

Measures adopted by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan concerning the prevention of negative impact of Covid-19

Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan has issued an Action Plan in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. The authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan established an Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers consisting of senior officials of the appropriate government authorities, which coordinates response of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the spread of the coronavirus worldwide and threat of the outbreak of the infection in the country.

In order to implement the above mentioned Action Plan and decisions of Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers, Customs Administration has taken following measures:

- all customs border crossing points has set to work on an enhanced mode;
- decision to temporary close the state border between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Islamic Republic of Iran, Georgia and Russian Federation was made based on mutual agreement in order to ensure safety and protect health of citizens of both countries;
- ~~goods that are imported from Islamic Republic of Iran or through their territory by trucks are transshipped to the Republic of Azerbaijani trucks at terminals, close to customs border crossing points;~~
- decision allowing transportation of trucks that comes from Islamic Republic of Iran through a dedicated transit corridor with police escort was initially adopted;
- fast and smooth movement of goods required for COVID-19 treatment has a special priority;
- staff has been trained by specialists from the Ministry of Health;
- the use of provided personal protective equipment such as gloves, masks, coveralls and glasses is mandatory for staff;
- relevant hygiene measures such as hands washing and disinfection, disinfection of surfaces and public areas;
- disinfection of trucks and vehicles;
- employees who do not maintain essential services are put on standby duty;
- persons returning from risk areas may not enter the office for 14 days after their return;
- continuous dissemination of leaflets with WHO recommendations regarding prevention of COVID-19 among passengers at all customs border crossing points;
- body temperature screening at planes, ships and buses;
- body temperature checks and health inquiry on departure at airports, seaports and ground points of entry;
- isolation and transfer to hospital of suspected passengers with symptoms like fever or cough for further testing and observation;
- isolation and transfer to hospital for further testing and observation of passengers visited countries listed in sufficient decision of Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers for the last 28 days;
- entry passengers are required to fill in health declaration forms, providing all necessary information about their address, contact information and countries visited for last 28 days;
- continuous data exchange between sufficient agencies;