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## **Unofficial Translation**

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

#### **MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

#### **TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF THE PURCHASING OF TRAVEL TICKETS FOR VACCINATED TRAVEL LANE BETWEEN MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE**

On 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021, Malaysia and Singapore agreed to embark on the initiative “Vaccinated Travel Lane” (VTL) by air and land. It was made aware generally that VTL facilities are limited to travelers who have received a full dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Through this facility, travelers do not have to undergo a mandatory quarantine period when arriving at the destination - yet still subject to the need to undergo testing COVID-19 detection before departure and upon arrival.

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021, the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) has announced the reinforcement of actions on preventive and control measures available for travelers from abroad, including travelers arriving at the door of Malaysia's international entry through the VTL initiative. Reinforcement actions specified are as follows:

- **RTK-Ag test** or rapid antigen test (**self**) on **day 2, 4, and 6** upon arrival;
- **RTK-Ag test** or rapid antigen test (**professional**) on the **3rd and 5th** day upon arrival.

On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021, the Singapore Ministry of Health issued a statement media regarding the incident of a local cluster of COVID-19 involving three (3) positive cases. The results of further tests conducted found that two (2) of them showed possible Omicron variants, while results for other cases are yet to be determined (pending). All three cases have no history of travel abroad country.

Taking into account the latest developments reported by Singapore, MOH would like to inform travelers of the **temporary suspension of the sale of bus and flight tickets for both VTL initiatives between Malaysia-Singapore (i.e. by air and land), effective for the period of 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 to 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

For travelers who already have travel tickets for VTL land and air as well as, when the specified conditions have been met, can continue their journey under the VTL initiative. Bus and flight ticket sales for these two VTL initiatives will be reopened beginning 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022, after a risk assessment was made based on the current COVID-19 situation in both countries. However, the quota of tickets sold will be reduced from the existing quota.



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More information on the latest instructions for the temporary suspension of ticket sales buses and flights for the Malaysia-Singapore air and land VTL initiative can be referred to the Ministry of Transport Malaysia (VTL Air) and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (VTL Land).

The Malaysian Ministry of Health would like to advise all travelers to be responsible and always comply with the instructions and SOPs that have been set. It is encouraged for travelers to perform the periodic COVID-19 self-detector tests to determine self-risk status themselves and in turn, this can reduce the risk of infection to other individuals.

**KHAIRY JAMALUDDIN**

Minister of Health Malaysia

22 December 2021

*DISCLAIMER: The original document is written in the Malay language. EUROCHAM Malaysia has translated this from the original Malay version at our best understanding and knowledge. Should there be any inconsistency or difference between the English translation and the original Malay version, kindly note that the original Malay document is the final governing and prevailing version.*

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