



## COVID-19 SITUATION UPDATE #10

20 June 2020

### I. HIGHLIGHTS

#### Trinidad and Tobago

At the Prime Minister’s Press Conference, held on Saturday, 20 June 2020, the Honourable Dr. Keith Rowley confirmed the continued relaxation of COVID-19 measures to be effective on Monday, 22 June 2020.

He highlighted that the borders of Trinidad and Tobago remain closed and all partying activities are still not permitted.

With regards to exemptions being granted to nationals wishing to return home, Dr. Rowley said that priority is being given to people that left temporarily to work abroad or receive medical treatment, that is, people who regularly reside in Trinidad and Tobago.

**See the specific actions of rollback under III. Response, Key Trinidad and Tobago/Ministry of Health Response to COVID-19, 20 June 2020, page 4.**

#### Dutch Territories

**Aruba** continues their step-down process. Travel continues to be possible between these Dutch Kingdom Islands without having to go into quarantine, however, a medical screening or taking a test upon arrival is required. All sectors are now open but social distancing and hygiene requirements remain in effect. Zero new cases have been maintained and no new cases have been reported within the last 45 days.

The borders of **Curaçao** will open to visitors from the Netherlands beginning 1 July 2020. Following necessary WHO Guidelines and after consulting with a panel of esteemed doctors both domestically and in the Netherlands, the Curaçao Government has introduced a set of conditions in order to travel to Curaçao. Visitors traveling from Aruba and Sint Maarten will need to complete a passenger locator form prior to departure. Travelers coming from the Netherlands need to show proof of a negative PCR test taken within a maximum of 72 hours prior to departure, a digital immigration card, and a passenger locator form.

[https://www.curacaotouristboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/200615\\_CTBE\\_Protocols\\_A4\\_DEF-hospt.pdf](https://www.curacaotouristboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/200615_CTBE_Protocols_A4_DEF-hospt.pdf)

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

(as of 20 June 2020)

#### **Trinidad and Tobago**

123 Confirmed Cases  
8 Deaths  
109 Discharges

#### **Aruba**

101 Confirmed Cases  
3 Deaths  
98 Discharges

#### **Curaçao**

23 Confirmed Cases  
1 Death  
19 Discharges

#### **Sint Maarten**

77 Confirmed Cases  
15 Deaths  
62 Discharges

#### **Bonaire**

2 Confirmed Cases  
0 Death  
2 Discharges

#### **St. Eustasius**

2 Confirmed Cases  
0 Death  
2 Discharges

#### **Saba**

3 Confirmed Cases  
0 Death  
3 Discharges

In **Sint Maarten** there has been no change in the COVID-19 cases. All places are opened and the curfew has been lifted. They will follow the same process as Curaçao and will open the airport on 1 July 2020 to both Europe and North America. For those traveling from the United States they will be required to do a PCR test when they arrive on the island. All persons must still practice physical distancing and safe hygiene protocols.

**BES**  
Bonaire's air space will open in a limited form from 1 July 2020. Travel is possible between the BES and Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. All persons must still practice physical distancing and safe hygiene protocols.

## II. SITUATION SUMMARY

Table 1. COVID-19 Status in Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Marten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, 20 June 2020

Country	# Confirmed Cases	# Deaths	# Tests Conducted	# Discharges	Transmission Type	Non-pharmacological Interventions			
						Travel Restrictions	Schools closed	Essential Services	State of Emergency
Trinidad and Tobago	123	8	4286	109	Sporadic Cases	Yes	Yes	No	No
Aruba	101	3	2270	98	Cluster of Cases	Yes	Yes	Lifted	Social distancing and hygiene requirements and care for employee and customers have been maintained. Borders opened between Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao .
Curaçao	23	1	Not available this week	19	Sporadic Cases	Yes	Yes	Lifted	Social distancing, hygiene requirements and care for employee and customers have been maintained. Borders open with limited returning nationals from Holland, Aruba and Curaçao.
Sint Maarten	77	15	New total not available this week	62	Cluster of Cases	Yes	Yes	Lifted	Social distancing and hygiene requirements and care for employee and customers have been maintained. Borders open to Aruba and Curaçao
Bonaire	2	0	New total not available this week	2	Sporadic Cases				
St. Eustatius	2	0	Not available	2	Sporadic Cases	Yes	Yes	Yes	Stay at home restrictions lifted. Borders open to BES islands, Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten.
Saba	3	0	New total not available this week	3	Sporadic Cases	Yes	Yes		Stay at home restrictions lifted. Borders open to BES islands, Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten.

### **III. RESPONSE**

#### **A. Key Trinidad and Tobago/Ministry of Health Response to COVID-19, 20 June 2020.**

On Saturday, 20 June 2020, at the Prime Minister's Press Conference, the Honourable Dr. Keith Rowley, confirmed the following continued relaxation of COVID-19 measures to be effective on Monday, 22 June 2020:

- In-house dining at restaurants, cinemas, theaters, bars, casinos and members clubs can reopen with a 10:00pm closing time restriction.
- Beaches, rivers, amusement parks, gyms and the zoo will be open to the public.
- Malls are allowed to fully reopen, and this includes food courts.
- Team sports will be allowed to resume but with no spectators allowed at venues.
- Educational Institutions will be allowed to reopen for exam preparations, without students. The full reopening of educational institutions including Pre-Schools and Daycare remain in September 2020 and will be determined by the Ministry of Education.
- Public transportation will be allowed to revert to 100% capacity.
- The Public Service will return to full functionality with optimization of flexi-time, work from home and virtual meetings.
- Weddings, funerals, and christenings will have no number restriction, but the guidelines in use for places of worship will apply in these instances.
- The restriction on public gatherings will increase from 10 to 25 persons.
- The Inter-Island Ferry Service will return to normal function.
- Places of worship will no longer have a one-hour time restriction, regular service times can resume but worshippers must continue to practice social distancing and follow other guidelines.

#### **B. Key PAHO/WHO Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba Response to COVID-19, 13 June 2020**

- Webinar on "Coping with the Stressors associated with COVID-19 for Young People on their Parents"

#### IV. NEEDS

- COVID-19 Tests (Extraction and Amplification Kits)
- Nasopharyngeal swabs

#### V. GAPS/CHALLENGES

- Lack of continuous supply of RNA extraction kits which also remains a principal challenge at the regional level
- Nasopharyngeal swabs are difficult to obtain as there are overall production and shipping challenges
- The Dutch territories are challenged with opening their borders.
- The Netherlands is prepared to help Curaçao, Sint Maarten and Aruba with a loan to mitigate some of the effects of COVID-19 crisis. The loan comes with very stringent requirements that the countries must meet. These demands have led to challenges between the Netherlands and the other countries in the Kingdom.

#### VI. REFERENCES

- Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago: <http://www.health.gov.tt/>
- Aruba: <https://www.arubacovid19.org/>
- Sint Maarten: <https://vromi-sxm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/285fa99a4fc442fcb4a71ea7297d1ec6>
- Saba: <http://www.sabagovernment.com/index.html>