Global Governmental Response to COVID-19 in accordance to WHO guidelines

Actions taken by the Kingdom of Morocco to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as of April 26, 2021.

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Our Organization

The UN Compliance Research Group is a global organization which specializes in monitoring the work of the United Nations (UN). Through our professional team of academics, scholars, researchers and students we aim to serve as the world's leading independent source of information on members' compliance to UN resolutions and guidelines. Our scope of activity is broad, including assessing the compliance of member states to UN resolutions and plan of actions, adherence to judgments of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and commitments made at UN pledging conferences. We’re proud to present the international community and global governments with our native research findings on states’ annual compliance with the commitments of the UN and its affiliated agencies. Our goal as world citizens is to foster a global change towards a sustainable future; one which starts with ensuring that the words of delegates are transformed into action and that UN initiatives don’t remain ink on paper. Hence, we offer policy analysis and provide advice on fostering accountability and transparency in UN governance as well as tracing the connection between the UN policy-makers and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Yet, we aim to adopt a neutral path and do not engage in advocacy for issues or actions taken by the UN or member states. Acting as such, for the sake of transparency. The UN Compliance Research Group dedicates all its effort to inform the public and scholars about the issues and agenda of the UN and its affiliated agencies.
The International Health Regulations (2005) are legally binding on 196 States Parties, Including all WHO Member States. The IHR aims to keep the world informed about public health risks, through committing all signatories to cooperate together in combating any future “illness or medical condition, irrespective of origin or source, that presents or could present significant harm to humans.” Under IHR, countries agreed to strengthen their public health capacities and notify the WHO of any such illness in their populations. The WHO would be the centralized body for all countries facing a health threat, with the power to declare a “public health emergency of international concern,” issue recommendations, and work with countries to tackle a crisis.

Although, with the sudden and rapid spread of COVID-19 in the world, many countries varied in implementing the WHO guidelines and health recommendations. While some countries followed the WHO guidelines, others imposed travel restrictions against the WHO’s recommendations. Some refused to share their data with the organization. Others banned the export of medical equipment, even in the face of global shortages. The UN Compliance Research group will focus during the current cycle on analyzing the compliance of the WHO member states to the organization’s guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic.
### WHO Guidelines and Recommendations

#### School/educational institutions:
- Decision makers should consider the following if they decide to open or close schools: Current understanding about COVID-19 transmission and severity in children, Local situation and epidemiology of COVID-19 where the school(s) are located, School setting and ability to maintain COVID-19 prevention and control measures.
- Recommended to promote: Hygiene and environmental cleaning to limit exposure, Screening and management of sick students, teachers and other school staff, Communication with parents and students, Physical distancing at school, Tele-schooling and distance learning.

#### Workplaces and institutions:
- Partial closure of workplaces as of early March.
- Hand hygiene: Regular and thorough handwashing, Hand hygiene stations.
- Respiratory hygiene: Promote respiratory etiquette, Develop a policy on wearing a mask or a face covering.
- Physical distancing: less people, implementing shifts.
- Reduce and manage work-related travels.
- Regular environmental cleaning and disinfection.
- Risk communication, training, and education: Provide posters, videos, and electronic message boards.
- Management of people with COVID-19 or their contacts: introduce thermal screening.
- Take more measures when it comes to jobs at medium and high risk.

#### Public events:
- Restriction to host gatherings or events that exceed a large number of individuals. ex) sport games, religious functions, restaurants, etc.
- Planning phase: Liaison with all relevant stakeholders, Development of a preparedness and response plan, Assessment of capacities and resources.
- Operational phase: Modifications of the event, Risk communication, Surveillance of participants, aimed at detecting and managing individuals developing symptoms during the event.
- Post-event phase: Liaison between event organizers and health authorities.

#### Public Transport:
- Reduce crowding, limit access to, or close public spaces, restaurants, sporting events, 24 sports clubs, entertainment venues, places of worship, 25 or venues with limited ventilation.
- Encourage physical distancing in public places and transportation.
- Reduce mixing between individuals and households.
- Communicate to recommend wearing masks in public.
### WHO Guidelines and Recommendations

#### Public Information Campaign:
- Communicate risk clearly with information on how to protect oneself and others.
- Simplify messages, encourage sharing of information.
- Engage with communities in decision-making and to strengthen engagement for public health measures.
- Identify local networks and engage communities, businesses, religious leaders, and local influencers.

#### Domestic/International Travel:
- Reduction in Travel to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- International travel should not occur unless in an emergency.
- Recommended to adhere to safety measures while travelling.
- Establish effective contingency plans and arrangements for responding a Public Health Emergency.

#### Testing Framework:
- Set up testing centers in large venues or in check points.
- Require travellers to self-quarantine after being tested.
- Molecular (e.g. PCR) testing of respiratory tract samples is the recommended method for the identification and laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 cases.
- To inform WHO policy on the use of immunodiagnostic rapid tests for COVID-19.

#### Contact Tracing:
- Set up relational databases linking lists of contacts to line lists of cases.
- Allow for tailored case investigation forms, contact listing forms, and contact follow-up forms to be set up.
- Used for self-checking and self-reporting of signs and symptoms by people through mobile phone apps or SMS technology.

#### Lockdown/Curfew:
- Implementation of curfew hours.
- Require citizens to stay in home unless of an emergency.
- Monitor locations to abide by the curfew hours.
This report draws on the methodology developed by the G8 Research Group, which has been monitoring G7/8 compliance since 1996 (the International Organisations Research Institute at the Higher School of Economics (IORI HSE) joined this multi-year project in 2005, and Bond University participated in 2014). The use of this methodology builds cross-institutional and cross-member consistency and also allows compatibility with compliance assessments of other institutions. The methodology uses a scale from −1 to +1, where +1 indicates full compliance with the stated commitment, −1 indicates a failure to comply or action taken that is directly opposite to the stated instruments or goal of the commitment, and 0 indicates partial compliance or work in progress, such as initiatives that have been launched but are not yet near completion and whose full results can therefore not be assessed. Each member assessed receives a score of −1, 0 or +1 for each commitment. For convenience, the scores in the tables have been converted to percentages, where −1 equals 0 percent and +1 equals 100 percent.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>State does not comply with the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005), nor does it comply with any of the World Health Organization’s guidelines and recommendations to curb the spread of the Coronavirus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>State complies with the IHR and partially complies with the WHO recommendations on combating the Coronavirus, through implementing policies and actions which adhere to at least two commitments of the WHO guidelines on curbing the pandemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>State fully complies with the IHR and the WHO guidelines on combating the Coronavirus, through implementing policies and actions which adhere to all nine areas of the WHO guidelines on curbing the pandemic.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment

* Morocco complied with the International Health Regulations (IHR) but partially complied with the World Health Organization’s guidelines and recommendations on curbing the Coronavirus (COVID-19), through implementing complying policies and actions only in some commitment features. Thus, Morocco receives a compliance score of 0.
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Morocco

On 16 March 2020, restaurants, cafes and theaters close nationwide until further notice. All non-essential businesses, tourist and entertainment sites shut until further notice.

On 19 March 2020, Morocco declared a state of medical emergency which will be effective from 20 March at 18:00 until 20 April 2020.

On 18 April 2020, the government extended the state of emergency until 20 May. Face masks are required to be worn in all public spaces since April 7.

On 25 April 2020, the government announced a Ramadan curfew which prohibited people from leaving their homes from 19:00-05:00 daily and until 20 May 2020.

On 18 May 2020, the government declared the extension of the state of emergency until 10 June.

On 19 June 2020, extension of state of emergency until July 10 restrictions to be announced later in the week.

On 11 June 2020, the government divided the Kingdom’s regions into zones depending on the epidemiological situation. Non-essential business were allowed to reopen in Zones 1 & 2.

On 25 June 2020, restaurants, cafes and entertainment facilities nationwide (except Tangier, Marrakech and Safi) reopened at 50 percent capacity.

On 5 July 2020, the government re-implemented lockdown and quarantine measures to counter COVID-19 in Zone 2 which are cities with high COVID-19 cases. Lockdown measures have been extended to 10 July.

On 9 July 2020, authorities extended the national state of emergency until 10 August.

On 13 July 2020, Morocco re-implemented lockdown measures in Tangier. People may not leave their homes unless for essential reasons.

On 27 July 2020, authorities announced that partial lockdowns will be implemented in major cities following the rise of COVID-19 cases.

On 5 August 2020, authorities officially re-introduced lockdown measures in Tangier and Fez. Restaurants must close by 23:00 shopping centers must close by 22:00.

On 7 August 2020, the government extended the national state of emergency until 10 September.

On 21 August 2020, Morocco announced more tightening measures in Marrakech and other areas. Beaches in Casablanca Dar Bouazza, Paloma and Ain Harrouda are to close along with beauty salons. Cafes and shops are to close by 2000 while markets are to close by 16:00. Marrakech closes entry to 12 neighborhoods. Restaurants and cafes in Marrakesh are to close by 22:00 and souks (markets) are to close by 16:00, eateries can only operate at 50 percent capacity. Beni Mellal six neighborhoods are closed off, beauty salons and sports complexes to close by 20:00 and souks to close by 14:00, large gathering areas to close from 18:00. Any restrictions in these areas that were previously in place are to remain.

On 7 September 2020, Morocco reimposed COVID-19 restrictions in Casablanca. Daily Curfew from 22:00-05:00 implemented. Business must close by 15:00, cafes at 20:00 and restaurants at 21:00.

On 11 September 2020, authorities extended the national health state of emergency until 10 October.

On 15 September 2020, the government re-imposed restrictions in Kenitra and Mehdia. A night curfew from 18:00-05:00 is enforced. Non-essential business are to close by 18:00 until September 20 at least. Zone 1 regions have restaurants, cafes, hotels and beaches open. Zone 2 has cinemas and public areas closed.
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Morocco

Lockdown/ Curfew

❖ On 19 September 2020, authorities re-imposed restrictions in Settat, lasting until 25 September. Night curfew from 22:00-05:00. Shops must close by 17:00 and restaurants and cafes by 20:00.
❖ On 4 October 2020, the government of Morocco tightened COVID-19 restrictions and imposed a curfew in Casablanca from 22:00-05:00. Markets must close by 15:00, cafes to close by 20:00 and restaurants by 21:00.
❖ On 9 October 2020, the government announced that the national health state of emergency will extend until 10 November 2020.
❖ On 20 October 2020, authorities announced that COVID-19 restrictions in Casablanca will be extended until 3 November. Tetouan enforces curfew from 22:00 to 05:00 daily, markets required to close by 17:00.
❖ On 1 November 2020, Al Hoceima province places nightly curfew from 21:00 to 06:00. Restaurants to close by 21:00. Public areas are strictly closed.
❖ On 2 November 2020, restrictions in Casablanca extended until November 30 same rules of October apply.
❖ As of 7 December 2020, Agadir-Ida-Ou Tanane, Tiznit and Taroudant provinces impose a nightly curfew from 21:00-06:00 daily. Businesses required to close by 20:00. Residents are asked to stay at home unless for essential reasons. Businesses in Taroudant close by 21:00. Casablanca, Al Hoceima province have the same restrictions as before. Tetouan city has curfew of 22:00-05:00.
❖ On 24 December 2020, Nationwide night curfew implemented from 21:00-06:00. All business must close by 20:00. Casablanca, Marrakech, agadir and Tangier have restaurants closed.
❖ On 8 January 2021, state of Emergency to remain until February 10. The nationwide curfew of 21:00-06:00 daily remains in place. Restaurants and shops to close by 20:00 until 13 January.
❖ On 12 January 2021, national curfew extended until 20 January.
❖ As of 20 January 2021, Hotels have reopened. Zone 1 areas have residents being able to leave the province whenever they wants, public baths and beaches are open and business can operate at 50 percent capacity. Zone 2 regions do not allow interstate travel without a permit.
❖ On 15 February 2021, Rules extended until March 10.
❖ On 5 March 2021, Regulations extended until April 10. Nationwide curfew of 21:00-06:00 remains, business must close by 20:00. Some non-essential business can open, hotels and restaurants are open with varying capacities. Zone 1 has restaurants, cafes, hotels and public baths open at 50 percent capacity and have business follow social distancing rules. Zone 2 does not allow individuals to leave the region without a permit. State of Emergency extended until April 10.
❖ On 17 March 2021, Curfew extended until March 31. No change in rules.
❖ On 29 March 2021, Curfew extended until April 15.
❖ On 12 April 2021, Curfew from 20:00-06:00 placed for Ramadan. Shops must close by 20:00. Other rules remain. Regulations to stay until end of Ramadan.
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Morocco

Domestic/International Travel

❖ On 31 January 2020, Royal Air Maroc canceled all flights to mainland China.
❖ On 10 March 2020, Morocco announced the suspension of all travel and flights to Italy.
❖ On 13 March 2020, the government of Morocco announced suspending all flights and ferry crossing to and from Spain, Algeria and France.
❖ On 14 March 2020, the government announced suspending all flights with an additional 25 countries added to the list, due to the large COVID-19 outbreak in the listed states.
❖ On 15 March 2020, the government officially suspended all international flights. Foreigners were permitted to leave Morocco before 22 March. Domestic Flights limited.
❖ On 21 June 2020, the government reopened major airports for domestic flights only.
❖ On 9 July 2020, the Moroccan government announced that residents of Morocco are allowed to travel internationally. Moroccans living outside Morocco were allowed to return back. All arrivals must carry a negative PCR test certificate issued less than 72 hours before arrival.
❖ On 14 July 2020, the Moroccan government announced the partial reopening of borders to allow certain essential to occur. Those wishing to leave Tangier require a permit from authorities.
❖ On 25 July 2020, authorities placed a travel ban in Tangier during Eid Al-Adha.
❖ On 27 July 2020, Entry to Casablanca, Fez,Tanger, Marrakech and Meknes is prohibited.
❖ On 5 August 2020, Tangier and Fez requires a permit to travel to and from the city.
❖ On 4 September 2020, the government announced that foreigners were allowed to enter through a visa-free entry conditionally, either through a hotel reservation or an invitation.
❖ On 7 September 2020, Borders opened to foreign nationals who have been invited to Morocco by a national company. A negative PCR test is required prior to entry, hotel reservation must be presented and can enter visa free.
❖ As of 13 September 2020, Zone 2 regions require people leaving to obtain a government pass.
❖ On 5 October 2020, Casablanca received new restrictions includes residents requiring authorization to enter or leave the city. Until end of restrictions.
❖ As of 7 December 2020, Sea travel to Spain, France and Gibraltar remains suspended. Border to Ceuta and Melilla remains closed. Zone 2 area residents may not leave without a permit, residents of Casablanca and Medioluna and Nouaceur may not leave the province without a permit. Authorized visitors may enter the country.
❖ On 20 December 2020, Authorities suspend all flights to the UK.
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Morocco

Domestic/ International Travel

❖ As of 20 January 2021, all domestic flights are operational. Flights to Australia, United Kingdom, South Africa, New Zealand, Ireland and Brazil are suspended.
❖ On 22 February 2021, flights to Turkey, Switzerland, Germany and Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Czech Republic, Portugal and Ukraine are suspended until further notice.
❖ On 2 March 2021, all flights to Italy and Belgium suspended. Rule continues of only those with special permission may enter Morocco.
❖ On 9 March 2021, Morocco suspends all flights to Finland, Lebanon, Norway, Poland, Greece and Kuwait.
❖ On 30 March 2021, Morocco suspends all flights to France and Spain.
❖ On 15 April 2021, Morocco suspends all flights to Tunisia.
❖ On 16 April 2021, Morocco suspends all flights to Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Slovakia until further notice.
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Morocco

<table>
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<th>Educational Institutions</th>
<th>Public Transportation</th>
<th>Public Events</th>
<th>Workplace and Institutions</th>
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<td><strong>On 13 March 2020</strong></td>
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<td>As of 30 March 2020, the government of Morocco announced that workers feeling any sort of sickness should work from home. Also, workplaces were ordered to implement social distancing measures, hygiene rules and the use of masks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>the government decided to shutdown all schools, universities and educational institutes until further notice. Education will be continued through TV or online programs.</td>
<td><strong>On 21 March 2020</strong>, the government announced the suspension to intercity public transport until further notice.</td>
<td><strong>On 1 March 2020</strong>, the government of Morocco announced the cancelation of all sport and cultural events nationwide.</td>
<td><strong>As of 28 May 2020</strong>, the government of Morocco announced a new protocol that includes specific information regarding helping workers stay safe in the workplace and ways to avoid COVID-19 infection.</td>
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<td><strong>On 11 April 2020</strong>, the Ministry of Education announced that tests and exams will be taken normally in-person but later on in the year.</td>
<td><strong>On 7 June 2020</strong>, the government resumed public transport with the new requirement of wearing a face mask and practicing safe social distancing.</td>
<td><strong>On 14 March 2020</strong>, Morocco banned all forms of public events and banned gatherings of more than 50 people.</td>
<td><strong>As of 20 January 2021</strong>, Business can only operate at 50 percent capacity.</td>
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<td><strong>On 12 May 2020</strong>, Morocco announced that tests and exams are cancelled for primary and secondary education. Schools and universities are scheduled to reopen in September.</td>
<td><strong>As of 7 December 2020</strong>, Agadir-Ida-Ou Tanane, Casablanca, Tiznit and Taroudant provinces close public transportation by 21:00 daily.</td>
<td><strong>On 20 March 2020</strong>, Mosques are shut nationwide for collective prayers.</td>
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<td><strong>As of 7 September 2020</strong>, the government of Morocco delayed the reopening of schools and universities until October.</td>
<td><strong>On 22 June 2020</strong>, the government announced the cancellation of Operation Marhaba.</td>
<td><strong>As of 7 April 2020</strong>, the government of Morocco announced the requirement of face masks in public spaces and gatherings. Public gatherings are prohibited.</td>
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<td><strong>As of 5 October 2020</strong>, schools and universities in Morocco reopen for in-person instruction. Schools were COVID-19 cases are discovered close temporarily for disinfection.</td>
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Public Info Campaign

❖ On 19 March 2020, the government set up a direct 24-hour hotline to reinforce direct communication, answer public inquiries and to re-instill hope in the citizens to fight off COVID-19.

❖ As of 20 May 2020, the government of Morocco has implemented measures to combat the false spread of information regarding COVID-19 and urged citizens to pay attention to updates coming from the Ministry of Health.

❖ On 1 June 2020, the Ministry of Health launched an awareness campaign on the dangers of smoking under the context of COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases.

❖ On 2 October 2020, Morocco launched an awareness campaign about the impact of COVID-19 on old people.

❖ On 5 November 2021, Authorities in Rabat launch a mass awareness campaign on COVID-19, including patrols to ensure public compliance with social distancing measures.

❖ As of 1 December 2020, Morocco’s government has launched a mass awareness campaign recommending individuals to stay at home in order to prevent COVID-19 cases due to the massive increase in cases.

Testing Framework

❖ As of 2 March 2020, the government of Morocco has began testing individuals for COVID-19.

❖ On 18 May 2020, Morocco increased its daily COVID-19 testing capacity to 10,000 tests.

❖ On 4 June 2020, a mass random testing campaign (8,000 tests) was conducted for workers in the banking and construction sectors.

❖ As of 6 August 2020, the government of Morocco has developed specific locations in each city and area to get tested in. Morocco begins using rapid antibody testing throughout the Kingdom.

❖ As of 27 September 2020, the government of Morocco has increased its testing capacity.

❖ On 29 September 2020, Morocco has opened testing to be done in private laboratories nationwide.

❖ On 21 January 2021, the government begins a campaign to test 15,000 students under the age of 18 to curb the spread of new variants.

❖ As of 26 April 2020, Morocco has conducted a total of 166,954 tests per 1 million people.

Contact Tracing

❖ On 2 March 2020, First case was traced back to a travel that went to Italy. Contact tracing operations have officially commenced. All contacts of the first case where traced, tested and quarantined.

❖ As of 11 May 2020, the government of Morocco has adopted and created a new app named ‘Wiqaytna’ which includes information regarding COVID-19 and it is used to trace and contact individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19.

❖ On 1 June 2020, the government of Morocco officially launched the contact tracing app ‘Wiqaytna’ for public use.

❖ On 2 October 2020, Morocco launched an awareness campaign about the impact of COVID-19 on old people.

❖ On 2 November 2020, the government set up a direct 24-hour hotline to reinforce direct communication, answer public inquiries and to re-instill hope in the citizens to fight off COVID-19.

❖ As of 1 December 2020, Morocco’s government has launched a mass awareness campaign recommending individuals to stay at home in order to prevent COVID-19 cases due to the massive increase in cases.

Vaccine

❖ On 8 December 2020, Morocco announces vaccines rollout to begin in January, starting with the Sinopharm vaccine. Vaccination will commence with frontline workers and at risk populous.

❖ On 6 January 2021, Morocco approves the use of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine.

❖ On 24 January 2021, Morocco approves the Sinopharm vaccine.

❖ On 26 January 2021, the national vaccination campaign launched with AstraZeneca-Oxford and Sinopharm vaccines.

❖ On 9 March 2021, More than 4 million people have been vaccinated.

❖ On 16 March 2021, Sputnik V vaccine approved by Morocco.

❖ On 26 March 2021, Authorities expect 4.2 million more vaccines from Sinopharm, Sputnik V and AstraZeneca.
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Sources


