

Due to the coronavirus (Covid19) pandemic, the crossing through our border crossings with many countries has been stopped and citizens of many countries have been prohibited from entering our country. However, in the circulars issued by the Ministry of Interior Affairs, it is stated that the procedures and principles to be applied at the entrance and exit of the persons concerned, especially the truck drivers, who are obliged to enter and exit our country in order to continue foreign trade, will be determined according to the opinions of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Trade.

In this context, except for the entry and exit from Iran and Iraq Border Crossings for international trade (only foreign truck drivers will be able to exit, provided that they are not taken back from the said gates), vehicles and drivers that will transit through our country and vehicles and drivers that will enter/exit our country will be granted a pass if the following conditions are met.

#### **A. VEHICLES AND DRIVERS THAT WILL TRANSIT FROM TURKEY**

1. Within the scope of combating the coronavirus, the vehicle driver's health check will be performed by the health units and the person / persons who have symptoms related to the disease in question will not be allowed to pass.
2. Vehicles entering will be subjected to disinfection.
3. Drivers will be provided to wear masks at any point they may be in contact with other people during their domestic breaks, and to have masks, disinfectants and food that will be sufficient for a long period.
4. Customs administrations will determine the routes and stops for the vehicles that will be in transit, and they will be ensured to leave within 36 hours from the farthest border gate and within 24 hours from other border gates as all vehicles that will transit are followed through the "vehicle tracking system". (These periods can be extended up to 48 hours by the relevant customs administration by taking into account the conditions such as road conditions, weather conditions, density at the customs office to be exited, etc.).
5. Necessary health and safety measures will be taken by the relevant Governorship / District Governorates at the rest places to be determined by the customs administrations.
6. A letter of undertaking will be obtained from the foreign drivers transiting through Turkey declaring that they will not pause and wait, except for the necessary cases, and the driver will be informed about the obligations and, if these obligations are not fulfilled, a penalty will be imposed in accordance with the General Sanitary Law.

7. Before the entry permit is granted, it will be assured that the vehicles will be accepted by the country where they will exit through our country, and if the vehicles are not accepted by the country of entry if they leave our country, the entry of these vehicles will not be approved.

## **B. DRIVERS THAT WILL ENTER TURKEY**

1. In the context of the coronavirus, the health check of the vehicle driver will be carried out by the health units and the person (s) with symptoms related to the disease in question will not be allowed to pass.

2. Vehicles entering will be subjected to disinfection.

3. The drivers will be informed that they must wear masks at any place they may be in contact with other people at the rest places in the country, that they are required to have enough masks, disinfectants, and food materials that will be sufficient for a long period, and the drivers will be notified by the Ministry of Interior Affairs that, if necessary, breakpoints can be determined by the State and that they can travel with escort.

a) **If the drivers are of Turkish nationality**, they will be allowed to enter our country after being examined by the Ministry of Health units and signing a letter of undertaking for the 14-day home quarantine at their residence, and their residence and identity information will be reported to the Health Directorates of the province where they will be located to provide the necessary controls.

b) **If the drivers are foreign nationals**, they will be allowed to carry out the transportation in the isolated area through driver exchange and / or trailer / load exchange, and if not possible, they will be allowed to enter the country after waiting for the 14-day quarantine period.

c) The routes and maximum durations to be passed by foreign drivers who will leave a load in our country will be determined by the Customs Administrations by taking the road condition, weather conditions, density situation at the customs administration, etc. issues into account and the necessary health and safety measures will be taken by the relevant Governorship / District Governorates on the break routes of the vehicles. A letter of undertaking will be obtained from the foreign drivers of the mentioned foreigners declaring that they will not pause and wait, except for the necessary cases, and the driver will be informed about the obligations and, if these obligations are not fulfilled, a penalty will be imposed in accordance with the General Sanitary Law.

d) If it is not possible to make a driver change or a trailer / load change to the entrances of foreign vehicles / drivers carrying urgent medicines, medical supplies and food items for our country, provided that necessary medical examinations / checks are performed and necessary protective measures are taken, they are allowed to enter without waiting for the 14-day quarantine period.

e) Drivers from Bulgaria, Azerbaijan, Nakhchivan and Georgia will be able to enter our country after the necessary medical examination and disinfection of vehicles without waiting for the 14-day quarantine period in the isolated areas. Within the scope of this article, the relevant articles of part A of this Circular will be applied to the drivers who will leave a load in our country, and the 4th article will be applied in line with their routes.

### **C. DRIVERS THAT WILL EXIT TURKEY**

8. Turkish drivers will not be allowed to exit if it is determined that they have not completed the time they need to stay in the home quarantine in accordance with the paragraph (a) of the third article of section B of this Circular,

9. Turkish national drivers when will arrive at the exit gate will be asked to have a mask, disinfectant materials, food that will last for a long time, and they will be warned to keep in touch with anyone in the destination countries and throughout the route, maintaining social distance, and returning their cargo without wasting time.

Turkish national drivers will be asked to have a mask, disinfectant materials, food that will last for a long period when they arrive at the exit door, and they will be warned to refrain from coming into contact with anyone in the destination countries and throughout the route, to communicate by preserving the social distance and to unload their cargo and return immediately.

10. At the exits of foreign drivers, it will be checked if they comply with the rules specified in the Circular, and if it is determined that the rules are not followed, penal proceedings will be imposed by the relevant units of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, and their re-entry into the country will be prevented.

### **D. RULES TO APPLY IN RORO TIMES**

1. Within the scope of RoRo transportation, only trailer / container transportation will be made, and passenger and complete vehicle transportation will not be allowed. If the driver is to be taken due to the necessary conditions deemed appropriate by the Port Civil Administration, all the rules specified in

this Circular will be notified to the drivers by the Port Civil Administration, where they will also be applied to them during entry and exit,

2. The obligation to ensure the social isolation of the drivers who are deemed suitable for the first article, with the crew, and passengers, if any, will be notified to the ship's captain and other concerned parties by the Port Authority.

3. Before the trucks that arrive in our country with RoRo expedition are delivered to their drivers, the vehicles, especially the driver's cabin, will be disinfected.