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Definition of communication flow for the repatriation of foreigners in the context of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

1. Report

Considering the implementation of restrictive movement measures in the face of the new coronavirus pandemic (SARS-CoV-2), it is necessary to define a specific flow to facilitate the repatriation operations of foreigners who are in Brazilian territory.

2. Analysis

In this document we present the procedures for communication regarding the repatriation of foreigners who are on board vessels or remain in quarantine in hotels, after disembarking vessels or connecting flights and / or stopover in Brazil.

The actions involving the repatriation operations were agreed in the Executivo Interministerial de Public Health Emergency of National and International Importance - GEI-ESP II, instated by Decree nº 10.211, of January 30, 2020.

The company responsible for the stay and accompaniment of the foreigner is responsible for organizing the repatriation operation, calculating questions related to flights, dates and times. In addition, the company should consult with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - MRE (Secretariat for National Sovereignty and Citizenship Affairs - Tel: + 55-61-2030-8733, e-mail saasc@itamaraty.gov.br)

The formal position of the MRE on the possibility of repatriation will be forwarded to the Anvisa's International Affairs (AINTE / Anvisa) through electronic mail rei@anvisa.gov.br.

The authorization for the repatriation operation, issued by the MRE, must contain at least the following information:
location of foreigners (with the name of the vessel and its berth or the name of the hotel where they remain in quarantine and its location), the number of foreigners who will be repatriated and the date of the repatriation operation. The responsible company must also present more detailed information, signaling the airport of departure for the repatriation flight (s), with hourly breaks.

After receiving a formal response from the MRE on the repatriation operation, AINTE will forward it to General Management of Ports, Airports, Borders and Customs Enclosures (GGPAF) and Infrastructure Management, Means of Transport and Traveler in PAF (GIMTV) to be sent to the Health Surveillance Coordination in PAF (CVPAF) that will accompany the operation.

In addition to the provisions above, it should be noted that in the Protocol for quarantining travelers in hotels (available in http://portal.anvisa.gov.br/documentas/219201/4340788/Recommenda%C3%A7%C3%A3o+de+Quarentena+em+Hotels+ANVISA+COVID-19+updated+on+13abril20.pdf / 1d17267f-c1bb-4341-ab5a-402ecc2d041b ) the guidelines and procedures for evaluating the health of travelers are described, when carrying out repatriation or termination of quarantine.

3. Conclusion

The defined communication flow aims to ensure the speed and security of the foreigners’ repatriation process.