

## APAC COVID-19 Landscape Updated 1 Aug 2020

---

### 1. Overview

- Since our report dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July, there has been a resurgence of COVID-19 cases in markets such as Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Vietnam. Most of those countries taking initial steps to reopen borders, markets are now moving with caution.
- **Hong Kong has implemented further local lockdown measures** to try and curtail the latest Covid-19 outbreak
- Borders open between Singapore and Malaysia implement their newly agreed **Reciprocal Green Lane**
- The latest active **travel corridors between countries in the region outlined in Annex A.**
- On Regulations. The civil aviation **regulators from Singapore and the European Union (EU)** recently concluded a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC), which would see both sides committing to **'harmonise' aviation health safety measures.**
- Industry associations continue to reiterate the need for 'governments to ease unduly onerous restrictions on international air travel to re-establish global connectivity with evidence-based measures to safeguard public health"

### 2. Political Developments

- [Singapore and Malaysia](#) have finalised the details of the Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) and the Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA) scheme, as part of the gradual resumption of travel between both countries.
  - **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)**  
The Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) arrangement will cater to essential travellers ie: business & government officials managing sensitive business issues.
  - **Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA)**  
The Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA) will cater to long-term immigration passes. Business and work pass holders from both countries, to commute across the border for work purposes. Individuals must have spent at least three consecutive months in their country of work before they can return to their home country for short-term home leave.

All travellers subjected to a Covid-19 swab test and follow a controlled itinerary, submitted beforehand, with prior approval to be obtained before commencement of travel. **Both schemes are scheduled to take effect from 10 August 2020.**

- [Vietnam](#) has suspended all flights to the city of Danang for 15 days, after detecting COVID-19 cases in the city. Lockdown has been re-implemented Danang city, as the country moves to evacuate some 800,000 tourists (mostly domestic) from the city. Other forms of transport into the city have also been suspended.

### 3. Regulatory Developments

- The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) have concluded a [memorandum of cooperation \(MoC\)](#) on aviation health safety measures in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the MoC, both parties will seek to 'harmonise' aviation health safety measures for air travel. In addition, the MoC provides support for the participation of Singapore Airlines (SIA) and Changi Airport Group (CAG) in the [EASA Aviation Industry Charter \(AIC\)](#), a guideline that seeks to 'promote the implementation of the operational guidelines by aeroplane operators and airport operators, in order to facilitate the recovery of air travel', across the European Union and the world.

### 4. Industry Developments

- The [Association of Asia Pacific Airlines \(AAPA\)](#) has called on governments "to ease unduly onerous restrictions on international air travel and to re-establish global connectivity with evidence-based measures to safeguard public health". The association noted that the publication of guidance material in June by the Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART) of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) was a "significant step in the right direction", but that progress has been slow and sporadic.
- The [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#) remarked in a media statement, that ongoing border closures "cannot be kept up indefinitely, and are useful only when combined with other measures to detect and break chains of transmission".

\*\*\*\*\*

## Annex A: Summary of active travel corridors in Asia

Countries		With effect	Remarks
China	South Korea	1 May	<p>Individuals would need an invitation from companies or governments to travel. They would also need to be tested for the virus 72 hours before departure. Upon arrival, they would have to be quarantined for up to two days and be subjected to another test, before being allowed to proceed with their trip.</p> <p><b>No available information on current DF allowances for this corridor.</b></p>
Singapore	China	8 June	<p>Individuals would have to be sponsored by a corporation or a government entity. Following which they must be then be tested 48 hours before departure, with an itinerary to be submitted prior the start of the trip and be subjected to another test upon arrival. They will be quarantined for up to two days before the commencement of their trip. Individuals are not allowed to deviate from their submitted itinerary.</p> <p><b>DF allowance is only limited to transits at Changi Airport, on a concierge service basis (i.e. pre-order items).</b></p>
Taiwan	Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Japan, Myanmar, Malaysia, Macau, Mongolia, Laos, New Zealand, Palau, South Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam	22 June	<p>Currently only allowed for business travellers. Travellers must be able to provide details of their stay and be tested negative for the virus within 3 days prior to their arrival. In addition, they must be able to present proof of invitation from a company. Travellers will be subjected to a quarantine, with the duration dependent on the length of stay of the traveller in Taiwan. Those who are residing in Taiwan for more than 3 months are mandated to complete the entire 14 day quarantine.</p> <p><b>No available information on current DF allowances for this corridor. The list of approved countries is dependent on the COVID-19 situation and would be updated regularly.</b></p>
Singapore	Malaysia	10 August	<p>Currently only allowed for business and government officials, and for those who are holding long-term immigration work passes. Similarly, travellers would be subjected to a mandatory swab test and a controlled itinerary.</p> <p><b>No available information on current DF allowances for this corridor.</b></p>