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International Air Transport Association
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Timatic Editing Team

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

**Important Notice on Entry Ban and Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
to prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus**

On 28th December 2021, taking the spread of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 into consideration, the Government of Japan decided to continue the following border security measures against Novel Coronavirus infections;

The validity of all categories of visas, except “(D) As Diplomat” and visas under categories such as “(S) As Spouse, Child of Japanese” and “(S) As Spouse of Permanent Resident”, which have been issued by Japanese overseas establishments in all countries/regions by 1st December 2021, will be temporarily suspended.

The re-entry into Japan of foreign nationals with status of residence who have stayed in Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia or Zimbabwe within 14 days prior to the application for landing will be denied, unless they are acknowledged to have special exceptional circumstances.

*Note that foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident”, “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident”, who have stayed in above-mentioned countries, but have departed Japan by 1st December, 2021 (in case of Democratic Republic of the Congo, by 11th December, 2021), are treated as persons in special exceptional circumstances, therefore, allowed their entry into Japan.

The foregoing measures will be continued for the time being.

Regardless of the abovementioned measures, foreign nationals who are acknowledged to have special exceptional circumstances by Japanese authorities may still enter Japan. Those foreign nationals are supposed to hold a visa under the abovementioned categories “(D) As Diplomat”, “(S) As Spouse, Child of Japanese” and “(S) As Spouse of Permanent Resident”, or a visa issued by Japanese overseas establishments on and after 2nd December, 2021. There are also some exceptional cases that foreign nationals possess a suspended visa, but at the same time, possess a “Letter of Embassy/Consulate General/Consular Office of Japan” issued by Japanese overseas establishments, in this case, please allow them to board a plane.

Please note that “Special Permanent Resident” and foreign nationals with the status of residence of “diplomatic” are not necessarily in the scope of the entry ban.

We would deeply appreciate it if your team could notify all related airlines that they should inform all concerned passengers of those measures in order for them to avoid arriving in Japan without proper documents.

[End]