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The KRG High Committee to counter COVID -19 and KRG Ministry of Interior took a series of necessary preventive measures and issued several decrees since the outbreak of COVID-19 to combat the spread of the virus. Moreover, the Iraqi Federal Government's High Committee to Counter COVID-19 has suspended commercial flights as part of the preventive measures and has permitted Iraqi citizens, who hold second nationality or residency from a different country, to travel back with a condition to fill out a commitment form that she/he will not come back to Iraq. In this regard, both the KRG Ministries of Interior (MoI) and Transportation and Communication (MOTAC) consider it critical to take similar measures in the KR airports for the public safety beginning from July and consistent with the following guidelines:

1. The individual must hold a foreign nationality or residency.
2. The remaining foreign nationals stranded or a resident in the Kurdistan Region, must finalize their residency (Iqama) papers at the KR Residency Departments and obtain clearance for travel.
3. The list of passengers must be submitted to the KRG Ministry of Interior (48) before the flight departure with conforming to the point mentioned above (2). In contrary, the travelers will not be allowed to board and take the exit flight at the Airports, and any airline companies who sell flight tickets to individuals who not comply with these measures will be fined.
4. The KRG Ministry of Transportation and Communication (MOTAC) will take measures to organize and authorize flight for the purpose mentioned above in coordination with the KRG Department of Foreign Relations and Iraqi Civil Aviation Authorities (ICAA) within the decision framework of organizing flights.
5. The arranged special flights are not allowed to bring passengers to the KRI without prior approval from the KRG Ministry of Interior (MoI). Airline companies will be fined if they bring travelers without preapproval permission from MoI.

We highly appreciate your cooperation and assistance in taking the above measures into consideration and commend you stemmed mission understanding and collaboration under these difficult circumstances. We hope that we all can overcome this pandemic very soon and for life to return to normalcy.

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