

SUPPLEMENT to the Solomon Islands Gazette

Friday 9th May, 2003

S.I. No. 11

[Legal Notice No. 46]

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACT
(CAP 99)**

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
(SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME)
REGULATIONS 2003**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 8(1)© of the Public Health Act and 11 of the Environmental Health Act the Minister hereby make the following regulations:-

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Environmental Health (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) Regulations 2003.
2. For the purposes of the Regulations "SEVERE ACUTE

RESPIRATORY SYNDROM (SARS)" is declared a highly contagious respiratory infection.

3. Every incoming passenger shall prior to embarkation be required to fill in the Health Assessment Form issued by the airline officer at the point of boarding.

4. (1) Where an Immigration Officer has reason to believe that any person entering Solomon Islands by sea or air at any port of entry shows any symptoms or signs of SARS, the immigration may:

- (a) cause such person to be referred to a Government Medical Officer for examination; or
- (b) refuse such person entry into Solomon Islands.

(2) Where the Chief Medical Officer of the National Referral Hospital has reasonable information that any passenger or member of the crew of a vessel has developed signs of SARS, he may inform the Director of Immigration to refuse such vessel entry into Solomon Islands.

(3) Where a person is referred for the purposes of a medical examination pursuant to paragraph (1), and is certified by a Medical Officer that he is infected or shows signs or symptoms as such disease, he shall be removed to such place of isolation of the health authorities determine.

(4) Where a person has been removed to a place of isolation pursuant to paragraph (3), and has served the isolation period and shows evidence that he is free of SARS virus, the Medical Officer shall declare such person free of the SARS virus.

5. (1) Any traveler who knows that he is suffering from SARS disease shall before disembarkation at any port of entry into Solomon Islands notify the health authorities of his condition.

(2) Where the Captain of a vessel has reason to believe that any passenger or member of Crew is showing signs or symptoms of SARS, the Captain shall divert such vessel from its intended destination to any other port in Solomon Islands and call at Honiara port.

6. Any traveler who within 10 days of entry into Solomon Islands develops or shows signs of suffering from SARS shall seek medical attention by contacting the National Referral Hospital on the dedicated SARS help line.

7. The provisions of Part III and Section 2 of the Public Health Act (repealed) which are deemed to be regulations under the provisions of the Environmental Health Act shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of the prevention and suppression of the SARS disease.

Made at Honiara this eighth day of May 2003.

BENJAMIN PATRICK UNA
Minister of Health