LIFTING OF SUSPENSION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

27 August, 2020

The Government of the Republic of Malawi through the Department of Civil Aviation suspended international commercial flights with effect from 01 April, 2020. While noting the continuance of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of the Republic of Malawi has carefully considered the adverse effects of the suspension of air travel on all the sectors of the economy and has therefore decided to lift the suspension with effect from **01 September, 2020**. Mindful of the various health protocols that have to be observed in a bid to control the spread of the virus, initially only a limited number of flights shall be allowed to operate; and the operations shall be restricted to Kamuzu International Airport only until further notice.

In light of the foregoing, the general public, travelers, air operators and all aviation stakeholders are advised to note the following:

1. All arriving passengers into the Republic of Malawi shall be required to produce a negative SARS COV-2 PCR test certificate obtained within 10 days prior to arrival in Malawi. Any passenger without the said certificate will be denied entry. All arriving passengers will be required to proceed on self-quarantine for 14 days during which time they will be followed up by Health Authorities.
2. As it is now becoming a standard requirement for air travel, all travelers originating from Malawi shall also be required to hold a negative SARS COV-2 PCR test certificate conforming to the prescription of the Authorities at their intended destinations.
3. Arriving passengers may be required to provide samples for COVID-19 testing. Samples will be collected at the airport and test results will be communicated to the concerned within 48 hours.
4. Any symptomatic passengers will be handled according to specific guidelines laid down by the Health Authorities.
5. All travelers and service providers shall observe the infection control protocols such as social distancing, hand washing/sanitizing and wearing of masks as necessary, body temperatures will be checked at various strategic points.
6. All arriving passengers shall fill and submit Travel Surveillance Forms (TSF) which shall be made available on board aircraft or in the airport terminal building. The duly filled forms shall be handed over to Health personnel in the terminal building.
7. All air operators shall be required to institute all the necessary corona virus spread control measures including disinfection of aircraft at origin and termination points of a flight, wearing of masks at all times during flight and hand washing/sanitizing by crew and passengers and limiting movements within the cabin.
8. Any suspected COVID-19 case(s) while in flight shall be reported by the flight commanding officer to the port health office at the airport through Air Traffic Control.
9. All air operators shall provide advance passenger manifests with itinerary details for every passenger to the relevant port health office at the airport.
10. All masks and/or gloves used during flight shall be disposed of in designated waste collection containers at the airport.
11. In a bid to decongest the terminal buildings, other than the airport workers, only travelers shall be allowed inside the airport terminals, welcomers, escorts and taxi operators shall be restricted to the car park areas.
12. The following mobile network numbers should be used to report any suspected cases of, or for any further information on COVID-19 while in Malawi:

TNM : 929

Airtel : 54747