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14 January 2021

COVID19(21)07

**TO: LABOUR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
BIWEEKLY MEMBERS MEETING PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GROUP PARTICIPANTS**

NETHERLANDS ENTRANCE RESTRICTIONS UPDATE NOTE

Action Required

Members are invited to note information posted today by the Government of the Netherlands regarding testing requirements for those travelling from Ireland, the UK or South Africa.

People travelling to the Netherlands from Ireland, the United Kingdom or South Africa must provide proof that they have tested negative for coronavirus following a rapid test directly before departure. The test can be conducted at the airport or ferry terminal. As a result, travelers should add at least one hour onto their travelling time.

For those arriving in the Netherlands by air, this additional requirement will enter into force at 00:01 on 15 January. For those arriving by ferry, the requirement will come into force a few days later.

Travelers must provide:

- proof of a negative result from a rapid test (antigen test)
- proof of a negative result from a PCR test
- a signed negative test declaration form (for travelers from the UK & South Africa)

A negative test result is not a substitute for self-quarantining. People with a negative test result should still self-quarantine for 10 days on arrival in the Netherlands.

Rapid test required for those arriving by aircraft or ferry

The additional rapid test requirement applies to those arriving in the Netherlands by aircraft from South Africa or by aircraft or ferry from the UK or Ireland. The new requirement also applies to people working in the transport sector, such as lorry drivers, and to ferry and airline crews. The rapid test requirement already applies to people travelling to the Netherlands from the UK via the Eurotunnel or Eurostar.

Exceptions to the rapid test requirement

The following groups of people are exempted from the rapid test requirement:

- Cross-border commuters, students and school children.
- Holders of a diplomatic identity card issued by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Holders of non-Dutch diplomatic passports.
- Holders of Dutch diplomatic passports, if travelling in the exercise of their work or whose physical presence is required for work.
- Heads of state and members of foreign governments.
- Seafarers on board ferries or passenger ships who are not leaving the ship or travelling to and from it. The exemption does not apply to seafarers on commercial yachts and pleasure craft.
- Air crew, provided they do not leave the aircraft in the UK and are immediately flying back to the Netherlands or onwards to another destination.
- Air passengers whose flight does not have the Netherlands as its final destination but which must divert to the Netherlands due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Travelers in possession of a NATO travel order or a NATO-2 visa.

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