

R.T.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Directorate General of Provincial Administration

Number: 89780865-153-

TOP URGENT

Subject: International Freight Transport

.././2020

TO THE DISTRIBUTION PLACES

Ref: a) Circular dated 09.04.2020 with no: 6360

b) The letter of the Ministry of Health DG for EU and External Relations with no date and number: 724.01.01

The principles and procedures governing entries into and exits from our country of drivers of Turkish and foreign origin within the scope of international freight transport as well as their transit crossing into third countries via Turkey, have been regulated in the Circular stated in ref (a).

Without making any changes to the provisions of Circular in ref (a) regulating “**excluding entries-exits from Border Crossing Points with Iran and Iraq for international trade (only truck drivers of foreign nationalities will be allowed to exit from the aforementioned border crossing points provided they will not be readmitted)**” and “**A. VEHICLES AND DRIVERS TO TRANSIT FROM TURKEY**”, “**C. DRIVERS EXITING TURKEY**” as well as “**D. RULES TO BE APPLIED IN RO-RO TRAVELS**”; in order to prevent the export/import deliveries of our country from being adversely impacted, to prevent the supply chain from being harmed and to ensure the efficient functioning of our transport sector, part B entitled “**DRIVERS TO ENTER TURKEY**” in ref (a) Circular has been revised within the framework of the below stated provisions, in the scope the letter mentioned in ref (b).

B- DRIVERS TO ENTER TURKEY

1. In the scope of the fight against coronavirus, the health checks of the driver of the vehicle will be conducted by the health care units, and in the examination and epidemiological assessment,
 - a. If symptoms of the disease are detected;
 - i. Turkish drivers will be placed under quarantine/treatment at designated places, by health inspection centres notifying the relevant Health Directorates. Their residence and ID information will be reported to the Health Directorates of the province where they will be present in order to ensure the performance of necessary checks.
 - ii. Foreign drivers will not be given clearance to cross.
 - b. If the symptoms of the disease are not detected:
 - i) Turkish drivers will be admitted to the country in order to spend the 14-day quarantine period at their homes; however, they will be able to exit the country without waiting for the expiration of the quarantine period in the scope of international commercial transportation activities. On the other hand, those drivers who will not exit

the country in the scope of commercial transportation activities will complete the 14-day quarantine period at their homes. The ID and residential information of the Turkish drivers will be notified to the Health Directorates of the relevant provinces [of habitation] for the necessary checks to be conducted.

ii) Where foreign drivers commit that they would exit our country within 72 hours following their entrance into Turkey, they will be allowed entry into Turkey without the application of the 14-day quarantine period. Furthermore, foreign drivers will also commit that they will approach the nearest healthcare institution should they feel that they are developing any symptoms or findings (fever, cough, shortness of breath etc.) of the respiratory system within the 72 hours that they spend in our country.

iii) In light of the road and weather conditions as well as the workload at the customs administration, the relevant customs administration will be able to prolong the 72-hour period up to 24 hours.

iv) Foreign drivers will be notified by the services of the Ministry of Interior (MoI) that they will have to wear a mask at every location where they may be in contact with other people and at the motorway service areas inside the country, and that they have to keep sufficient number of masks, hand disinfectants, and foodstuffs to last on board the vehicles; and should there be a need, [certain] motorway service areas can be identified by the State, and they may travel in the company of an escort.

2. Vehicles entering into our country will be subjected to disinfection.

3. Necessary health and safety measures will be taken by the relevant Governorship / District Governorates on the break routes to be determined for Turkish and foreign drivers. A letter of commitment will be taken from these drivers by the Ministry of Interior units regarding that they will not pause and wait, except for the necessary cases, and they will be informed about the obligations of the driver and the penalty will be applied under the General Public Health Law if these obligations are not fulfilled.

4. Entry of vehicles/drivers carrying medicine, medical supplies and food supplies urgently needed for our country will be given priority.

I hereby request necessary action for decisions regarding the aforementioned measures be taken, planning and implementing of necessary actions be carried out urgently in view of avoiding any shortcomings in implementation, by Governors/District Governors and Chiefs of Civil Administration at Border Gates, within the mainframe of related legislation and in cooperation with all public institutions and bodies.

Süleyman SOYLU

Minister

CC:

Governorates of 81 Provinces

DG Security

Gendarmerie Command

Civil Administration at Border Gates

For info:

Presidency

MFA

MoH

Ministry of Commerce

Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure