

# Global Mobility Restriction Overview

Bi-Weekly Update • 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020

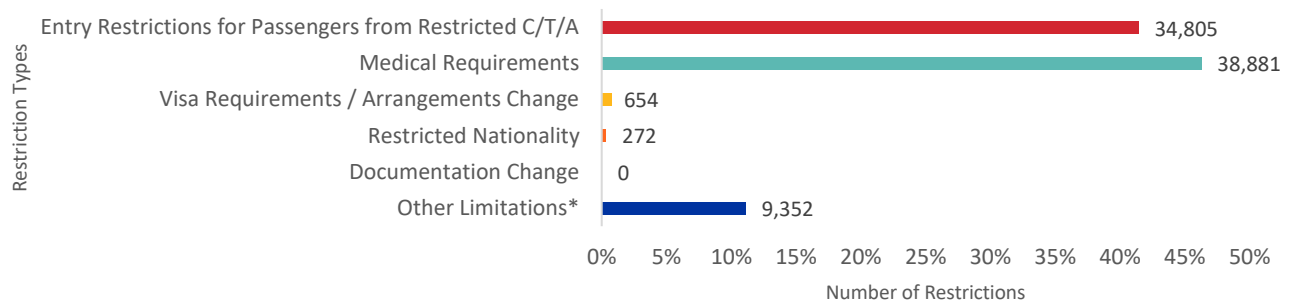


COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series  
<https://migration.iom.int> • [dtmccovid19@iom.int](mailto:dtmccovid19@iom.int)

## Overview

The global number of COVID-19 cases continues to mount and has exceeded 21 million (21,294,845 cases and 761,779 deaths) as of [16<sup>th</sup> August 2020](#), as per the World Health Organization. With growing number of COVID-19 cases, human mobility and migration remains restricted with new restrictions being imposed. As of 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020, a total of 219 countries, territories or areas have issued 83,694 travel restrictions indicating an increase of 3 per cent from 81,843 travel restrictions reported on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020. There has been an increase of 3 per cent in other limitations like new documents for entry and an increase of 6 per cent in medical restrictions. In parallel to existing travel restrictions, a total of 174 countries, territories or areas have issued 703 exceptions enabling mobility despite blanket travel restrictions. Between 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 14 countries, territories or areas issued 43 new exceptions whilst 8 countries, territories or areas removed 16 exceptions. Data Source: [IATA](#) and official government websites.

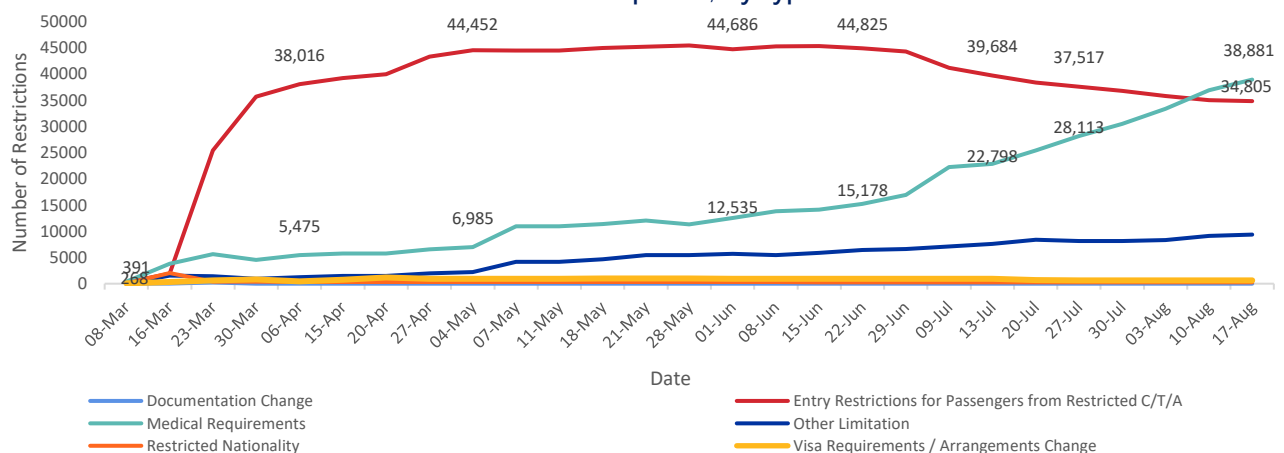
### Most Commonly Imposed Restriction Type



\*Other limitations include suspended visas on arrival and entry permits, requirements for international travel certificates and medical coverages.

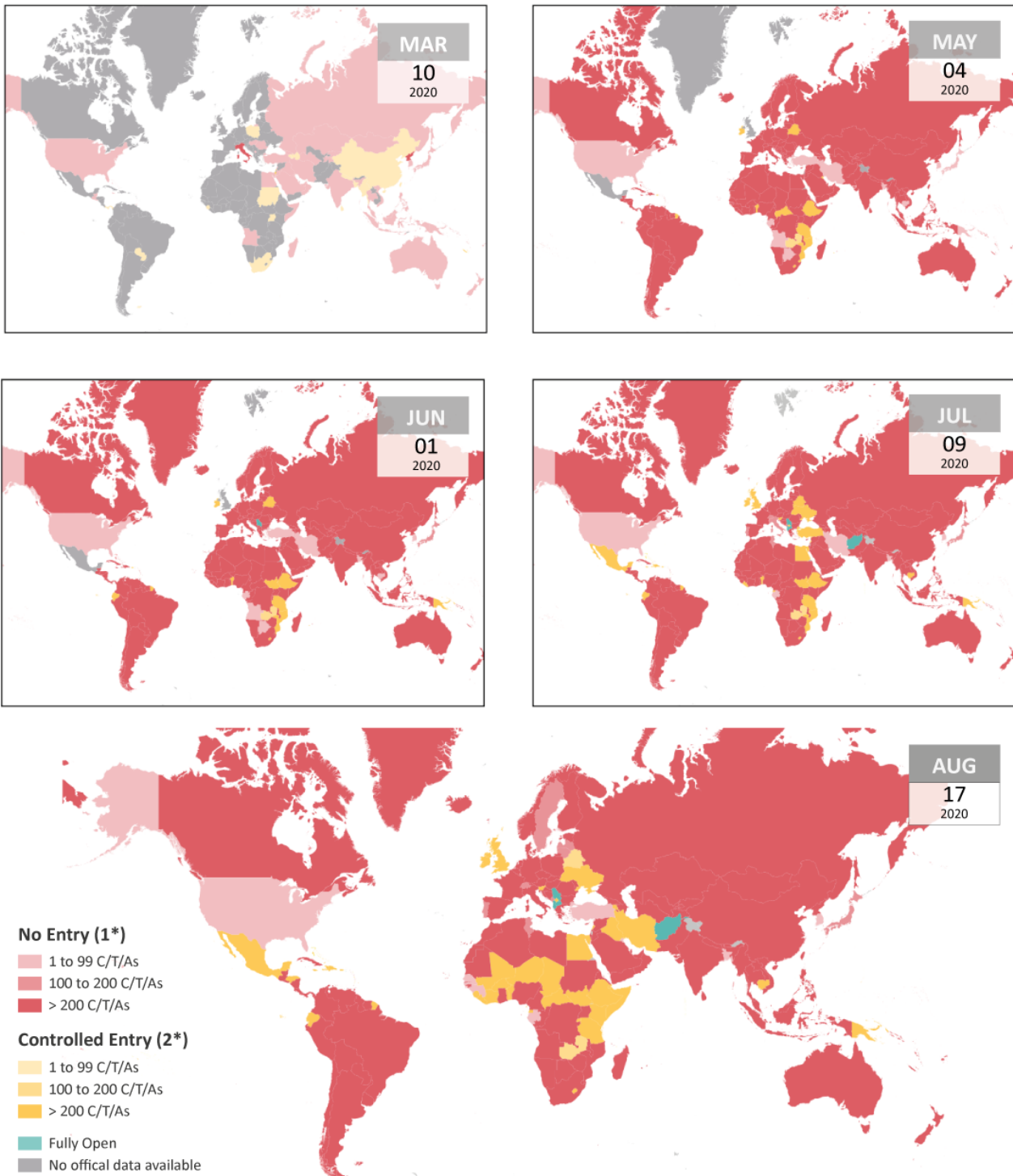
As of 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 219 C/T/As have imposed restrictions. Entry restrictions for passengers from restricted C/T/As have been following a decreasing trend and no longer have the highest share of total restrictions (41%). Medical measures are the most common restriction type representing 46 per cent of restrictions. Changes in visa requirements have also followed a stable trend, continuing to represent a small share (<1%) in total restrictions.

### Restrictions Imposed, by type



**Important:** This analysis does not capture pre-COVID-19 related travel restrictions, rather it draws attention to various travel restrictions issued as a result of COVID-19. This report focuses on the changes to pre-existing measures affecting passengers travelling through specific routes or with specific travel documentation and nationalities. The number of restrictions recorded in this report is indicative of the total number of COVID-19 related travel restrictions since 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020, when IOM began monitoring the impact of travel restrictions on global mobility as a result of COVID-19. More specifically, this analysis highlights emerging changes as a result of COVID-19 travel requirements to support identifying border management practices. This analysis does not aim to provide information on exact travel requirements. For specific and updated travel information, kindly refer to respective Consular authorities of the destination country. International Air Transport Association (IATA) and relevant airline companies may be a valid alternative to explore.

Changes in Restrictions on Arrival since 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020



(1\*) Restricted entry on passengers coming from other countries, territories and areas (C/T/A).

(2\*) C/T/As imposing medical measures, changes in Visa or ID or other measures on arrival.

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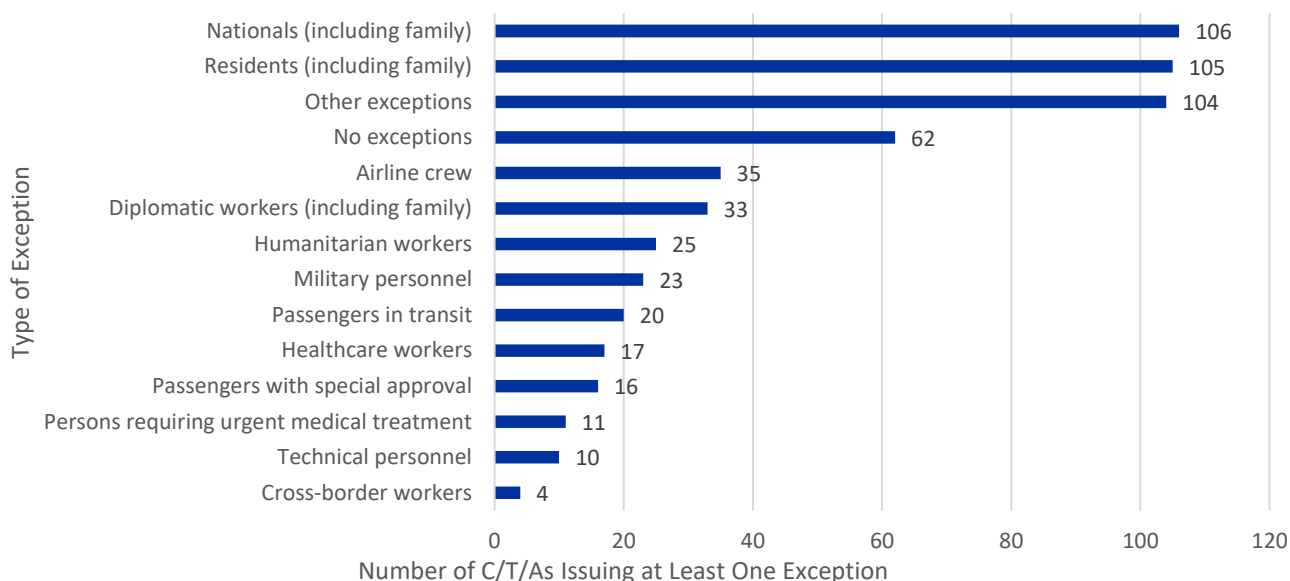
## ■ Key Restrictive Measure Highlights

- Flight suspensions were extended by Peru until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, by Ghana until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, and by Cayman Islands until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.
- Passenger travel bans were extended indefinitely by Chile, and by Romania until 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
- Uruguay shifted from a flight suspension until 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to a complete passenger ban.
- As the epidemiological situation worsens, authorities in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland added new restrictions on passengers arriving from Aruba, France, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Turks and Caicos Islands who are now subject to mandatory 14-day self-isolation upon arrival from 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020 onwards.
- Mozambique suspended all flights as of 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020, except for humanitarian, medical evacuation and return flights. The suspension is expected to be in place until 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- Tunisia added new restrictions on passengers arriving from Iceland, those passengers who will stay for less than ten days in Tunisia are not allowed to enter.
- Montenegro broadened its 14-day quarantine measure to be applicable to all passengers.
- Authorities in Cambodia issued changes in the new conditions for authorised entry, reducing the previously stipulated deposit amount from USD 3,000 USD to USD 2,000 at a designated bank on arrival, passengers will still need to have proof of insurance with a minimum value of USD 50,000 in addition to the deposit amount.
- Viet Nam added new conditions for authorised entry of passengers traveling for business that are exempt from the travel ban. Such passengers must have an international medical insurance or guarantee that the hosting company will pay if there are COVID-19 treatment costs; and have a COVID-19 test taken by PCR technique, between 3 to 7 days before arrival, in a laboratory approved by the Vietnamese government or through the laboratory system of the World Health Organization.
- From 17<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, Greece issued new conditions for entry for passengers arriving from Albania, Belgium, Czechia, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Spain and Sweden who must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival. The certificate must be in English.
- United Arab Emirates added new conditions for entry of passengers arriving from the United States of America at Abu Dhabi airport - they must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 96 hours before departure. The certificate must be issued by an approved lab.
- A new condition for passenger entry was issued by Belize as of 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020, requiring that passengers must have an approval letter issued by Belize's Ministry of Foreign Affairs prior to arrival.
- Medical conditions for entry were issued by French Polynesia and Egypt requiring a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before departure and arrival, respectively. Similarly, Morocco requests passengers to obtain a serological test issued at most 48 hours before departure in addition to a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- Iraq issued new conditions for authorised entry for passengers traveling to Basra (BSR) and Baghdad (BGW) who must have a medical certificate and a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 48 hours before departure. Additionally, passengers in transit through Basra (BSR) must have a medical certificate a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 72 hours before departure.
- Antigua and Barbuda added a new medical condition for entry including a medical certificate and a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result issued at most 7 days before departure.

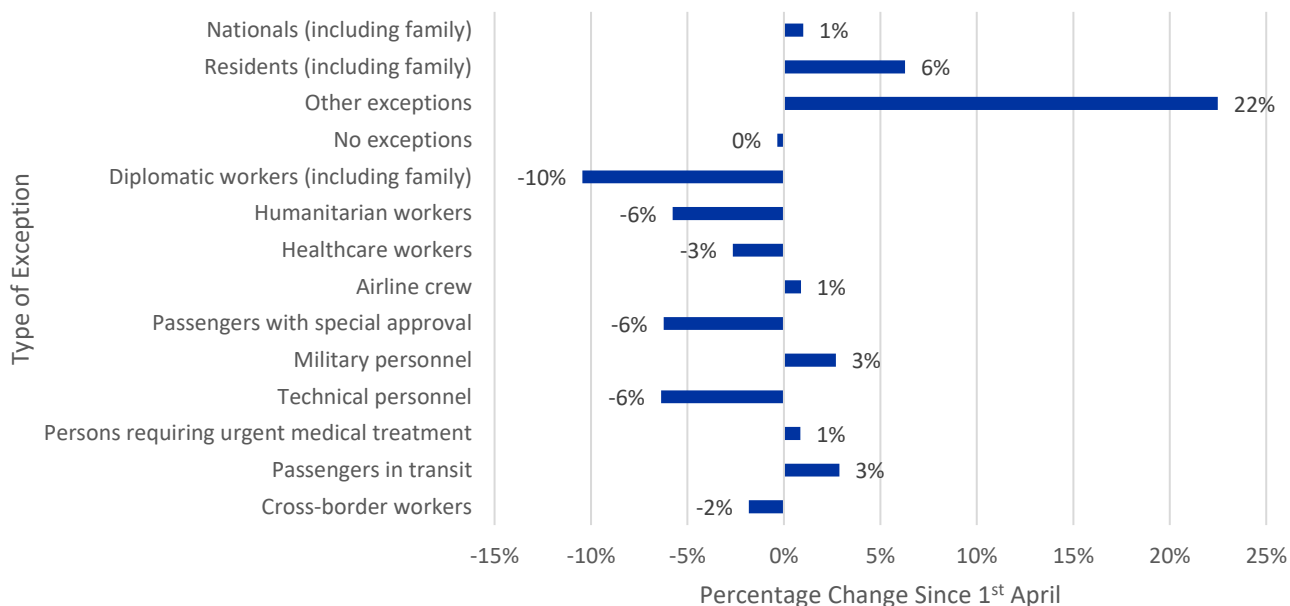
- Airports in Honduras have reopened as of 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020, however, passengers must provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result, taken at most 72 hours before departure as well as a completed online form to enter.
- [India](#) added Canada to the 'Air Bubble' list which permits travel between India and Canada in effect from 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- As of 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020, passengers are allowed to enter Dominica, however, they must undergo mandatory medical screening and quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in addition to providing a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result valid for no longer than 72 hours before arrival.
- As of 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Burkina Faso lifted the passenger ban and introduced new conditions for authorised entry requiring passengers and airline crew to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 5 days before arrival. Passengers and airline crew that do not present a certificate are subject to medical screening at their own expense.
- Armenia lifted the passenger ban and introduced new conditions for entry requiring all passengers to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival.

## ■ Exceptions to Mobility Restrictions

Exceptions Enabling Entry



Changes in Exceptions Enabling Entry



### Noticeable Trends for Enabling Mobility:

- A total of 703 exceptions enabling mobility have been issued by 174 C/T/As.
- The top five C/T/As issuing the highest number of exceptions were Italy (14), the Republic of Korea (13), Canada (12), Thailand (12), and then joint 5<sup>th</sup> with 11 were Greece, the Netherlands, and the United States of America.
- Since the last update on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 43 new exceptions were added by Italy (11), Vanuatu (5), the Netherlands (4), Seychelles (4), Sierra Leone (4), Mozambique (3), Cayman Islands (2), Republic of Korea (2), South Africa (2), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (2), Brunei Darussalam (1), Kuwait (1), Singapore (1), and the United Arab Emirates (1).
- Since the last update on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 16 exceptions were removed by Armenia (4), Burkina Faso (3), Cayman Islands (2), Seychelles (2), Singapore (2), Antigua and Barbuda (1), Italy (1), and South Africa (1).

## ■ Key Exceptions Highlights

- New exceptions were added by Vanuatu allowing entry for permanent residents of Vanuatu residing in Vanuatu for the past 3 years; passengers with a residence permit issued by Vanuatu before April 2020; passengers with a residence visa; passengers with a Special Category Visa issued by Vanuatu before April 2020, provided that they have approval from the immigration to enter.
- The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela added exceptions for MEDEVAC (medical evacuations) and repatriations flights.
- Curaçao issued new exceptions for passengers arriving from 39 countries, territories or areas. Likewise, Croatia issued exceptional entry for nationals of Andorra and Monaco as of 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- New exceptions for passengers arriving from Belgium, Monaco, Czechia, France and Switzerland, were issued by Norway, if they have confirmed booking of quarantine accommodation for first 10 days of stay.
- Brunei Darussalam issued exceptional entry to passengers with a special authorization obtained before departure at [www.immigration.gov.bn](http://www.immigration.gov.bn).
- The Netherlands and Estonia issued new exceptions to its passenger ban allowing entry to residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Rwanda, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. The Netherlands also issued exceptions for merchant seamen, military personnel and students with a notification letter issued by the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND).
- Germany issued a new exception for unmarried partners of German residents. They must have a written invitation and a copy of the identity document of the resident in Germany in addition to a declaration and proof of their relationship.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland added Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia as exceptions to the 14-day self-isolation measures upon arrival.
- United Arab Emirates added exceptions for passengers arriving from the Maldives, Seychelles and Singapore to Abu Dhabi from conditions for authorised entry. Passengers do not need to provide a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result. Similarly, Bosnia and Herzegovina issued exceptions for nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia who do not require a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction test result to enter.
- A total of [420 Sri Lankan](#) migrant workers returned on a special flight organised by the government from the United Arab Emirates on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020.
- As [Nepal](#) has entered the fifth phase of returns efforts, 40 flights have been scheduled to operate from 17<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to facilitate the return of nationals that are stranded abroad.
- Return flights will restart on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020 for nationals of the [United States of America](#) that are in Peru and wish to return home.
- On 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Tuvalu's maritime borders will open briefly to allow a navy boat to enter Funafuti lagoon to return citizens of [Japan and Taiwan](#), [Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China](#) who have been in Tuvalu since the borders closed.
- [The United Arab Emirates](#) sent 13 metric tons of medical supplies and testing kits to 14 Pacific island countries, territories or areas, including: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Cook Islands, and Niue on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020.