PRESS RELEASE

Following the identification of a new COVID-19 variant (B.1.1.529) in South Africa and neighbouring countries, Government has decided to adopt the following measures with respect to: South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana, Eswatini and Zimbabwe.

1. All commercial passenger flights from South Africa to Mauritius are suspended with effect from Monday 29 November 2021.
2. Passengers who have been physically present in any of the 6 above mentioned countries within the last 14 days preceding the date of arrival in Mauritius will not be allowed entry or transit in the Republic of Mauritius.
3. Repatriation flights from South Africa for Mauritian citizens as well as Occupational and Resident Permit holders will be organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and will be subject to strict sanitary protocols including quarantine.

In the meantime, between now and Sunday 23h59, any person who has been physically present in any of the 6 above mentioned countries within the last 14 days preceding the date of arrival in Mauritius will be subject to the following sanitary measures:

1. All such passengers, will be subject to a mandatory PCR test upon arrival at the Airport and should self-isolate pending receipt of the PCR result.
2. In case of a positive result, the positive person, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic, will be admitted to a dedicated centre or a hospital under the supervision of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.
3. Passengers who have obtained a negative PCR test upon arrival, will be subject to close monitoring by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and to mandatory PCR tests on Day 7 and Day 14 following their arrival.
4. Passengers already in Mauritius and who have who have been physically present in any of the 6 above mentioned countries within the last 14 days preceding the date of arrival in Mauritius are invited to undergo a free PCR test in any Mediclinic or District Hospital. All concerned should show proof of travel.

26 November 2021   **Ministry of Health and Wellness**