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PH, SG TO RESTORE QUARANTINE-FREE TRAVEL THROUGH VTL BEGINNING 4 MARCH

(18 February 2022, Singapore) – The Philippines and Singapore will restore two-way quarantine-free travel for vaccinated travellers through a vaccinated travel lane (VTL) arrangement starting 4 March 2022, as announced by Singapore Minister for Transport S. Iswaran during the COVID-19 Multi-Task Force Press Conference on 16 February 2022.

The VTL allows fully-vaccinated travellers from Singapore's 30 VTL partners, including the Philippines, to enjoy quarantine-free travel between Singapore and these countries.

"*I am very pleased with this latest development and I convey my sincerest appreciation to everyone from both our governments who worked hard to make this quarantine-free travel arrangement possible,*" Philippine Ambassador to Singapore Joseph del Mar Yap said. *"The Philippine Embassy in Singapore looks forward to the launch of the VTL between the Philippines and Singapore next month as this will not only help our business, tourism and transport sectors which were greatly affected by the pandemic, but will, most of all, benefit our kababayans, many of whom have not been able to visit their family and loved ones for more than two years now,*" he added.

Travellers must fulfill the basic criteria and conditions of the VTL (Air) which may be found in the website of Singapore's [Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA)](#) to enjoy quarantine-free travel. Airlines or ICA may refuse travellers who do not meet the criteria and conditions of travel under ICA from boarding or subject them to prevailing health and quarantine requirements.

Below are the basic criteria and conditions for Filipino travellers arriving in Singapore from the Philippines beginning <u>4 March 2022</u>:

Vaccination Status	Must be **fully vaccinated** or have received the full regimen of WHO EUL Vaccine at least two weeks before arriving in Singapore. Unvaccinated travellers who are 12 years old and below in this calendar year can travel to Singapore via the VTL (Air) if accompanied by a fully-vaccinated VTL (Air) traveller.
Accepted Proof of Vaccination	Travellers must also hold either of the following as accepted proof of vaccination: ● <u>If vaccinated in Singapore</u>: Vaccination Status on the TraceTogether App or HealthHub App or vaccination certificate/s issued by Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH); OR ● <u>If vaccinated in the Philippines</u>: COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate (VaxCertPH) issued by the Philippine Department of Health.
Travel History	Travellers must have only been to the Philippines, or have travelled to / transited via any <u>VTL (Air) countries/regions</u> or Category I countries/regions, and/or Singapore, **in the last 7 days** before departure for Singapore. They must arrive in Singapore on a designated VTL (Air) flight. Travellers should note that not all flights departing from the Philippines and operated by the approved airlines are designated VTL flights. Singapore Airlines and its sister-company, Scoot Airlines, will offer VTL flights from Manila, Cebu, Clark and Davao starting 4 March 2022. Kindly visit the airlines' website or visit this <u>link</u> to check the complete list of airlines approved to operate designated VTL (Air) flights.
Vaccinated Travel Pass *(for Short Term Visitors and Work Permit Holders)*	Applications for Vaccinated Travel Pass (VTP) for travellers from the Philippines will commence on **1 March 2022** at 10:00 AM. A VTP is valid for 13 calendar days from the traveller's chosen date of entry. For instance, a traveller holding a VTP (Air) for entry into Singapore on 4 March 2022 may enter Singapore on a designated VTL (Air) flights any day from 4 - 17 March 2022 (inclusive). The traveller should reapply for a VTP if he/she is unable to enter during this period.

	A VTP or an Entry Approval will no longer be required for **fully-vaccinated Long-Term Pass Holders[1]** (<u>excluding</u> Work Permit Holders).
	A VTP application is free of charge.
COVID-19 Tests	- Pre-departure COVID-19 PCR or professionally- administered Antigen Rapid Test (ART) taken within 2 days (48 hours) before departure for Singapore; and - Supervised self-administered ART S$15 (PhP 573) payment onsite via cashless modes) at a <u>Quick Test Centre (QTC) or Combined Test Centre (CTC)</u> within 24 hours of arrival in Singapore. Note: <u>Fully-vaccinated recovered travellers</u> may qualify for exemption from COVID-19 tests. Please refer to <u>this link</u> for more information.
Documents Required	- Accepted Proof of Vaccination; - Negative Pre-Departure COVID-19 Test or <u>Proof of Recovery</u> (for recovered travellers); - Vaccinated Travel Pass for Short-Term Visitors and Work Permit Holders; - COVID-19 Insurance Policy for Short-Term Visitors and Work Permit Holders; - Short-Term Visitors must purchase travel insurance with a minimum coverage of S$30,000 against COVID-19 related medical charges. Travellers may be insured with a Singapore or overseas-based insurer. - For Work Permit Holders, Employers must buy COVID-19 medical insurance for both new and existing Work Permit holders, before they enter Singapore. - Submission of Health and Travel Declaration via <u>SG Arrival Card</u> at least 3 days before arrival in Singapore; and - Download <u>TraceTogether</u> app for contact tracing.

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[1] Long Term Pass Holders who do not need to apply for a VTP via the VTL scheme are holders of the following: Long Term Visit Pass, Immigration Exemption Order, Student's Pass, Employment Pass, EntrePass, Personalised Employment Pass, Tech Pass, Training Employment Pass, Work Holiday Pass, Dependant's Pass and S Pass holders.