

Precautionary measures against COVID-19 for Public Markets

The Public Health Services of the Cyprus Ministry of Health, in the framework of a series of instructions published to various professionals as to the precautionary measures they should implement to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19, encourage the operators and those responsible for the operation of Public Markets to implement the following protective and preventive measures. It is pointed out that these measures concern all persons working at Public Markets, including the salespersons who rent kiosks/stalls inside the markets, the cleaning crew, the maintenance personnel, the supply staff as well as the inspectors/supervisors/administrators of Public Markets.

1. Specific instructions for the management and operation of Public Markets:

- The Competent Municipal Authority must see to the placing of the farmers and that each Public Market operates at 50% of its operating capacity.
- Controlled entrance of the public in the markets and prevention of many individuals being present at the market at the same time (1 person /8 m² of clear space, so that overcrowding is avoided).
- The Competent Municipal Authority must provide all necessary signs to ensure that there is a 2 metres physical distance between the customers.
- The Public Markets shall serve daily until 10:00 a.m. persons belonging to vulnerable groups, persons over the age of 60 years old as well as persons with disabilities.
- Installation at a prominent place at the entrances and exits of all premises, of a bottle of alcohol-based disinfectant (with alcohol content 70%) with an injection pump and a base for hand hygiene, to be used by the customers.

2. Exhibition/sale of foodstuff

- Employees at Public Markets must be given personal protective equipment, such as face masks and single use gloves.
- All products/foodstuff that are ready to be consumed without the need for cooking/baking/washing/peeling such as dry nuts, bread etc., must be exhibited for sale and be sold exclusively in nylon or paper packaging and not in bulk.
- Each vendor must place at a prominent place on the sales bench, an alcohol-based disinfectant bottle (with alcohol content 70%) to be used by himself/herself and his/her staff as well as by the customers before and after each transaction.

3. Cleaning and disinfection guidelines

- Thorough and regular cleaning of areas/spaces and of shared objects as well as prompt waste collection.
- The entire area must be cleaned and disinfected after the working hours of the Public Market. In general, there must be abidance by the relevant Decrees published from time to time as to the precautionary measures against COVID-19.