

GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

MEDIA RELEASE

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COVID-19 UPDATE ON NIUE COVID-19 ACTIVE BORDER CASES

Alofi, Niue – 24 March 2022 – Tonight, the Government of Niue (GON) announced after day three testing, as part of Niue's testing protocols, that the number of active COVID-19 cases at the border on Niue remains at four.

The Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi says these four active cases detected at the border who arrived on the Monday 22 March 2022 flight from New Zealand with all other passengers remain well.

"The four positive cases remain isolated in the MIQ quarantine facility and are monitored closely by Niue's health officials. All active cases remain asymptomatic," says Premier Tagelagi.

All other passengers have returned a negative COVID test but will be monitored and retested on Day 7 as per Niue's testing protocols.

As part of Niue's testing protocols, all frontline workers tested today have also returned negative COVID test results.

Premier Tagelagi adds that Niue announced yesterday its pre-departure PCR testing protocols will now decrease from 72 hours to 48 hours, and a Rapid Antigen Test test immediately prior to checking-in before flying to Niue.

"With the increase in active cases in the New Zealand community, we are now requesting all passengers travelling to Niue effective from the 4 April 2022 to take their pre-departure PCR tests 48 hours before travelling.".

GON would like to thank the people of Niue for their continued vigilance in keeping Niue safe. There has been an increase in the number of people using their RockSafe cards and practising all the health and safety measures as advised.

"We aim to eliminate the spread of the virus within the MIQ facilities and transmission into the community. We must all continue to be vigilant and do all the things asked of us and support each other at this time," says Premier Tagelagi.

"Niue's National COVID Response will remain on Alert Level Yellow because the island still can contain the virus in quarantine."

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For further information or any questions, please contact the DG of Ministry of Social Services, Gaylene Tasmania, <u>Gaylene.Tasmania@mail.gov.nu</u> or the Secretary of Government on +683 4308 or email on <u>Niue.secgov@mail.gov.nu</u>.