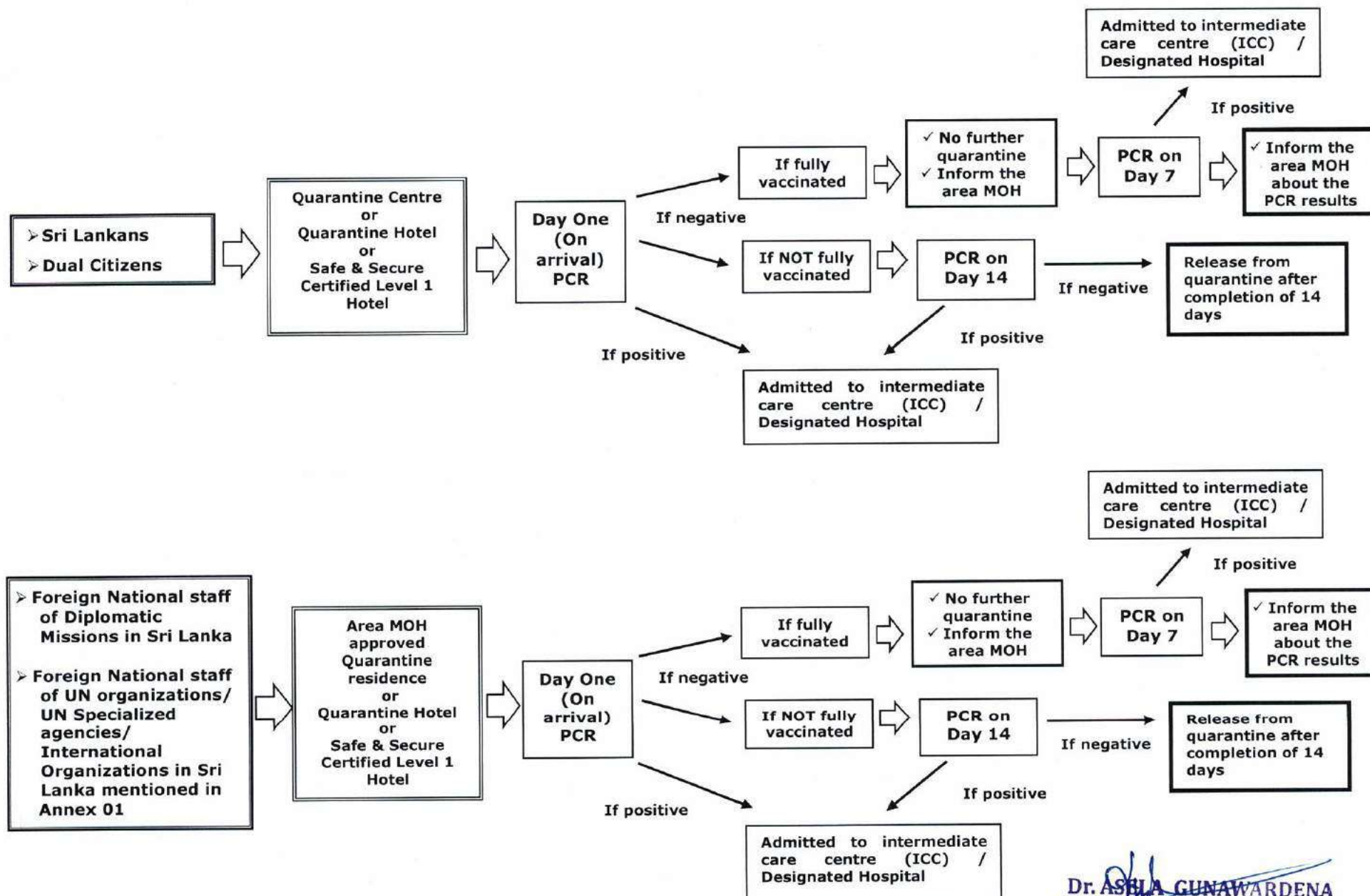

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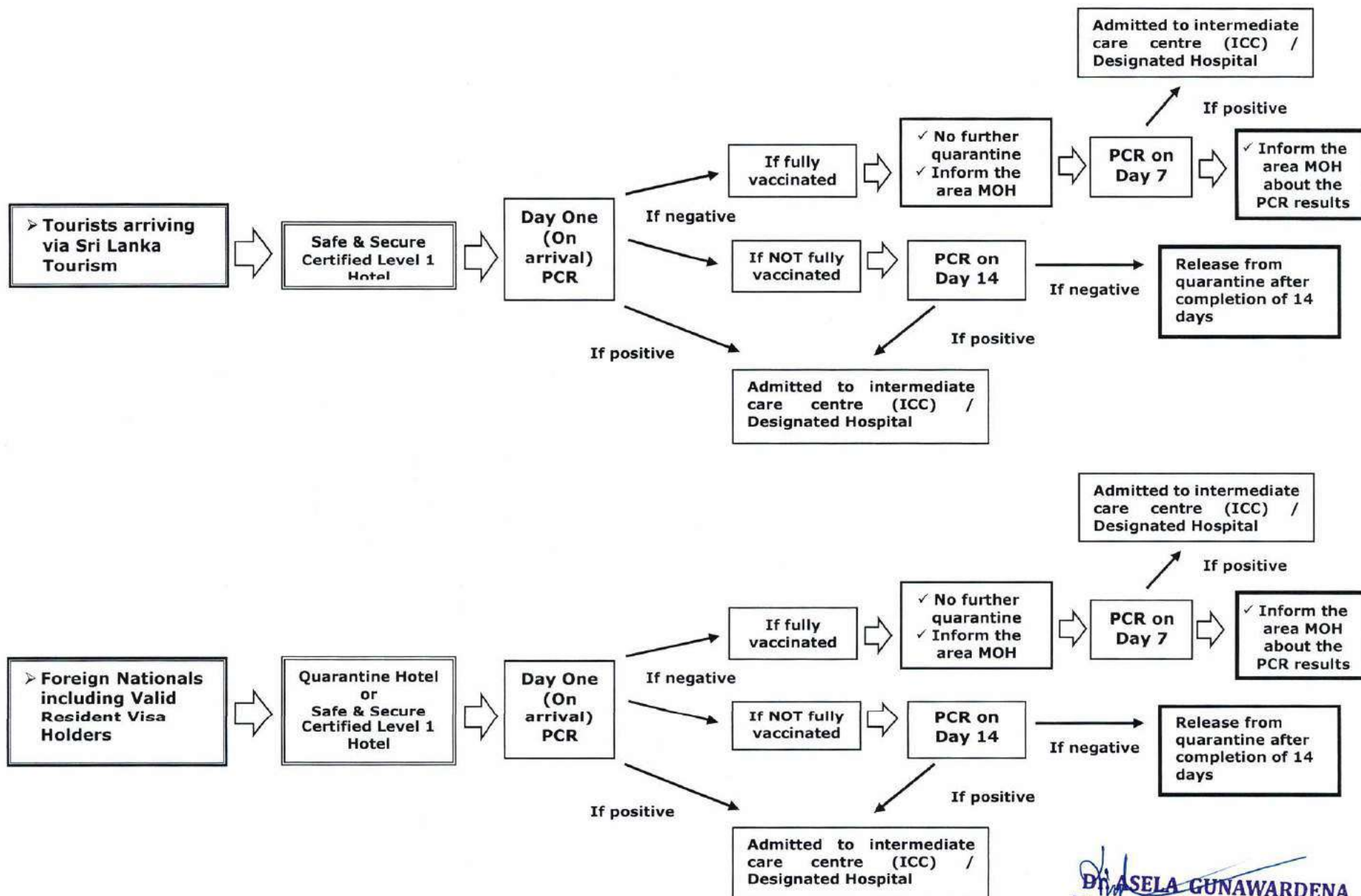
Secretary, Ministry of Health
Secretary, Foreign Ministry
Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
Additional Secretary (Public Health Services/Medical Services)
Inspector General of Police
Controller General, Department of Immigration and Emigration
Director General, Sri Lanka Customs
Director General, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka
Director General, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
Head, National Operation Centre for Prevention of COVID - 19 Outbreak
Chairman, Airport Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited

SUMMARY ON QUARANTINE MEASURES FOR TRAVELLERS ARRIVING IN SRI LANKA



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SUMMARY ON QUARANTINE MEASURES FOR TRAVELLERS ARRIVING IN SRI LANKA



All travellers arriving in Sri Lanka should abide by the guidelines detailed in this letter of DGHS

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