



Le Délégué

Canberra, le 04 février 2021

N° 06-2021 / AMB / Délégation de Nouvelle-Calédonie

RE : New Caledonia : Covid-19 update, Health protocol and Vaccination campaign

• **Covid-19 update - (as of Feb. 2) 47 confirmed cases** in New Caledonia. **No death case.** No patient in reanimation. 20,832 tests realised since March 18, 2020 (over a population of 270,000). 585 people in quarantine in dedicated hotels.

Regular international flights to and from New Caledonia have been suspended since 20 March 2020 and will remain so until at least 31 July 2021 (except for exemption/compelling reasons).

Foreign nationals who do not reside in New Caledonia are not authorized to disembark in New Caledonia.

Only flights to and from France (and Sydney, through weekly sanitary evacuations of New Caledonian patients), remain scheduled. The ability to return to New Caledonia depends upon the availability of hotel rooms in requisitioned hotels.

The Government is responsible for the logistical management and the financing of the quarantine period (including PCR tests). A mandatory hotel check-in of 14 days is in force for passengers arriving in New Caledonia for a compelling reason, by plane or pleasure boat, except for those arriving from Wallis and Futuna. This can be :

- for private individuals, a free quarantine in one of the hotels requisitioned by the government, subject to a variable waiting period ;
- for private individuals who so wish and for essential professionals, a paying quarantine, with a reduced waiting time.

These two types of fortnightly service comply with the health protocols established by the Department of Sanitary & Social affairs (DASS). At the End of the quarantine period, everyone is subjected to a PCR Test (D+14).

Professionals who are essential to the resumption of economic life or who have professional specificities not present on the Territory can also benefit from a specific protocol.

• **A Health protocol** (21 April, 2020) for passengers entering New Caledonia sets health monitoring modalities to which these individuals are subjected before, during and after their returning flight.

• **The vaccination campaign** against Covid-19 began on January 20. About 20,000 doses of the Pfizer/BioNtech vaccine were delivered to New Caledonia by France. This will enable 10,000 patients to be vaccinated, through two injections 21 days apart. 1,118 persons have been vaccinated so far. Vaccination concerns : i) front-line professionals; ii) private individuals and professionals who have to travel back and forth between New Caledonia and the outside world for compelling reasons; iii) residents and staff of retirement homes.