

State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan
28 March 2020

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan has issued an Action Plan in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan established Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers consisting of senior officials of the appropriate government authorities, which coordinates response of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the spread of the coronavirus worldwide and threat of the outbreak of the infection in the country.

In order to implement the above mentioned Action Plan and decisions of Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers, the Customs Administration has taken following measures:

- all customs border crossing points have set to work in enhanced mode;
- decision to temporarily close the state border between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, Georgia and the Russian Federation was made based on mutual agreement in order to ensure safety and protect the health of the citizens of both countries;
- goods that are imported from the Islamic Republic of Iran or through their territory by trucks are transshipped to the Republic of Azerbaijani trucks at terminals, close to customs border crossing points;
- decision allowing transportation of trucks that come from the Islamic Republic of Iran through a dedicated transit corridor with police escort was initially adopted;
- fast and smooth movement of goods required for COVID-19 treatment has a special priority;
- staff has been trained by specialists from the Ministry of Health;
- the use of provided personal protective equipment such as gloves, masks, coveralls and glasses is mandatory for staff;
- relevant hygiene measures such as hands washing and disinfection, disinfection of surfaces and public areas;
- disinfection of trucks and vehicles;
- employees who do not maintain essential services are put on standby duty;
- persons returning from risk areas may not enter the office for 14 days after their return;
- continuous dissemination of leaflets with WHO recommendations regarding prevention of COVID-19 among passengers at all customs border crossing points;
- body temperature screening at planes, ships and buses;
- body temperature checks and health inquiry on departure at airports, seaports and ground points of entry;
- isolation and transfer to hospital of suspected passengers with symptoms like fever or cough for further testing and observation;
- isolation and transfer to hospital for further testing and observation of passengers who have visited countries listed in the relevant decision of the Operational Headquarters under the Cabinet of Ministers for the last 28 days;
- entry passengers are required to fill in health declaration forms, providing all necessary information about their address, contact information and countries visited for last 28 days;
- continuous data exchange between the relevant agencies.