



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

№ 14-5/626

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honour to forward herewith detailed information on the outcomes of “Virtual Business to Business (B2B) Interactive Session with CICA Member States to Enhance Tourism Cooperation” event in the field of tourism, organized by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on 17 August 2021.

*Enclosure:
1. Information on the
outcome of an event
in the field of
tourism.*

The summary will also be available for information in publicly accessible section “Completed Events” and restricted section “Economic Dimension” of the CICA Secretariat’s website.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Nur-Sultan, 23 September 2021



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES
IN ASIA**



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Приложение:

*1. Отчет по итогам
мероприятия в сфере
туризма.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь направить развернутую информацию по итогам мероприятия в области туризма «Виртуальная интерактивная бизнес сессия В2В с государствами-членами СВМДА для расширения сотрудничества в сфере туризма», организованного Демократической Социалистической Республикой Шри-Ланка 17 августа 2021 года.

Итоговая информация также будет доступна для ознакомления в разделе «Состоявшиеся мероприятия» открытой части и в разделе «Экономическое измерение» закрытой части веб-сайта Секретариата СВМДА.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем весьма высоком уважении.

город Нур-Султан, 23 сентября 2021 г.

**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**



Қосымша:
1.Туризм
саласындағы
семинарының
нәтижелері
бойынша
ақпарат.

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (АӨСШК) Хатшылығы АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, Шри-Ланка Демократиялық Социалистік Республикасы 2021 жылғы 17 тамызда ұйымдастырған «АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттер арасындағы туризм саласын дамыту туралы виртуалды интерактивті В2В іскерлік сессиясы» атты туризм саласындағы іс-шарасының нәтижелері бойынша толық ақпаратты жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды.

Аталмыш қорытынды ақпарат сондай-ақ АӨСШК Хатшылығы веб-сайтының «Жүзеге асырылған іс-шаралар» ашық бөлімінде және «Экономикалық өлшем» жабық бөлімінде қолжетімді болады.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, АӨСШК мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Нұр-Сұлтан қаласы, 2021 жылғы 23 қыркүйек

**АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ
СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНІҢ МҮШЕ
МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРІ**

Virtual Business to Business (B2B) Interactive Session with CICA Member States to Enhance Tourism Cooperation

Jointly hosted by the Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau

17th August 2021

Summary Report

“The Virtual Business to Business (B2B) Interactive Session with CICA member States to Enhance Tourism Cooperation” was held under the CICA Economic Dimension on 17th August 2021 with the participation of about 100 tourism industry experts representing the public and private sector from CICA member States. In the capacity as the Co-Coordinator of the Confidence-Building Measures in Tourism, the Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka, jointly with the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau organized this virtual session in order to discuss the importance of international collective efforts and joint endeavors to build a more resilient and sustainable tourism sector in the post-pandemic era.

Delivering the opening remarks, Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Regional Cooperation of Sri Lanka stressed that Sri Lanka, as a member of CICA, was committed to play an important role in promoting CICA shared values and goals. Hon. State Minister underlined that though a remarkable economic and social impact had been left by the dreadful waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Sri Lanka had demonstrated its unswerving dedication consistently in combating the pandemic and achieving shared goals working along in tandem with all the international partners, including the CICA member States. The full statement delivered by the Hon. State Minister is attached at **Annex (a)**.

Ms. Chi Fang, CICA Deputy Executive Director, in her speech, noted that the measures to contain the global COVID-19 outbreak and addressing related issues required coordinated national and international efforts. She mentioned that the member states were required to share information among respective agencies relevant to each sector of the CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures. She observed that the event provided a real opportunity to exchange sector-specific knowledge and experience with the CICA member States in the post-pandemic period accordingly.

Ms. Kimarli Fernando, the Chairperson of Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau delivered the keynote address of the event and emphasized the important role the tourism sector played in Sri Lanka's economy, and extensively described Sri Lanka's experience and measures taken to revive the tourism industry in the post-pandemic period.

Mrs. Fernando highlighted that in an effort to revitalize this crucial industry, Sri Lanka opened the country for inbound tourism from selected destinations as a pilot project under the "Bio Bubble" concept, while strictly complying with the stringent health protocols. It was added that an operational guideline for the tourism industry, under the guidance of the Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka and the World Health Organization (WHO), was formulated. The execution of the guidelines was carried out by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) with the cooperation, support, and involvement of all stakeholders.

The salient features of Sri Lanka's bio-bubble concept, the use of digital technology such as live-streaming local attractions to global audiences, creating a mobile app, Hello-Again portal, including their pros and cons were elaborately shared with the participants. Further information in this regard can be obtained from the information brochure attached at **Annex (b)**

Mr. Mahen Kaarayawasam, the past President of Sri Lanka Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) stated that "SLAITO youth" platform was created targeting the youth in the industry and improve sustainability. Mr. Kariyawasam added that there had been industry-wise initiatives to reduce the use of single-use plastics as well as the adverse impact of tourism on wildlife, and natural habitats. "One industry one voice" concept had been promoted to take Sri Lanka's tourism industry to greater heights by addressing and lobbying the issues with the relevant authorities as a unified front.

Mr. Sanath Ukwatta, the President of the Hotels Association of Sri Lanka highlighted the importance of coordination between the CICA member States to create a crisis management plan to rewind the Global tourism industry through collective efforts. Mr. Ukwatta further stressed that CICA member States should bring everyone together and create more awareness of the respective countries and encourage their citizens to travel between the countries in the CICA region.

Mr. Rohana Abyewickrama, the President of the Association for Small & Medium Enterprises in Tourism (ASMET) also shared his experience and initiatives, relevant to the SME tourism sector in Sri Lanka.

The event was followed by an interactive session in which many of the participants expressed their views, experiences, and suggestions for future collaborations.

While delivering the closing remarks, Mr. Rohana Ambagolla, Acting Director-General of the East Asia Division of the Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka, stated that based on the comments and views of the participants, several follow-up actions will be taken to maintain the momentum. He further mentioned that Sri Lanka will wholeheartedly support reviving the tourism sector in the CICA region and several similar events were lined up for further cooperation in the days ahead.

Mr. Dushan Wickramasuriya, Director – Marketing of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau moderated the event.

Virtual Business to Business Interactive Session with the CICA Member States to Enhance Tourism Cooperation
17th August 2021

Excellencies, Member Country Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me a great pleasure to declare open the Virtual Business to Business Interactive Session with the CICA member States to Enhance Tourism Cooperation and to welcome the distinguished guests, business delegates and participants who have joined with us virtually to exchange expertise, knowledge and experience in the field of tourism which is facing its gravest challenge since the Covid 19 pandemic. I am pleased to note that many tourism experts, professionals and distinguished hospitality industry representatives have joined with today's event.

At the outset, I would also like to acknowledge the important work of our industry partners, the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, the tourism associations and corporate partners who have helped making this event possible. Thank you for all your hard work behind the scenes.

I would like to mention the fact that Sri Lanka, as a recent member of CICA, is committed to play an important role in promoting CICA shared values and goals at this high time of global pandemic. Even though a remarkable economic and social impact have been left by the dreadful waves of COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Sri Lanka is working in tandem with shared international experience and generous support from international organisations and friendly governments including CICA member States.

As the close coordinator of Confidence Building Measure of Tourism, Sri Lanka has proposed 06 activities to the CICA plan of activities for the year 2021. Given the current pandemic related travel restrictions and other limitations, this Ministry jointly with the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB) has decided to limit the number of activities and initially conduct this virtual B2B session with the participation of public and private sector representatives in the tourism sector of the CICA member States.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, Tourism is by and large a strategic necessity in both the developed and developing worlds. Sri Lanka's tourism sector is no exception in its contribution to our national economy. As admired by world renowned explorers such as Marco Polo many centuries ago, our island still retain the same, old-world charm and its original natural beauties making it a travelers' paradise and an escape into a timeless adventure amidst tropical bounties and natural wonders. Amidst numerous setbacks, Sri Lanka continues to emerge as one of the world's best tourist destinations with accolades from various travel guides and travel magazines including Lonely Planet and National Geographic Traveller. Thus, it is my high regard that all our nations have greater potentials in increasing outbound travel and tourism between each other to explore what each of us have to offer.

As you all are well aware, Tourism is one of the sectors most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, impacting economies, livelihoods, public services and opportunities on all continents. All parts of its vast value-chain have been affected. So, the Governments should be well prepared to do things differently and progressively to position ourselves at the forefront of change, and be bold in offering new products and experiences, to reinvent global travel. To address these problems in a holistic manner, I am glad that one of the main objectives of this event is to highlight the importance of industrial connectivity among the member States of the CICA region.

I hope today's meeting will allow us to underline the main directions of our joint activities to reimagine and reinvent the tourism industry in this new normal situation where we will take on the themes of sustainability and the digital tourism revolution more intensely than before. I am confident that the business network which will be built henceforth will remain committed to support each other's tourism industry, to help our businesses and workers to build new capabilities, and break new ground. I wish all the member States a productive day, constructive discussions during the meeting.

Thank you!

Health Protocol for Arrivals to Sri Lanka Tourism Travel Bio Bubble

Valid for arrivals from 19th August 2021.

1 Applies to International Tourists visiting Sri Lanka under tourist visa and optional for dual citizens, valid resident visa holders, Sri Lankan citizens who opt to come under the tourism route. No prior approval required from Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Civil Aviation Authority. There is no minimum duration of stay in Sri Lanka.

This protocol is applicable for travellers not arriving from or with no travel history (including transit) to any travel restricted country in the past 14 days. Tourists arriving from India (including transit) have a separate health protocol and please visit www.srilanka.travel/helloagain for details.

2 Prior to boarding, travelers are required to:

- Have a valid tourist visa. All visas must be applied online. Visit eta.gov.lk.
- Before applying for a visa, ensure you have the following.
 - A pre-confirmed booking at a Level 1 'Safe & Secure Certified' hotel/s for up to 15 days depending on the duration of your stay and vaccination status. Hotel booking/s could be made directly with the hotel or through 'Safe & Secure' certified travel Agent or OTA. Visitors are allowed to move within L1 hotels and use all facilities of the hotel upon a negative PCR on arrival. For more information please visit www.srilanka.travel/helloagain.
 - Pay for the mandatory COVID-19 local travel insurance cover at USD 12 for a policy of USD 50,000 up to a period of one month (including children below 2 years).
 - Pay for the PCR tests (USD 40 per PCR test) depending on the status of your vaccination. (Refer 'Table 1' below).
- Have a negative PCR test done within 72 hours prior to embarkation (Children below 2 years are exempted). Also, please check the requirements of your airlines.

Airport transfers to be arranged by either the respective Certified Safe & Secure L1 hotel or Certified Safe & Secure travel agent.

All travelers should undergo On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR tests;

- Children between 2- 12 years of age will be exempted from On Arrival (Day One) PCR testing ONLY if they are following the not-fully vaccinated route.
- Children below 2 years are exempted from PCR testing. However, if the parents/guardians develop symptoms or result in positive PCR test reports, children will undergo PCR tests.

COVID-19 recovered passengers travelling to Sri Lanka with one dose of vaccine will be considered as 'fully vaccinated'. The vaccination certificate should indicate that the vaccination course has been completed following the administration of one dose.

3 At the airport produce the following:

- Negative COVID-19 PCR report (English) taken within 72 hours prior to embarkation (All travelers excluding children below 2 years).
- Original vaccination certificate / card (together with a certified copy of English language translation if the certificate/card is not in English or if relevant data are not indicated in English). Also, for travelers who have recovered from Covid 19 with one vaccination dose to submit a valid document (in English) certifying the information. (Refer 6.1. below)
- Completed Health Declaration Form.

4 Fully Vaccinated Travelers

4.1 Travelers who have completed the recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccination and arriving after 2 weeks of completion of vaccination will be considered as fully vaccinated travelers. Any vaccination type accepted by the country of origin is acceptable.

4.2 On arrival PCR test

- Stay at a Certified Safe & Secure L1 hotel until the on-arrival PCR test is performed (for 24-48 hours).
- Upon a negative on arrival (Day 1) PCR test report, vaccinated travelers can leave the bio-bubble. The respective Safe & Secure L1 Hotel doctor will issue a "Discharge Document" upon verifying the status of vaccination and PCR test results.
- Unvaccinated children between 2-18 years are allowed to leave the bio-bubble with fully vaccinated parents upon a negative on arrival PCR test.
- After leaving the bio-bubble, travelers are not allowed to re-enter the Tourism bio-bubble (i.e., stay at 'L1 Safe and Secure Certified' hotels are not permitted upon leaving the bio-bubble. If you decide to leave the bio-bubble, it is strongly recommended to use the 'Certified Safe and Secure' hotels (non- L1) for the rest of your journey).

4.3

- Fully vaccinated adults who have not arrived from / have no travel history (including transit) to any travel restricted country (Please visit: www.srilanka.travel/helloagain) in the past 14 days and were discharged from an 'L1 Safe & Secure Certified' hotel with a negative on arrival (Day 1) COVID-19 PCR report, are exempted from 2nd PCR test.
- Unvaccinated children of 2-18 years who left the bio-bubble with the fully vaccinated parents and negative on arrival (Day 1) PCR test results, should undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on Day 10 after arriving in Sri Lanka. Ministry of Health approved private sector or state sector laboratory test are accepted and the area MOH should be informed of the results immediately by telephone or email.
- The respective Safe and Secure L1 hotel/Travel Agent is responsible to arrange and ensure the travelers perform the 2nd PCR test and submit the results duly.

5 Not Fully Vaccinated Travelers

5.1 Travelers who have not received COVID-19 vaccination/not completed the recommended doses of vaccination/departed from abroad within less than 2 weeks of completion of recommended doses of vaccination will be considered as not fully vaccinated travelers.

5.2 On Arrival PCR

Stay at a Certified Safe & Secure L1 hotel/s for the first 15 days of the visit and undergo an on-arrival PCR test. Travelers are allowed to stay at any number of Certified Safe & Secure L1 hotels and are permitted to use all facilities of the hotel upon a negative on-arrival PCR test. Travelers are also allowed to visit approved tourist sites in a bio bubble. For more information please visit www.srilanka.travel/helloagain.

5.3 2nd PCR Test

Travelers who have not completed two weeks after the vaccination

- Travelers who are vaccinated, yet not completed 2 weeks from the recommended doses of vaccination will be entitled for a shorter bio-bubble period as below;
 - Travelers will undergo the 2nd PCR test on the completion of 14 days from the recommended doses of vaccination and upon negative PCR test results, they shall leave the bio-bubble.
 - Unvaccinated children below 18 years can be released with the parents. Children of 2 - 18 years shall perform exit PCR tests on similar dates as their parents' and should have negative reports.

Unvaccinated children of 2-18 years who have been released within the first 10 days after arriving in Sri Lanka with the parents who have completed two weeks post-vaccination period after arrival in Sri Lanka, should undergo a PCR test on Day 10 (if not subjected to a PCR test between Day 6 -10 after arrival in Sri Lanka).

 - Children under 2 years are exempted from PCR tests; However, if the exit PCR test of an accompanying traveler of the child is positive for COVID-19, the child will also be subjected to PCR test subsequently.
- After verifying the status of vaccination and the 2-week completion of the recommended doses of vaccination and negative PCR test results, the respective Safe & Secure L1 Hotel doctor will issue a "Discharge Document" and release the travelers from bio-bubble.

5.4 2nd PCR Test

Not-vaccinated

- All Travelers will perform the 2nd PCR (Exit PCR) on Day 14.
- If the particular traveler departs the country before Day 14 from arrival, 2nd PCR is NOT required.
- Children below 2 years are exempted from exit COVID-19 PCR test. However, if the exit PCR test of an accompanying traveler of the child is positive for COVID-19, child will also be subjected to PCR test subsequently.
- Upon negative exit PCR test result, travelers can leave the bio-bubble on completion of Day 14 and go into the community. The respective Safe & Secure L1 Hotel doctor will issue a "Discharge Document" and release the travelers from bio-bubble.

6 Travellers with a past history of COVID-19

6.1 Travelers with a past history of COVID-19, carrying a valid document certifying COVID-19 illness (in English) and departed between 28 - 90 days from the date of positive COVID-19 Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT)** will be considered under this category.

Such travellers should arrive after getting at least a single dose of Astra Zeneca/ Pfizer BioNTech/ Moderna/ Johnson & Johnson vaccine or any other single dose COVID-19 vaccine recommended. This vaccine should be given 14 days after the positive NAAT** and 14 days before departure.

** This certificate should contain the name of the person, dates and names of the positive NAAT**

6.2 Stay at a Certified Safe & Secure L1 hotel for 24-48 hours until the on-arrival PCR test (Day 1) report is available and NO further quarantine is necessary if the test report is negative.

Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should discharge the traveller by issuing a "Discharge Document" after verifying the vaccination status and the document certifying history of COVID-19.

Children below 18 years will be allowed to leave the bio-bubble with the parents by adhering to following measures:

- Children of 2-18 years are subjected to an on arrival (Day 1) PCR testing and they should have negative results.
- Children below 2 years will not be subjected to on arrival PCR testing and will be allowed to leave bio-bubble with the parents. However, if the on arrival (Day1) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child below 2 years will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.

6.3 No 2nd PCR for the adults who have not arrived/ no travel history (including transit) to any travel restricted country (Please visit: www.srilanka.travel/helloagain) in the past 14 days and discharged from an 'L1 Safe & Secure Certified' hotel with an on arrival (Day 1) negative COVID-19 PCR report.

Unvaccinated children of 2-18 years who left the bio-bubble with the parents should undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on Day 10 after arriving in Sri Lanka. Ministry of Health approved private sector or state sector laboratory tests are accepted and the area MOH should be informed of the results immediately by telephone or email.

The respective Safe and Secure L1 hotel/Travel Agent is responsible to ensure the travelers perform the 2nd PCR test and submit the results duly.



Table 1 (Summary of the PCR testing)

1 st PCR Test					
Status	When	Adults	< 2 Years	2-12 Years	12-18 Years
Fully Vaccinated	On arrival	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Not Vaccinated	On arrival	Yes	No	No	Yes
Vaccination incomplete (Due to 2 week period)	On arrival	Yes	No	No	Yes
Travellers with a past history of COVID-19	On arrival	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
2 nd PCR Test					
Status	When	Adults	< 2 Years	2-12 Years	12-18 Years
Fully Vaccinated	Day 10 after arrival	No	No	Yes	Yes
Not Vaccinated	Day 14 after arrival	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Not Vaccinated (If departing the country before 14 days from arrival)	No 2 nd PCR				
Vaccination incomplete (Due to 2-week period)	On Completion of Day 14 from the recommended doses of vaccination (Entitled for a shorter bubble period)	Yes	No	Yes*	Yes*
Travellers with a past history of COVID-19	Day 10 after arrival	No	No	Yes	Yes

- ** Unvaccinated children of 2-18 years who have been released within the first 10 days after arriving in Sri Lanka with the parents who have completed two weeks post-vaccination period after arrival in Sri Lanka, should undergo a PCR test on day 10 (if not subjected to a PCR test between day 6 to day 10 after arrival in Sri Lanka).
- If the travellers who are in the bio-bubble at an 'L1 Safe & Secure Certified' hotel want to travel to a foreign country (during the bio-bubble period), they have to undergo a PCR test (Pre-departure PCR test) and obtain negative results. The 'L1 Safe & Secure Certified' hotel is responsible to arrange and ensure the travelers perform this PCR test from the Ministry of Health approved Private Sector or State Sector Laboratory.
- If required by the final destination, all travellers have to do the Pre-departure PCR test.

Nucleic Acid Amplification Test, or NAAT,
This is a type of viral diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. NAATS detect genetic material (nucleic acids). NAATS for SARS-CoV-2 specifically identify the RNA (ribonucleic acid) sequences that comprise the genetic material of the virus. NAATS can use many different methods to amplify nucleic acids and detect the virus, including:

- Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)
- Isothermal amplification including:
 - Nicking endonuclease amplification reaction (NEAR)
 - Transcription mediated amplification (TMA)
 - Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP)
 - Helicase-dependent amplification (HDA)
 - Clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)
 - Strand displacement amplification (SDA)