

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Detection of the Omicron variant in Reunion Island**

Following the detection of a patient infected with the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in Reunion Island, the Ministry of Health and Wellness wishes to inform the public of the following:

1. The passenger travelled from Mozambique (where he stayed from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November) to Reunion Island through South Africa and Mauritius.
2. The passenger had a negative PCR test at his port of embarkation (Mozambique) prior to his arrival in Mauritius.
3. The passenger arrived in Mauritius on 19 November 2021 at 19 10 Hours, on board flight MK 852 from Johannesburg.
4. The passenger's mandatory COVID-19 test done in Mauritius upon his arrival was negative.
5. The passenger had a transit time of less than 24 hours in Mauritius and stayed in an in-room quarantine facility, as per protocol.
6. The passenger left Mauritius for Reunion Island on 20 November 2021 at 18 20 Hours on board flight UU 105.
7. The passenger was tested for COVID-19 upon his arrival in Reunion Island on 20 November 2021. His test result was negative.
8. The passenger started to have COVID-19 like symptoms after his arrival in Reunion island on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021.
9. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, he was further tested for COVID-19 and found positive for COVID-19.
10. The sequencing of this last COVID-19 test revealed that he contracted the Omicron variant.

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

**Ministry of Health and Wellness**