

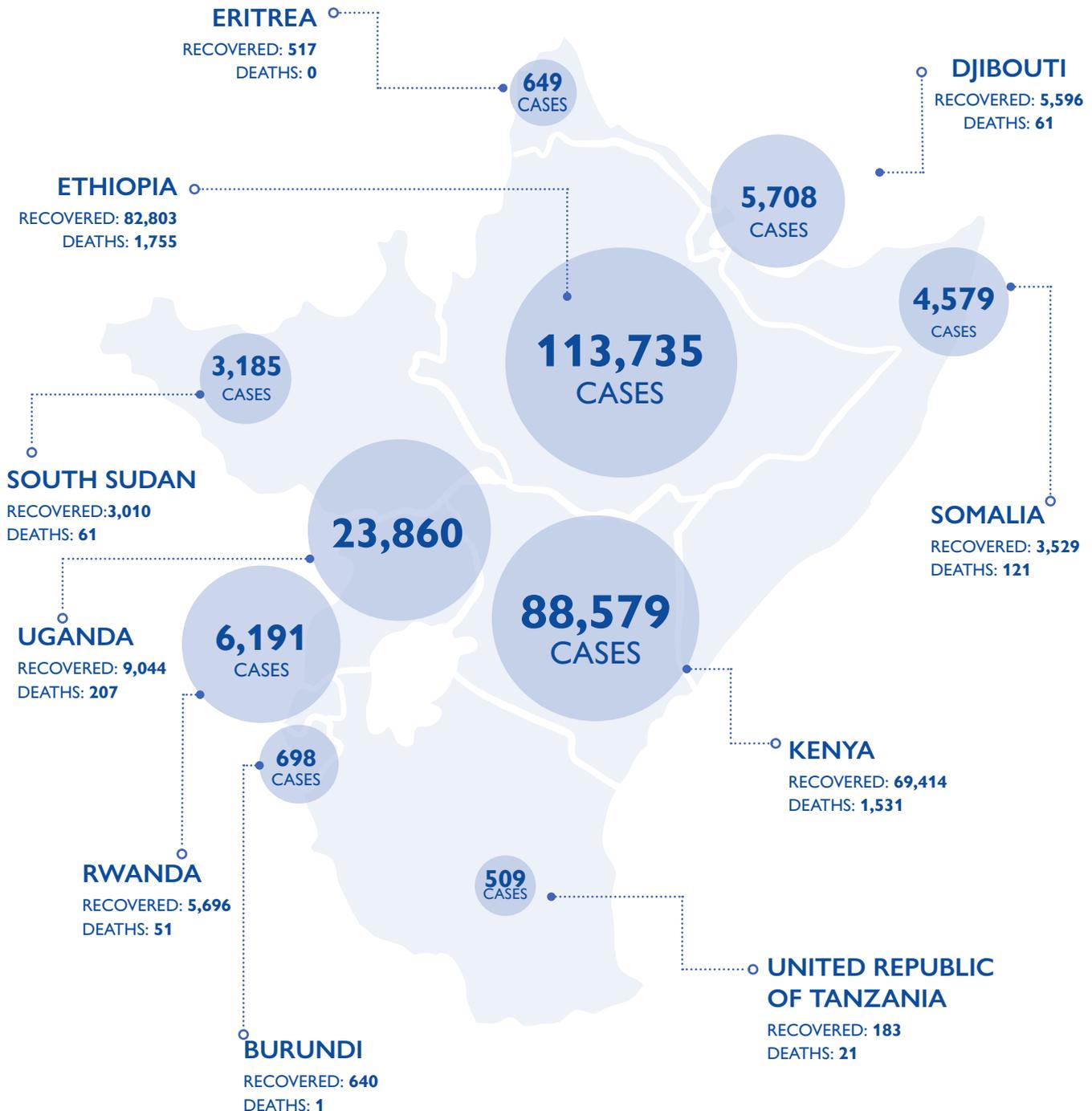
EAST & HORN OF AFRICA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT - #35

09 DECEMBER 2020 Update

247,693
CONFIRMED CASES

3,810
CONFIRMED DEATHS

180,432
TOTAL RECOVERED



DISCLAIMER: The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on these maps may include errors and do not imply judgment of the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by IOM.



181,823

Migrant movements observed (DTM, October 2020) (55% reduction compared to October 2019)



1,038

Migrant arrivals in Yemen from the Horn (DTM, October 2020) (92% reduction compared to October 2019)



6.3M

IDPs (October 2020 – DTM, OCHA)



EHoA SITUATION OVERVIEW

The number of people infected with COVID-19 continues to increase across East & Horn of Africa. Migrants, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), are among some of the world's most vulnerable to have been impacted by the disease, compared to non-migrants. Migrants are more likely to be exposed to the conditions and circumstances in which COVID-19 spreads, which includes poorer and makeshift conditions, overcrowded settings and a lack of access to hygiene. Migrants are also less likely to have access Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and medical care, and migrants may suffer an over-representation of pre-existing health issues due to a historic lack of access to healthcare.

Thousands of migrants are currently stranded across the East and Horn of Africa due to COVID-19 related border closures and movement restrictions. Many are in need of food, water, medical assistance and transport. Migrants are also being involuntarily sent back to their countries of origin by some governments. Migrants are experiencing detention and abuse in some countries, and facing stigma and xenophobia, resulting from being blamed for the spread of the disease.

As of December 8, the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the region stands at 247,693. 1,447 new cases have been reported in the last day with most new cases reported in Uganda (660 daily increase 2.8%), followed by Ethiopia (440 daily increase 0.4%), Kenya (199 daily increase 0.2%) and Rwanda (62 daily increase 1.0%). Ethiopia remains the country with the highest number of confirmed cases in the region at 113,735 (46.5% of total case), followed by Kenya 88,579 (35.8%), followed by Uganda 23,860 (9.6%).

IOM is working with governments across the region to respond to the impact of COVID-19 in the areas of protection, risk communication, disease surveillance, infection prevention and control, case management, 'Points of Entry' (PoEs), Camp Coordination and Management, procurement and logistics, among others. IOM is advocating for all migrants, including IDPs, to be included in all government responses to combat COVID-19 and access to the development of vaccines for the disease.

A regional financial appeal to assist migrant groups in the East and Horn of Africa was launched in April for \$71.6M. So far, 72% of the required funds have been raised.

Link to the EHoA COVID-19 appeal document; <https://ronairobi.iom.int/publications/iom-east-and-horn-africa-strategic-and-preparedness-and-response-plan-covid-19>

In August IOM launched an appeal to specifically respond to the needs of migrants on the 'Eastern Route' from the Horn of Africa to Yemen.

Link to the Regional Migrant Response Plan for Horn of Africa and Yemen' (RMRP) 2020 Appeal: <https://ronairobi.iom.int/publications/regional-migrants-response-plan-horn-africa-and-yemen-2018-%E2%80%93-2020>

The number of COVID-19 cases in East and Horn of Africa continues to increase with 247,793 people now infected.

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IOM COUNTRY RESPONSE

Partnerships and Coordination

IOM Ethiopia is assisting migrants across 14 national COVID-19 quarantine facilities in Ethiopia, in partnership with the Government. IOM South Sudan is working in partnership with the authorities as a member of the Strategic Advisory Group, National Task Force, COVID-19 National Steering Committee, and the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG), a key platform providing decision-makers and responders with data and analysis on the impact and needs around COVID-19. IOM is also working with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and collaborating with the International Rescue Committee, Medair, the Norwegian Refugee Council and Networks for Health, on conducting health, water and sanitation, and hygiene activities to prevent the spread of the disease.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

IOM Ethiopia has reached over 32,200 people with COVID-19 awareness messages in Dire Dawa, East and West Hararghe, West Guji, Gedeo, Borena, East and West Wollega Zones during the reporting period. IOM South Sudan is continuing with COVID-19 awareness and hygiene promotion in Bentiu and Malakal Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites, as well as in areas surrounding the PoCs in Juba and Wau. Similar activities continue at PoEs in Abyei, Renk and Nimule. Over 237,000 people were reached with COVID-19 information through a network of 265 Community Hygiene Promoters during the reporting period. IEC materials with messages on COVID-19 are being displayed at 662 handwashing stations. IOM conducted training on COVID-19 for 34 community caretakers in nine locations during the reporting period. IOM in partnership with City FM radio is continuing to reach people with radio-messages on gender-based violence prevention, gender equality, and protection in relation to COVID-19. This week's radio show addressed the inclusion of people with disability in COVID-19 responses. IOM also conducted a survey on the effectiveness of COVID-19 prevention measures in Juba. Of more than 21,000 individuals observed in 27 public places, 64 percent washed their hands. IOM also trained 16 Community Health Promoters in Nimule on COVID-19 prevention and control. Over 36,100 people in Bentiu were provided with soap as part of COVID-19 prevention efforts. IOM Tanzania and the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children are jointly participating in workshops on Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) focusing on COVID-19 and other public health issues. This week, IOM Tanzania has reached 40 border and port health officials from strategic Points of Entry (PoEs) in Arusha, Tanga, Kilimanjaro and Dodoma regions. The trained officials will roll out the RCCE interventions in their respective border points and designated PoEs. The interventions will include COVID-19 information dissemination, prevention, and information on when and how to seek health care for travelers. IOM is also conducting RCCE on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in various communities in Kigoma region.

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Over 36,100 people in Bentiu were provided with soap as part of COVID-19 prevention efforts.



National Laboratory Systems

IOM Ethiopia has conducted 151 COVID-19 tests for UN staff at the Migrant Health Assessment Centre in Addis Ababa. IOM is also supporting 5 quarantine facilities in Jijiga, Moyale, and Addis Ababa with COVID-19 testing. IOM Kenya has established COVID-19 testing laboratories for thousands of truck drivers at main border crossings, facilitating the free flow of trade and the movement of essential goods which had been impacted by COVID-19 movement restriction. IOM is also testing humanitarian personnel including UN staff as part of efforts to support the government's surveillance activities. IOM Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda are conducting COVID-19 testing for the UN and other humanitarian personnel.

Disease Surveillance

IOM Ethiopia has assisted over 41,100 migrants who have been returned to the country since the start of the pandemic as part of disease surveillance efforts to stop the spread of the disease. IOM has also registered and is supporting nearly 800 new returnee migrants who have arrived during the reporting period. IOM Rwanda IOM is supporting over 25,000 school going children with 127 handwashing facilities in Mahama and will soon start the construction of another 22 handwashing stations. IOM is also constructing 44 handwashing stations to as part disease surveillance in the capital Kigali and other areas.

Points of Entry

IOM Burundi is supporting 80 personnel stationed at 12 POEs situated along national borders. IOM Ethiopia has screened over 3,400 returnees and local community members for COVID-19 at IOM mobile health team sites and government supported health posts in Dire Dawa, East Hararghe, Gedeo, West Guji and East Wollega Zones. IOM Somalia is supporting the Ministry of Health with COVID-19 screening at 6 PoEs in Baidoa, Dhobley, Hudur, Doolow and Kismayo. More than 16,300 travellers were screened during the week. Over 15,500 travellers have been screened for COVID-19 at Juba International Airport and other areas by IOM South Sudan. IOM is providing clean water, rehabilitation and maintenance of sanitation facilities, construction and installation of handwashing facilities, and supply of Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) materials such as face masks, soap, and hand sanitizers, at the PoE at the Juba International Airport. An assessment mission to Nadapal PoE situated on the border with Kenya is ongoing and plans are underway for a similar mission in partnership with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and WHO, the World Health Organization at the PoE in Maban. IOM Tanzania and the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children of the United Republic of Tanzania held a workshop to develop Standard Operating Procedures for COVID-19 screening at PoEs in the United Republic of Tanzania. The workshop brought together 46 port health officials from strategic POEs in Mbeya, Songwe, Mwanza, Mtwara, Rukwa, Lindi and Dar es salaam regions. The workshop also aimed to strengthen surveillance at the PoEs as part of IPC.

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Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

IOM Ethiopia provided 575 COVID-19 protective facemasks to 144 quarantine staff, migrant returnees and community representatives in various locations and trained 110 health extension workers in West Guji on COVID-19 IPC, surveillance, home-based isolation and care management. IOM also provided 160 information, education and communication (IEC) materials to migrant returnees and communities in various locations while the quarantine facilities in Elway and Tuka in Moyale were provided with IPC equipment. The construction of communal shelter, pit latrines, bathroom and waste pit in Dewelle is complete. Nearly 10,000 people in Baidoa, Belethawa and Doolow were reached with hygiene promotion activities by IOM Somalia. IOM also provided 14 hygiene kits to 78 people in Bossaso while 92 community hygiene promoters and workers have been deployed to Bossaso, Baidoa, Luuq, Belethawa, Bardere and Doolow. IOM South Sudan is maintaining 653 handwashing devices. Over 45,400 people in Juba are benefiting from 16 operational handwashing facilities maintained by IOM while 88 handwashing stations maintained by IOM are benefiting some 91,300. Six boreholes for clean water are being upgraded in Juba. Nearly 16,000 people benefited from 15 handwashing facilities in Wau while over 4,600 people benefited from three handwashing stations in Nimule during the reporting period.

Case Management and Continuity of Essential Services

IOM Ethiopia has provided over 3,200 migrant returnees and members of the host community with COVID-19 related medical checks and assistance in Dire Dawa, East Hararge, Gedeo, West Guji, East and East Wollega Zones during the reporting period.

Logistics, Procurement and Supply Management

IOM South Sudan has supplied PPEs to six partner organizations for COVID-19 IPC in Nimule, Juba, Magwi, Rubkona, Jondoro, Uland and Aweil East counties. The equipment includes 8,200 medical masks, 24 goggles, 50 boxes of medical examination gloves, 200 pieces of protective gowns, 44 pieces of face shields, 112 boxes of gloves, 20 overalls, and 17 contactless thermometers. IOM is also supporting 3 partners with the integration of COVID-19 in flood response preparedness activities. An estimated 6,800 households in Ayod, Mayendit, and Rumbek East benefited from COVID-19 WASH items including household water storage, soap, and water treatment supplies. The procurement of reusable facemask is in progress while the distribution of locally produced facemasks is ongoing.

Protection

Over 4,100 people in Dire Dawa, West Guji, East Hararaghe and East and West Wollega were provided with gender-based violence (GBV), mental health and psychosocial support awareness in relation to COVID-19 by IOM Ethiopia. Over 1,800 people in Dire Dawa, West Guji, East Wollega Zones received GBV and mental health and psychosocial support awareness. Over 200 accompanied and unaccompanied migrant children in Dire Dawa, Moyale and Semera were provided with food and onward transportation assistance. IOM Tanzania is providing protection to migrants who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Migrants who are due for Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration are receiving shelter, psychosocial support and medical assistance.

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Camp Coordination and Camp Management

IOM Ethiopia is continuing camp coordination with the Disaster Risk Management Office IOM Ethiopia is continuing camp coordination with the Disaster Risk Management Office on COVID-19 preparedness at IDP sites in various locations. IOM Tanzania is continuing with voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees in adherence to COVID-19 prevention measures.

Displacement Tracking Matrix

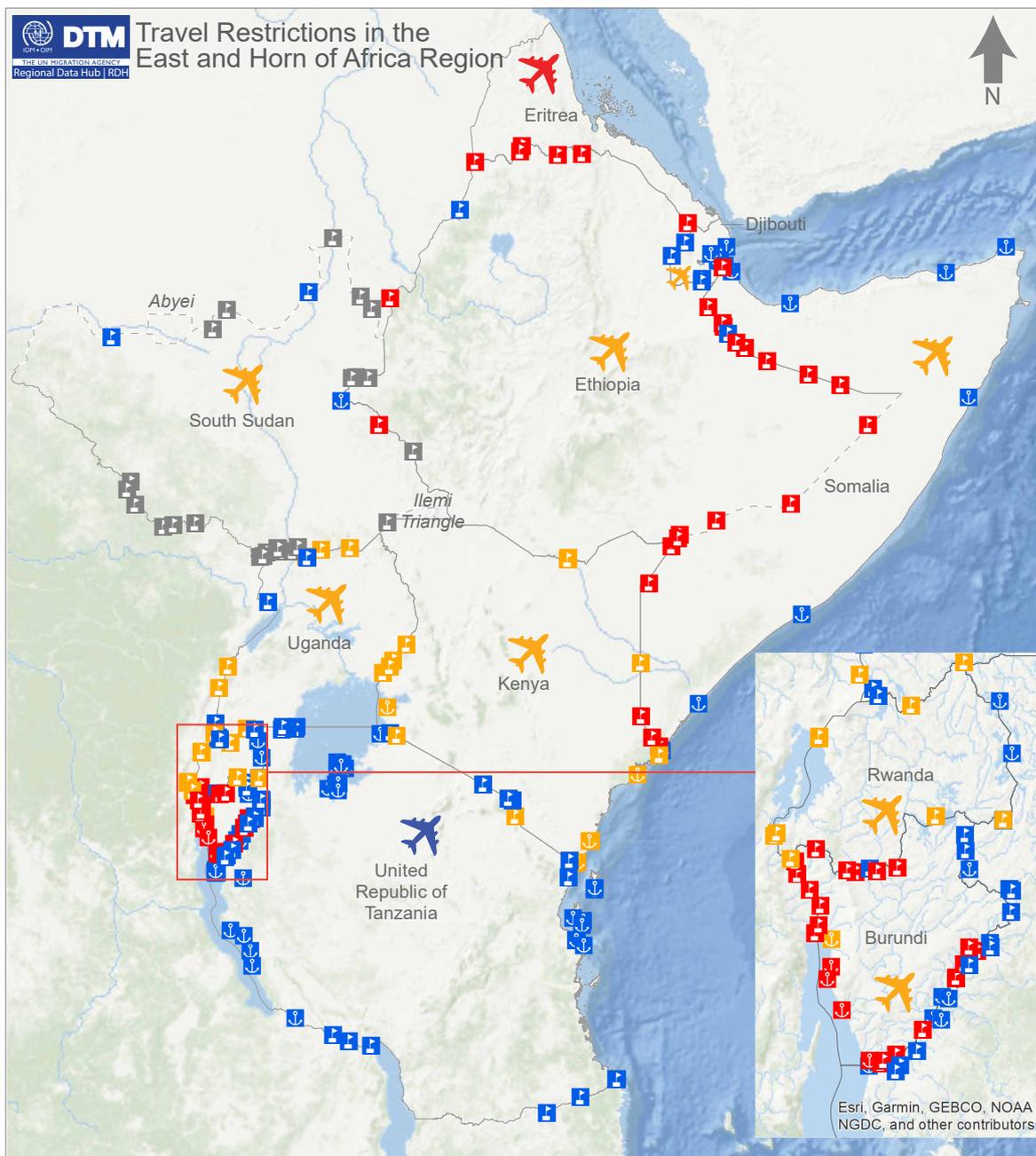
IOM Somalia shared COVID-19 information with over 2,000 people entering and exiting Somalia at 7 Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). IOM Burundi's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) continued flow monitoring data collection at the country's borders with the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo for COVID-19 surveillance. IOM South Sudan carried out 2,448 interviews representing 5,965 individual movements across 26 FMPs. DTM surveyed people on the move at key transit points within South Sudan and at its borders. DTM is operating 4 displacement site FMPs at the gates of Protection of Civilian (PoC) sites in Wau, Bentiu and Malakal as well as Masna Collective Centre. Enumerators conducted 596 interviews representing 1,586 individual movements. The data from these interviews provides an insight into mobility trends, migration drivers and traveler profiles to inform COVID-19 programming by humanitarian, development partners and the government. IOM Tanzania is continuing flow monitoring at five PoEs in Zanzibar as part of COVID-19 surveillance.

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IOM Uganda receiving 105 Ugandan Migrant workers stranded in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia due to COVID-19 disruptions. Photo: © IOM

POINTS OF ENTRY & MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS



Status of international flights*

- Not Restrictive
- Partially Restrictive
- Totally Restrictive
- Disputed Areas
- Countries East and Horn of Africa

Status of other border points

- Sea Border Point
- Land Border Point
- Closed for entry and exit
- Partial closure
- Open for entry and exit
- Unknown

Source:

International Air Transport Association (IATA)
Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

Date: 3 December 2020

Disclaimer: These maps are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

*Details of the travel restriction can be found on IATA website: <https://www.iata.org/>