



MAZARS IN VIETNAM

COVID-19 TAX & LEGAL UPDATES

Medical guidance for COVID-19 epidemic prevention for expats entering Vietnam to work in a short period (less than 14 days)

September, 2020

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*On 31 August 2020, Prof. Dr. Nguyen Thanh Long - Acting Minister of Health signed to issue the **Official Letter No. 4674 / BYT-MT** guiding the medical actions towards COVID-19 epidemic prevention and control for foreigners entering Vietnam to work in short period of less than 14 days.*

The Ministry of Health would like to request ministries, branches at the same level with ministries and provincial and city's people's committees to carry out below content:

- i. To implement content written in Guidelines for Covid-19 prevention and protection for foreigners entering Vietnam to work in a short period (less than 14 days) for safety of Covid-19 prevention and protection
- ii. To inspect, monitor and evaluate implementation of Covid-19 prevention and protection during expert's stay in Vietnam
- iii. All result reports must be sent to the Ministry of Health (Vietnam health environmental management agency)

Please kindly contact Vietnam health environmental management agency – the Ministry of Health (lane 8, Ton That Thuyet , Nam Tu Liem district, Hanoi, contact no: 02432272855, email: baocaoytld@gmail.com)



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1. Subject of Application

Foreigners entering Vietnam to work in short-term period include:

- **Investors, experts, skilled workers, business managers** with their relatives and subjects as agreed with each country (hereinafter referred to as “experts”);
- **Visitors enter for diplomatic and official purposes.**
- Those who are **in close contact with experts and visitors entered for diplomatic and official purpose** during entry procedure and working period in Vietnam.



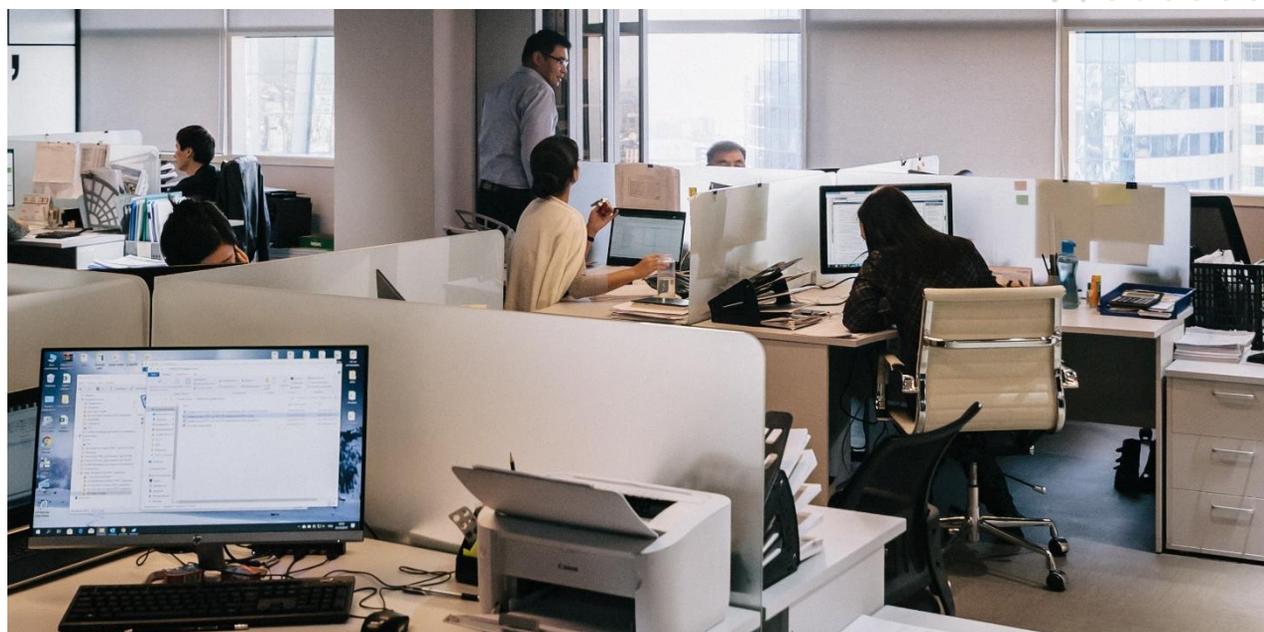
2. General principles

- Ministries, Departments and Provincial / City People's Committees consider the need to invite experts and visitors to Vietnam for short-term business trip and/or for diplomatic purposes, while ensuring immediate actions to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19.
- **14-day medical isolation is not compulsory**, but experts have to strictly and fully comply with regulations on prevention and control of COVID-19 epidemics. Authorities must ensure to provide safety guidance to experts and visitors entering for diplomatic and public purposes together with their close contacts; to avoid cross-contamination in the working place and not to spread the cases in the community.
- Those who have contact with experts and visitors entering for diplomatic and official purposes must perform health's self-monitoring, especially when experiencing one of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat or difficulty in breathing, and report it to local health and regulatory authorities.

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2. General principles

- Accommodation for experts and visitors entering for diplomatic and official purposes must comply with the provisions of the Health Ministry's Decision No. 878 / QD-BYT dated 12 March, 2020 promulgating the *"Guidelines medical isolation in isolated centralized epidemic prevention and control establishments COVID-19"* or Decision No. 1246 / QD-BYT of the Ministry of Health dated 20 March 2020 on *"Guidance on temporary medical isolation in practice at the hotel in the prevention and control of COVID-19 epidemic voluntarily paid by the isolated person"*. Local authorities must absolutely not to allow any cross-contamination at the place and its spread in the community.
- Experts and visitors entering for diplomatic and official purposes must have international health insurance or the organizations inviting experts and visitors to enter for diplomatic or official purposes are committed to paying any incurred treatment expenses in case of COVID-19 infection. Experts must enter into the country 01 day before the scheduled working time to complete the required medical supervision;
- All expenses for isolation, vehicles, and COVID-19 testing are covered by the organizations inviting experts. For guests entering with the purpose of diplomacy or public service, they will be free of any charges (except for the cost of isolation at the hotel as desired).
- After 14 days from the date of entry, if the expert and the visitor enter with the purpose of diplomacy or official duty wishing to continue their business stay in Vietnam (as required) and receive negative SARS-CoV-2 test result, they will be allowed to continue their work as normal without any isolation.



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3. Requirements for prevention and control of COVID-19

3.1. For experts

Before entry



Develop specific working schedules, accommodation locations, means of pick-up and isolation transportation for experts.



Meeting venues and accommodation should be chosen in provinces, cities near the border gates to limit inland entry and cross-localities moving



Compulsory test for SARS-CoV-2 by Real time-PCR technique 3-5 days before the date of entry into Vietnam and receiving negative test result of SARS-CoV-2.

At the place of entry and exit

- 01** Structure separate streams to welcome immigration and exit experts.
- 02** Experts must present negative test results for SARS-CoV-2 upon entry.
- 03** Organise pick-up transportation for experts to/from the accommodation place according to the instructions in Section 6, Part IV.
- 04** Recommend experts to use **Bluezone** applications while in Vietnam.
- 05** Provide guidance for **electronic medical declaration, measure body temperature**, quick check to detect suspected cases. When one of the manifestations of fever, cough, sore throat, or difficulty of breath is detected, medical isolation should be organised immediately and should be treated as if the disease is suspected.

For guests entering for diplomatic or official purposes

- The requirements for COVID-19 epidemic prevention are essentially the same as for the experts.
- For VIP guests from the rank of Deputy Minister or equivalent or higher: not required to have a negative certificate for SARS-CoV-2 upon entry; not to install and/or use Bluezone app and not to have to test for SARS-CoV-2 after entry.

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3. Requirements for prevention and control of COVID-19

3.1. For experts

At the accommodation place

- ✓ Arrange separate accommodation for experts
- ✓ Establish a separate sampling room/area for SARS-COV-2 at the property to collect samples from all experts.
- ✓ Take samples for testing 01 day before the expert leaves Vietnam to have a plan for quarantine.
- ✓ Organise SARS-COV-2 sampling and testing for all experts when arriving at the accommodation using RT-PCR technique. When the test results are negative, consider to allow experts to work locally. Sampling is done every 2 days during the expert's stay in Vietnam.

At the meeting venues or fieldwork site

- ✓ Make a list of meeting attendees
- ✓ Arrange temperature checking points
- ✓ Arrange hand washing point or hand sanitizer solution in meeting rooms; provide masks for attendants
- ✓ Wearing masks is compulsory
- ✓ Allocate meeting time suitably and no spare time for breaking
- ✓ Arrange working areas for the medical department to serve at the meeting place
- ✓ Minimise the number of people in close contact with each other
- ✓ Carry out the cleaning and disinfection of the working location and the field site

For persons in close contact with experts and visitors entering with diplomatic and official purposes during their stay in Vietnam.

- Must be reported to health authorities to get the information
- Wearing a mask, washing hands, ensuring separation and properly implementing COVID-19 epidemic prevention, self health monitoring
- Self-monitor health while working as normal, limit contact with the community within 14 days from the last contact
- If there are signs of fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty in breathing, need to be isolated at the property, notify the local health authority or the Ministry of Health for consultation and examination.

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3. Requirements for prevention and control of COVID-19

3.2. For professionals and visitors entering for diplomatic or official purposes

- ✓ Fully implement electronic medical declaration upon entry. Use the Bluezone app during your stay in Vietnam (except for VIPs from the deputy minister level or equivalent).
- ✓ Fully comply with the instructions and regulations on COVID epidemic prevention and control in this guide and the regulations of the Government of Vietnam.
- ✓ Daily self-monitoring of health, when there is one manifestation of fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty in breathing, immediately notify the agency or organization inviting experts / visitors to enter for diplomatic and official purposes. and health agencies.'
- ✓ Fully implement personal hygiene measures including:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and clean water or hand sanitizer, especially before entering the meeting room, before and after eating and drinking.
 - Limit shaking hands with others.
 - Do not share personal items such as cups, water bottles, handkerchiefs ...
 - Do not leave the property. Implement meeting schedules, signing, working, and going on field trips according to previously announced plans.

[Download the full document here](#)

MAZARS IN VIETNAM

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