

Reference No: Communicable Diseases

Enquiries: Dr FG Benson

Office No: N801 Extension: 8094

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

REMOVAL OF EBOLA RELATED TRAVEL MEASURES FOR TRAVELLERS BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND LIBERIA

On 3 September 2015, WHO re-declared Liberia free of Ebola virus transmission in human population. The last two patients with Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the country were discharged after completing treatment and testing negative for EVD for a second time on 23 July 2015. In accordance with WHO guidelines, a national EVD outbreak is declared over when 42 days has elapsed since the last patient in isolation became laboratory negative for EVD. The outbreak of EVD in Liberia is over.

Subsequently, a decision has been taken to remove Liberia from the list of high risk countries for EVD transmission. Travellers from Liberia will not require prior application for permission to travel to South Africa.

A number of measures for epidemic preparedness and response remain in place to prevent the introduction of the disease into South Africa. Travellers from Liberia will still go through the thermal screening process at the ports of entry.

The decision to remove Ebola related travel measures for travellers between South Africa and Liberia will be shared with the relevant Departments.

For more information please contact NATHOC on Tel: 012 395 9636.

Kind regards

DR FG BENSON

CHIEF DIRECTOR: COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

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