

# The President Palikir, Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia



### AMENDED EMERGENCY REGULATION TO CLARIFY THE MAXIMUM PERIOD OF QUARANTINE UPON ARRIVAL IN FSM

- 1. On June 9, 2022, the President issued an emergency regulation regarding the standard operating procedure for quarantine. This emergency regulation needs to be amended and clarified as to the maximum period of quarantine, as follows:
  - The quarantine period in FSM shall be for a maximum period of 5 days for the month of June, maximum of 3 days for the month of July and 0 days for the month of August. The same maximum periods will apply for VIPs. Restriction of movement applies to quarantine.
  - Should a person test positive during any quarantine period in FSM, the actual period for quarantine for that person (and family group) could be extended.
- 2. This amended emergency regulation becomes effective as of the date of signature.

Date: 14 June 2022

116-16

David W. Panuelo FSM President

Date:

Moses E. Pretrick

Acting Secretary of Health & Chair, COVID-19 Task Force

This Amended Emergency Regulation has been reviewed by the Department of Justice and found to be legally sufficient.

Date: 6/14/22

Joses R. Gallen, Sr. Secretary of Justice



Joses R. Gallen, Sr., Secretary

(691) 320-2608

June 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO:

President

FROM:

Chief of Law

THROUGH:

DOJ Secretary Joses. R. Gallen

SUBJECT:

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Repatriation

We transmit the enclosed SOP for your consideration and approval. This SOP governs the repatriation of stranded citizens, essential workers and other travelers into FSM. According to this SOP, there will be 3 days of pre-quarantine in Guam and also 3 days of quarantine upon arrival in FSM. As for VIPs, home quarantine is permitted under certain circumstances.

Health protocols will be observed. The FSM Consul General in Guam will facilitate the enforcement of the SOP in Guam, and will coordinate with the FSM Task Force on any issue that may arise.

The SOP is promulgated as an emergency regulation under the emergency power of the President. The SOP is mandatory; and any violation will be subject to sanctions.

We respectfully recommend that you consider signing the emergency regulation. Thank you.

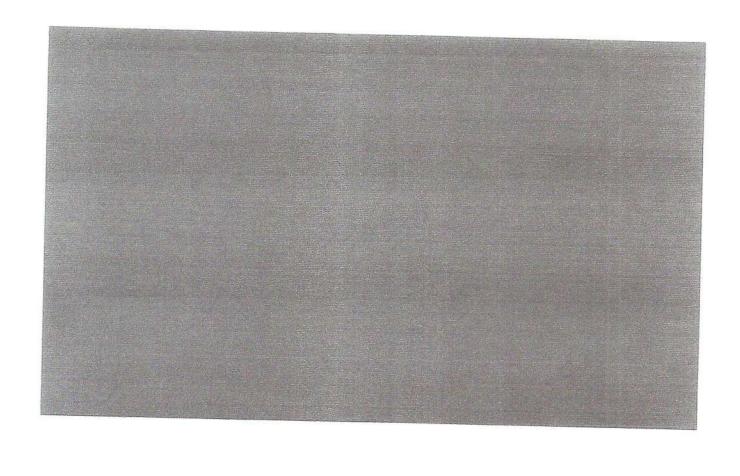
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### SOP FOR THE REPATRIATION OF STRANDED CITIZENS, RESIDENTS, AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS FROM GUAM



#### Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 31, 2020. Since then, the pandemic continues to escalate and has spread to most countries around the globe. On January 31, 2020 the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) declared a Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19 and introduced strict border measures to prevent COVID-19 introduction into the FSM. In December 2020, FSM received its first batch of vaccines from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and began its vaccination campaign. In May 2021 FSM began to repatriate its stranded citizens and residents, and allow entry of essential workers with medical screening requirements including full vaccination, negative test and quarantine in both Guam and FSM, to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 into FSM. FSM has begun to ease up its border restrictions and will phase out the requirement for prequarantine in Guam by August 01, 2022.

This protocol for the entry of FSM citizens, residents and essential workers sets out the specific minimum requirements and standard operating procedures to be used for medical screening, pre-quarantine and clearance of any person traveling into the FSM from any COVID-19 affected countries and areas thru Guam.

The following parameters have been established for the entry of FSM citizens, residents, medical patients and attendants, students, essential workers, diplomats, and others from Guam:

Government designated quarantine facility in Guam: Grand Plaza Hotel and Wyndham Hotel

o Pre-travel quarantine period in Guam: 3 days

A PCR Test will be performed 48 hours prior to flight.

o Meals and security guards will be provided by quarantine facility.

 Transportation to A. B. Won Pat International Airport will be arranged by the FSM Consulate Office.

o Aircraft: United Boeing 737

o Pilot and crew will do honorary "fit for duty" prior to plane departure.

- Pilot and crew are encouraged to be "fully vaccinated" with COVID-19 vaccine at least 2 weeks prior to flight.
- Luggage weight limit: 50 lbs. x per passenger and 14 lbs. carry-on item or according to UA luggage restrictions and flyer status of passenger.

Government designated quarantine facility in FSM

- Quarantine period and testing will depend on State's quarantine protocol
- Any decisions made in connection with or relating to quarantine shall be based upon sound medical science.

#### Process for Pre-travel Quarantine in Guam

- The National COVID-19 Task Force shall finalize the list of individuals to be repatriated taking
  into consideration the list recommended by the State Task Force. The list will be reviewed,
  endorsed by the Secretary of the FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs (DHSA),
  Chairman of the National COVID-19 Task Force, and submitted to the FSM Consul General
  (CG) in Guam.
- The CG Office staff will contact individuals on the list and advise them of their approval to be repatriated to or enter FSM and to undergo mandatory quarantine in one of the FSM-government designated facilities for a period of 3 days.

3. A briefing or orientation on the quarantine requirements will be provided to all the individuals who are confirmed to be repatriated to or enter FSM before they enter the quarantine facility. A quarantine information leaflet will be issued after the briefing and consent for quarantine secured from the individual before entering quarantine.

4. Quarantine facility will provide three meals a day. No food will be brought into the quarantine

facility from outside while in quarantine.

5. Quarantine facility will provide 24/7 security. Security camera and spot checks will be utilized to ensure that travelers do not leave their rooms or visit each other while in quarantine. Breach of quarantine security SOPs will result in disqualification from the repatriation and immediate discharge from the quarantine facility.

6. Quarantine facility will provide 1 set of personal protective equipment to travelers upon check-in

(sanitizer, mask and gloves).

7. Travelers will be provided with cleaning products and are expected to clean their own rooms as there will be no maid service.

No laundry service will be provided. Clean linen will be pre-positioned in the rooms.

COVID-19 testing will be performed within 48 hours prior to departure. AMC personnel will
collect nasopharyngeal swabs from travelers and send to DLS lab for SARS-CoV-2 testing.
Swabs, completed laboratory request forms, and waivers allowing health information to be shared
shall be transported to DLS lab for testing on the RT-PCR platform.

10. In the event any person is tested positive for COVID-19 while in quarantine, Guam DPHSS will be notified and these persons will be handled in accordance with protocols of the Government of Guam. Once these individuals are deemed recovered, they will be released from isolation. These individuals may then restart the process of re-entering pre-quarantine. A medical report will be required from a certified physician indicating their infectivity status. This report will be shared with the FSM medical teams for review and clearance for repatriation.

11. DLS lab will share testing results with designated contacts from the CG Office and FSM DHSA contacts (Dr Eliaser Johnson: <a href="mailto:ejohnson@fsmhealth.fm">ejohnson@fsmhealth.fm</a> and Lisa Barrow: <a href="mailto:lbarrow@fsmhealth.fm">lbarrow@fsmhealth.fm</a> who will be responsible for ensuring information is complete and relayed to the appropriate

Officials of the National and State COVID-19 Taskforces.

12. If any traveler becomes sick in quarantine, Guam Public Health (GPH) personnel will take the sick traveler to Guam Memorial Hospital or other recommended health facility. GPH personnel have been provided with contact details for the staff of the FSM Consulate Office and FSM DHSA Liaison in Pohnpei. Concerns for FSM MiCARE patients shall be directed to Davelyn David, at the MiCARE in Pohnpei.

#### **Important Pre-departure Documents**

The following documents are to be processed at the CG Office prior to travel:

1. Copy of the bio data passport page (scanned and submitted to FSM Immigration Office);

A completed FSM Customs and Quarantine arrival declaration form (will be provided by the CG Office);

3. Each traveler will read and sign a consent form for testing and quarantine:

- Testing clearance certificate indicating no SARS-COV2 prior to departure (electronic test results will be shared with FSM DHSA);
- All travelers must have proof of completed vaccination. Two weeks must have lapsed since
  last dose before entering pre-quarantine. Booster shots are highly recommended for all
  travelers if he/she is eligible and have access to it. Vaccination record must be scanned and
  submitted to FSM DHSA; and,

Repatriation/Entry Protocol from Guam v6 June 01, 2022

Authorized by: Chairman, FSM COVID-19 Task Force 6/01/2022

6. Complete a Certificate of Qualified Entry (CQE) application

 Presentation of CQE is not required to enter Pohnpei or to enter Quarantine in Pohnpei after arrival, per FSM Supreme Court issued TRO dated 5/27/22 in the case FSM v. Gov. Oliver, et al., CA No. 2022-014.

#### Clearance for landing

The airline is required to submit information on the air transport (airline name, ETA) and the pilots and crew members (number, bio-page of passport) to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the National COVID-19 TF at minimum 2 weeks before departure of the plane. The airline is required to apply for a landing permit on-line at the FSM Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure (FSM TC&I) website: <a href="https://www.tci.gov.fm/civilaviation/forms.html">https://www.tci.gov.fm/civilaviation/forms.html</a>. The airline is also required to apply for an entry permit with FSM Immigration.

The above requirements may not apply to United Airline.

FSM TC&I and FSM Immigration are to grant the landing and entry permits and also inform the State Airport Authority. The State Department of Health Services is notified by the Airport Authority on the ETA.

#### Transport to airport in Guam

1. A bus will be arranged by the Consulate office to transport all the travelers to the airport.

The bus will be sanitized few hours prior to use.

 All of the passengers on the bus including the bus driver will be wearing mask and maintaining a 6-feet distance from each other while being transported to the airport.

#### Pre-departure Immigration and customs clearance in Guam

After check in with the airline, passengers will go through TSA and be escorted by the FSM Consulate Office staff to the boarding gate. Passengers will wear mask, maintain social distancing of 6 feet at all times, and limit their movements. Passengers should always wash hands with soap or hand sanitizer after using the bathrooms.

#### Aircraft and pre-departure preparation

- 1. Aircraft (see United guideline below)
  - a. High touch surfaces in the aircraft are to be sanitized with appropriated disinfectant few hours prior to departure.
  - b. Ensure passengers are wearing a mask and are maintaining at least 1 meter distance from each other.
- 2. Flight crew (see United COVID-19 management guideline below)
  - Honorary "fit for duty" before reporting to duty.
  - b. Encouraged to be "fully vaccinated" with the FDA EUA COVID-19 vaccine
  - Encouraged to restrict their movement within the 48 hours prior to departure.
  - d. The crew is required to wear a mask and practice good hand hygiene throughout the flight preparation.

3. Passenger requirements

a. Each passenger is required to bring 2 luggage (50 lbs. each) and 1 carry-on on the flight.

b. Each passenger will be provided 2 medical face masks and a bottle of hand sanitizer with 70% rubbing alcohol.

#### In flight safety measure

1. All passengers are to wear face mask throughout the flight and clean hands with hand sanitizer after using the lavatory.

2. All passengers are to be seated at least 3 ft. apart from each other.

3. Passengers should also be encouraged to stay in the assigned seat as much as possible and limit the interaction with other passengers.

 Lavatory accessible for passengers. Passengers should be informed that closing the lavatory lid before flushing is an effective method to mitigate the spreading of potentially infectious particles.

5. All aircraft crews are required to wear face mask throughout the flight operation.

#### POE measures upon arrival in FSM

1. Upon arriving at the FSM Airport, all travelers will disembark and board the bus to the quarantine facility.

The luggage will be decontaminated by decontamination personnel in full PPE and transferred separately to the quarantine facility by designated ground handling agent.

3. After the operation, a team of trained personnel in proper protective equipment will decontaminate the transport vehicles and everything that were used during the operation at the quarantine area.

#### Quarantine of international travelers in FSM

1. Upon arrival at the government designated quarantine facility, all travelers will be directed to the assigned quarantine rooms.

QF will pre-position personal protective equipment in the rooms (sanitizer, masks, and gloves).

3. After the passengers are in their assigned rooms, then their luggage will be delivered directly to the rooms on the luggage trailers or trucks. When the resident hears a knock on their door, they will put on their face mask, clean hands with alcohol hand sanitizer before opening the door. Each passenger will come out one at a time to identify and move their luggage into their rooms.

4. Every morning the health staff will call each resident on the phone and complete the quarantine intake form and the symptoms monitoring sheet. There won't be any contact unless if its urgently needed. If a passenger displays any symptoms, nurse will immediately isolate passenger in their room and contact designated COVID-19 physician. The physician will make the decision and inform nurse where to isolate symptomatic passenger for COVID testing and management.

Department of Public Safety will provide 24/7 security. Security camera and spot checks
will be utilized to ensure that travelers do not leave their rooms or visit each other whilst
in quarantine.

Travelers will be provided with cleaning products and are expected to clean their own rooms as there will be no maid service.

7. Three meals per day will be delivered to traveler's rooms by the quarantine staff. The staff will be required to wear mask and gloves when delivering food. The food will be placed on a chair outside the rooms. QF staff will knock at the door and return before the resident opens the door to pick up the food and drink. Food from outside is not allowed.

8. COVID-19 testing will be performed during the designated days of the quarantine stay. The nurses in appropriate PPE will collect nasopharyngeal swabs from travelers and send to the State hospital for COVID-19 testing. Swabs and completed laboratory requests forms shall be collected and placed in a plastic cooler and transported by PH personnel to State Hospital laboratory for testing on the Gene Xpert platform.

9. Quarantine Clearance letter will be provided to each individual by the State Public Health prior to their release.

10. If there is any quarantined individual who tests positive for COVID-19 while in quarantine, he or she will remain in their room or moved to appropriate isolation facility. All remaining quarantine individuals who were tested negative for COVID-19 will remain quarantined while an investigation is carried out and course of action is determined by the respective state's medical team. The state medical team will determine the additional number of days to be quarantined or remain in quarantine for both: the individuals that tested positive and the individuals that tested negative.

11. After the individual is released from quarantine, he or she will remove all used linen and place it in a sealed waste bag (provided in the room).

12. The resident will be responsible for his or her own transportation home.

13. After quarantine site is cleared, the Hazmat team will perform decontamination in all the rooms and areas used for quarantine.

14. In the event a person tested positive in quarantine but upon further investigation is determined to be a non-infectious historical case, refer to established State protocols.

### Procedures for Select VIPs (President, V. President, C. Speaker, Governors, Lt. Governors, and Foreign Ambassadors including Heads of Mission)

- 1. Prior to travel from the originating country to Guam, the VIP will be required to produce a negative test result for SARS COV-2 and proof of completed vaccination for at least 2 weeks
- While in Transit: If layover, strongly advise not to leave hotel. The VIP is required to wear a
  mask, physical distancing, and maintains good respiratory and hand hygiene whenever they leave
  their hotel rooms or travel to and from the airport.

3. While in flight, they are required to wear mask and maintain respiratory and hand hygiene.

4. Upon arrival in Guam, the VIP will undergo pre-travel quarantine at an FSM authorized hotel facility.

5. All pre-quarantine requirements will be applied during the hotel stay.

6. They are required to get tested for SARS COV-2 within 48 hours prior to departure

7. Upon arrival in FSM VIPs will be responsible to drive themselves to their designated home quarantine areas. A car will be prepositioned on the tarmac for their use. They will be escorted by FSM or State Police to their respective residences.

8. Home quarantine is required based on the home quarantine facility assessment done prior to

entering FSM

- 9. The residence will be vacated 3 days prior to arrival of VIPs. Provisions for 5 days will be provided
- 10. While in home quarantine\*, they will do symptom and temperature monitoring for 5 days. A public health staff will follow up via e-mail or telephone to confirm.

11. Security will be provided 24/7 by National or State police.

12. On designated testing days a medical staff will visit the VIP at home and collect swab specimen for SARS COV-2 testing on the ABBOT ID NOW or the Gene Xpert platform. In case the VIP develops symptoms, a physician will conduct an investigation and report to PH.

\*Home quarantine facilities will be assessed using the Home Quarantine checklist of standard requirements from the State and National Task Forces.

#### Special or Unique Cases

- Special or unique cases or situations not specifically addressed in this SOP must first be presented to the National COVID-19 Task Force for its consideration, review and decision. Any decision made might result in the amendment or modification of this SOP.
- Any person not following the SOP shall be individually liable and dealt with accordingly.

Diagram 1. Pre-Travel Quarantine Protocol

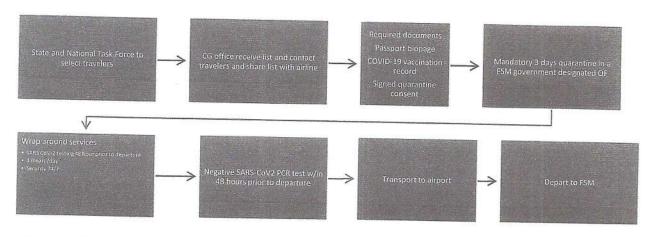
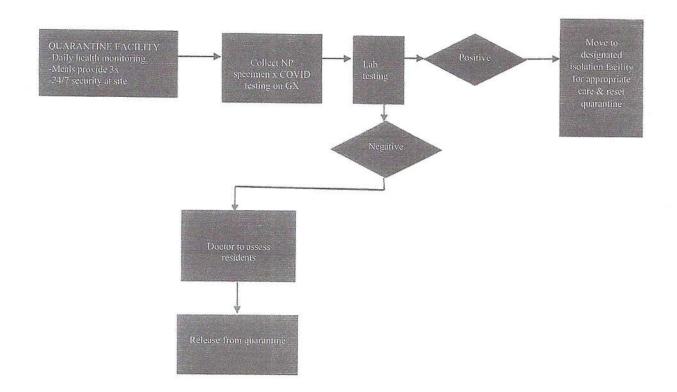


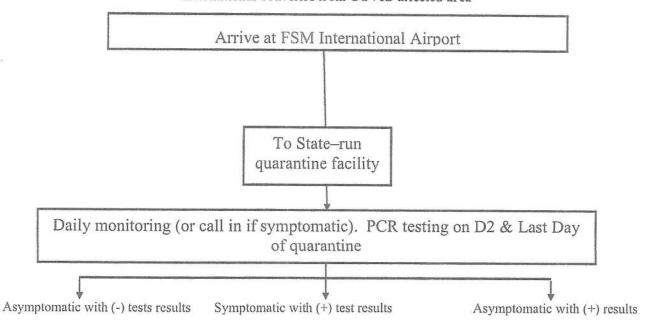
Diagram 2. FSM POE Protocol

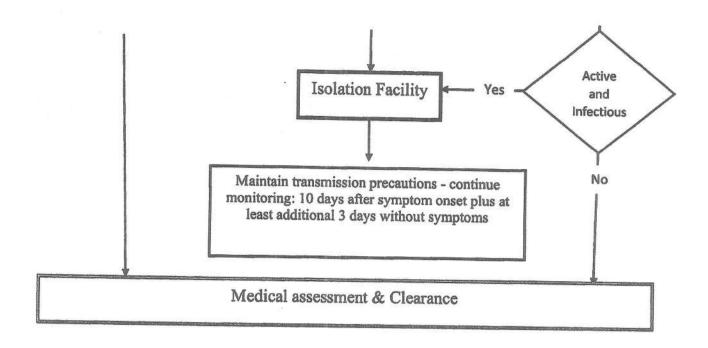


Diagram 3. FSM Quarantine Protocol



#### International Travelers from COVID affected area





- The State Medical Team shall report test results to the designated FSM Health Staff within 24 hours in order for FSM Health to share a summary of test results with the other States Medical Teams in the FSM.
- Tests results shall be reported to the WHO/IHR.
- Test results shall also be provided and given to all quarantined individuals.



#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

FSM National Government

PSW National Government
Capitol Street, P.O. Box PS 70
Palikir, Pohnpei 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
Tel: (692) 320-2619/2872/2643. E-mail: health@fsmhealth.fm. Fax: (691) 320-5263

#### Federated States of Micronesia

Consent for Mandatory Quarantine and COVID-19 Testing			
4	of (Rasidantial Adduss :		
	who is a child/ward, under my care.		
Statement of Consent:			
I agree to:			
<ol> <li>Undergo mandatory quarantine at a state designated facility for a minimum period of 3 days in Guam.</li> <li>Undergo COVID-19 testing in accordance with the FSM quarantine guideline. This test will involve the taking of nasopharyngeal swabs.</li> <li>Allow the testing laboratory in Guam to share SARS-CoV-2 test results with designated FSM officials in Guam and FSM.</li> <li>Obey the rules and regulations associated with quarantine.</li> <li>If any of my laboratory tests detect COVID-19, I agree to follow the isolation procedure required for confirmed cases.</li> </ol>			
Signature- Authority to consent.	Date		
Print Name	Date		
WITNESS Signature	Date		
Print Name	Address and contact detail		
The World Health Organization (WHO) dec	lared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 31, 2020. around the globe. As of June 6, 2022, over 400		
Repatriation Consent Form v3 June 2022 Authorized by:	Secretary, FSM DHSA		

Chairman, FSM COVID-19 Task Force

million people had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and more than 6 million had died. The Federated States of

Micronesia (FSM) remains COVID-19 free with no local transmission. FSM is allowing re-entry of its stranded citizens and residents, and entry of essential workers from abroad in a very controlled manner which involves pre-quarantine in Guam and post-quarantine in FSM.

FSM began vaccinating its population against COVID-19 since December 2019 and as of June 4, 2022 71% of its population (5 years and older) is fully vaccinated and 31% of those eligible boosted. In addition, 100% of its vulnerable population (45 years and older) is fully vaccinated.

FSM has a high rate for non-communicable diseases; therefore, every effort has been taken to mitigate the risks of introducing COVID-19 into the FSM. To date FSM has detected approximately 30 border cases of COVID-19 within its borders/quarantines since January 2021, but there is still no evidence of any local transmission in the FSM.

The COVID-19 incubation period, the time between acquiring the virus and showing of symptoms, is approximately 5-6 days, but could range from 1-14 days. It is known that some people who have been infected with the virus can be infectious in the period before they show symptoms. In light of this information, travelers will be required to undergo a mandatory quarantine period in a government designated facility in Guam for a minimum of 3 days and additional post-quarantine days upon arrival in the FSM depending on the respective State's quarantine protocol. Only government approved facilities and sites are used for quarantine.

During the stay in quarantine, a COVID-19 PCR test will be carried out as per testing protocol or whenever any symptoms develop.

If a person tested positive in quarantine, he/she will be isolated or transferred to the government hospital isolation unit, if necessary.

Please answer the following questions to help ensure your comfort at the quarantine facilities:

1.	Do you require a wheelchair?	*******	
	Are you able to walk up the stairs?		
3.	Are you travelling alone or with someone?		
4.	Please state any allergies or other health conditions which the quarantine s		
	aware of:	***************************************	
5.	. Special dietary requirements:		
6.			
* Note: All luggage will be kept in the quarantine for the duration of your quarantine period. You are advised not to bring any perishables, e.g., fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, or fish.			
Rep	triation Consent Form v3 June 2022 Authorized by:  Secretary, FSM DHSA Chairman FSM COVID 10 Tests Form	Date:	

## EMERGENCY REGULATION CONSISTING OF THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR REPATRIATION BY THE COVID-19 TASK FORCE

- This emergency regulation is issued pursuant to the Emergency Powers of the President under Article X Section 9(a) of the FSM Constitution.
- Congressional Resolution No. 22-125 provides for the repatriation of returning medical
  patients, essential workers, and other rare exceptions. The Congressional Resolution also
  provides that the operational details in implementing the emergency declaration are contained
  in the Guidelines and Protocols, and any updates thereof, as established or sanctioned by the
  Task Force.
- 3. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) herein promulgated takes effect immediately and is considered mandatory.
- 4. No person is permitted to interfere with the enforcement of the SOP. Accordingly, it shall be the duty of the National Government to provide security and protection over international travel, with respect to the orderly and safe repatriation and the overall enforcement of the SOP.
- 5. Arrests. Any person, whether civilian or public employee, acting in person or through an agent or a subordinate, interfering with repatriation or in violation of this SOP shall be subject to immediate arrest by the National Police. Any person arrested shall be immediately brought to the FSM Supreme Court, no more than 24 hours, following arrest for the filing of criminal charges.
- The Secretary of Justice shall provide immediate report to the President and to the National Emergency Task Force for the COVID-19 pandemic, regarding the application of this emergency regulation.
- 7. This Emergency Regulation shall remain effective for as long as the present COVID-19 Emergency is in effect. It shall be given widest publicity possible, deposited with the Registrar of Corporation and transmitted to the FSM Congress and to the Governors of the FSM States.

Date: <u>6/9/22</u>

Date: 6/9/22

David W. Panuelo

FSM President

Moses Pretrick

Acting Secretary of Health & Chair, COVID-19 Task Force

This Emergency Regulation has been reviewed by the Department of Justice and found to be legally sufficient.

Date: 6/01/02

Joses R. Gallen, Sr. Secretary of Justice