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INTRODUCTION

This document was prepared on the base of Order of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic dated by May 29th, 2020 No. 352 and Order of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic dated by May 29th, 2020 No. 192 “about approval of public health requirements to prevent the spread of coronavirus infection (COVID-19) in tourism sector”, recommendations of experts based on international experience of European countries, recommendations of WHO currently available about Coronavirus disease 2019. There were additionally used the information materials provided by the GIZ Project “Promotion of Sustainable Economic Development in Kyrgyzstan” and members of the Kyrgyz Association of Tour Operators.

The document is addressed to tourism sector participants such as transport, cafes and restaurants, hotels, guesthouses and yurt campsites, who are invited to follow the operating guidelines to the greatest extent possible. The guidance will be used as a content to develop a series of short advisory videos for tourism service providers.

GUIDELINES OF COVID-19 PREVENTION FOR MINIBUSES AND OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

General rules

1. The driver of the vehicle should be familiar with the temporary sanitary-and-epidemiological rules and general safety measures at the workplace.
2. The driver of the vehicle should be aware of the sanitary rules of vehicle cleaning and should know the rules of necessary disinfection.
3. The physical distance (1,5-2 meters) should be constantly kept, no handshakes, the other (contactless) methods of greeting should be used.
4. The driver is obliged to wear the mask all the way, if possible, the passengers should be also provided with the masks.
5. The driver must measure his/her temperature (at least 2 times a day).
6. If the driver discovers the first symptoms of flu (fever, cough, cold), he should immediately inform the employer and isolate himself for 14 days.
7. The drivers are advised to get the vaccination.



Recommendations for the preparation and cleaning of vehicles

1. The information and educational materials about coronavirus infection, developed by the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic should be placed in the most visible parts of the vehicle.
2. It is recommended to install a non-contact (elbow) sanitizer (dispenser bottle) for passengers in the vehicle. It is necessary to ensure constant availability of disinfectant in the dispenser bottle.
3. During the pandemic, drivers should abandon all seat covers and pillows and other objects and surfaces that are difficult to disinfect. If head restraints are used, they should be easily removable. At the end of the working day, head restraints should be washed (washing temperature at least 65°C) and winded until they are completely dry.
4. Before starting the work, it is recommended to carry out a complete general cleaning of the vehicle with disinfectants.
5. The transport shall be cleaned and disinfected at least 2 times per shift according to the following principle:
 - Cleaning should start from the least polluted areas and proceed to the most polluted ones.

- Cleaning should be done from the top of the vehicle so that all contaminants can fall down to the floor.
 - Particular attention during the cleaning and disinfection procedure should be paid to door handles, handrails, armrests of chairs and folding tables, seatbelt buckles, personal control panels, plastic, metal or leather parts of the backrests, individual video monitors.
6. Install and mark the seats, i.e. considering isolation it is necessary to mark the seats according to quarantine requirements (approx. 1 person per 1-1.5 m²).
 7. If possible, isolate the workplace of the driver and other staff in the vehicle using transparent plastic fences.

Driver and passenger safety measures:

1. All passengers and driver must wear safety masks. Basic safety equipment, cleaning equipment and materials must be available and accessible. The driver and passengers shall be provided with a stock of disposable masks, based on the duration of the journey (mask is changed at least once in every 3 hour), as well as disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizers, disinfectants.
2. It is necessary to develop and implement the procedure of used masks, gloves and wipes utilization in transport. It is necessary to dispose of PPE in tightly closing plastic bags, which are disposed immediately, but not less than 2 times a day in specially designated places.
3. For minibuses and buses:
 - all passengers should seat in marked places (approximately 1 person per 1-1.5 m²).
 - in the minibus, in the row of the minibus with 3-4 seats no more then 2 passengers can be seated, each passenger seats by the window, in the row with 2 seats – only 1 passenger can be seated.
 - In the bus, in the row of the minibus with 4-5 seats no more then 2 passengers can be seated, each passenger seats by the window,
4. For off-road vehicles - jeeps and minivans:
 - The trip can be realized only if no more then 2 passengers are seated in the back row of seats.
 - For the group of 2 adults and 1-2 children, the trip is realized by minivan with 2 rows of seats. “One transport – only for one family” rule should be strictly followed. All passengers must seat in back seats only (or back and middle seats in the case of a minivan).
5. Vehicle refueling should be carried out contactless by staff at the fuel station, as far as possible. If this is not possible, the driver should wash or disinfect his hands thoroughly before returning to his workplace.
6. For long routes, the cab of the vehicle shall be ventilated. It is recommended to air the cab every 2 hours.
7. It is useful to keep passenger logbook to monitor all passengers in case of infection.



