

## **MEASURES TO CONTAIN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**With effect until 10 January 2021 (5.00 a.m.)**

1. The movement of persons is prohibited from 21.00 p.m. until 05.00 a.m. with the following exceptions:
  - (i) Movement to/from work, as well as for work reasons by presenting the employee movement confirmation form,
  - (ii) Movement to/from medical centre, hospital, pharmacy or vet for emergency medical reasons, and
  - (iii) Movement of hunters to and within non-prohibited hunting areas, as defined in the Laws on Protection and Management of Wild Birds and Prey of 2003 to 2017, from 03.00 am. only on permitted hunting days (they must carry their hunting license with them for check purposes).

**Irrespective of the provisions of the aforementioned paragraph, the movement of persons is allowed on 24 December 2020 from 5.01 a.m. until 23.00 p.m., as well as on 31 December 2020 from 5.01 a.m. until 1 January 2021 at 1.00 a.m.**

2. Gatherings in public places (parks, squares, water reservoirs, picnic areas, beaches, pavements and marinas, etc.) are permitted, **provided that the number of persons shall not exceed two, excluding underage children.**
3. ~~Gatherings of persons in residences are allowed, with a maximum number of 10 persons, including underage children.~~

**The presence in residences of persons other than the permanent residents, is prohibited.**

**Exceptions can be allowed as follows:**

- 1. For providing care to minors and persons with disabilities for the period/duration in the case that the physical presence of parents is necessary at their workplace.**
- 2. For the purpose of helping people who are unable to help themselves (medication, care of individuals, supply of food, etc). It is understood that such persons should take all personal protective measures and remain only for a reasonable period of time necessary for the care of the individual, so as not to endanger him/her.**

**It is clarified that only for 31 December 2020, the presence of persons other than the permanent residents is permitted in a residence, as long as the persons are from two families only and provided that the total number of persons in that residence does not exceed 10 persons, including minors.**

- 4. Church services and other forms of religious worship in religious sites shall be performed without the presence of congregants.**

**Irrespective of the provisions of paragraph (4), church service and other forms of religious worship are allowed on 25 December 2020 and 6 January 2021 with a maximum number of 75 persons present, provided that the measure of at least one person per 3 sq.m. is observed and subjected to the Ministry of Health guidelines:**

**It is noted that the responsibility for compliance lies with the person or persons who are in charge of the specific religious worship site according to the regulating legal framework of the religion or/and creed concerned.**

- 5. The holding of luncheons/dinners and any other events relating to weddings and christenings, is prohibited (other than a home event with a maximum number of 10 persons including minors).**

6. Ceremonies (weddings, christenings, funerals) are permitted with a maximum of 10 persons attending.

~~7. **Until the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 (5.00 a.m.)**, public and private Lyceums and Higher and Tertiary Education Institutions will operate through online education. Kindergartens, Primary Schools and Gymnasiums continue to operate normally. It is understood that this concerns public and private schools/institutions.~~

**From 29 December, 18.00 pm, until 10 January 2021, 5.00 am, lessons/courses at public and private schools of primary and secondary education as well as at Higher Educational Institutions will be carried out online.**

**It is noted that in those cases where the physical presence of students of Higher Educational Institutions is absolutely necessary for the purpose of laboratory classes in preparing the students for examinations, laboratory classes may be physically attended, subject to the health protocols.**

8. Visits to hospitals, clinics, medical and diagnostic centres, are prohibited.

9. With the exception of the catering areas of the Larnaka and Pafos airports, as well as the catering areas of hotels and tourist accommodations, which may function until 21.00 p.m. under the conditions (i) to (iv), the operation of all catering establishments (restaurants, taverns, cafés, pubs, snack bars and bars, cafeterias and catering establishments within canteens and / or sports clubs, cultural clubs, associations, etc.) is suspended, save for their take away services to be carried out only until 20.30 p.m., as well as their home delivery services:

It is noted that catering establishments within hotels and tourist accommodation facilities may operate under the following conditions:

(i) only persons staying overnight in such hotels or/and tourist accommodation facilities may be served, provided they are exclusively

served at table arrangements, subject to the guidelines of the Ministry of Health,

- (ii) the operation and use of bars within catering areas shall be restricted to the preparation of food or drinks by the employees with direct service at the bar expressly prohibited,
- (iii) only a maximum number of six (6) persons may be served per table, and
- (iv) the maximum number of persons that may be served in catering areas of hotels or/and tourist accommodation facilities is set at 40 persons in indoor areas and 80 persons in outdoor areas, provided that the measure of at least one person per 3 sq.m. is observed in indoor areas and at least 2 sq.m. in outdoor areas, subject to the Ministry of Health guidelines:

**Irrespective of the provisions of the above paragraph, the operation of catering establishments within hotels and tourist accommodation facilities is allowed on 24 December 2020 and on 31 December until 23.00 p.m. subjected to the terms (i) until (iii) above and with a maximum number of persons set at 75 in total in either indoor or outdoor areas, provided that the measure of at least one person per 3 sq.m. is observed in indoor areas and at least 2 sq.m. in outdoor areas, subject to the Ministry of Health guidelines.**

10. The operation of open-air and indoor theatres, amphitheatres, cinemas and performance halls, is suspended.
11. Popular markets shall function at 50% capacity and social distancing of 1.5 m. on the basis of the relevant protocol.
12. Mass gatherings and other events, demonstrations, parades, concerts, open-air bazaars, Christmas fairs, festivals in public or private venues, are still prohibited.
13. Public transport capacity shall be regulated by the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works per District.

14. The operation of indoor shopping centres (malls) is suspended.
15. Other retail trade outlets, including superstores, department stores and large stores of over 500 sq.m., are allowed to operate in compliance with the measure of 1 person per 10 sq.m.. Such stores are obliged to ensure that there is a check at the entrance so that the maximum number of customers is upheld.
16. The operation of gyms, dance schools and schools of other sports, is suspended. Personal training is permitted.
17. The operation of gambling and betting companies is allowed, in compliance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and the National Betting Authority and provided that the measure of 1 person per 10 sq.m. is upheld and that customers remain within the premises only for the time needed to fill out and submit their betting sheet or receive a payment.
18. The operation of casinos is suspended.
19. The operation of swimming pools is suspended, with the exception of their use by persons with disabilities for reasons of therapeutic exercise or for the training of up to four persons, including the coach.
20. The operation of gyms, swimming pools and spas as well as catering areas inside hotels and tourist accommodation facilities, is permitted for serving only the guests staying overnight in such premises (catering areas within hotels and tourist accommodation facilities may operate until 9.00 pm).
21. The Ports of Lemesos and Larnaka shall operate only for commercial transactions and activities. The boarding of cruise ships by passengers is prohibited.
22. Sports:
  - Trainings and athletic events for persons under the age of 18, are suspended

- The operation of indoor and outdoor sports facilities is suspended, with the following exceptions:
  - (i) The operation of sports facilities exclusively for the use of persons or teams of up to four (4) persons, including the coach and without the presence of spectators,
  - (ii) The operation of sports facilities for training and competitions, without the presence of spectators, for the championships of the teams in First, Second and Third Divisions, as well as national teams, in compliance with the health protocols, and
  - (iii) The operation of sports facilities for the training of high-performing athletes who are included in the registry of the Cyprus Sports Organization, with the participation of up to four persons including the coach; i.e. athletes who have secured or are eligible for qualification to compete in the Olympic Games and/or who are included in the Cyprus Sports Organization's High Performance and Talent Scheme.

23. All group lessons in tutoring institutes as well as group sports and social activities for persons under the age of 18, are prohibited.

It is understood that online teaching as well as teaching on a one-to-one basis (physical presence of up to two people including the educator) are allowed.

24. The operation of Courts continues, based on relevant guidelines of the Supreme Court, in consultation with the Ministry of Health.

25. Retail food trade outlets shall only serve persons aged 65 and above, as well as people with disabilities, from their opening time until 9 a.m.

26. The suspension of operations of night clubs, discotheques and music halls, continues.

27. The suspension of operations of children's playgrounds, amusement parks and thematic parks, continues.

28. The carrying out of conferences, trade and art exhibits and assemblies, is suspended.

29. No visits are allowed to nursing homes, care for the elderly units, chronic patients' units, homes and hostels for vulnerable groups, transitional hospitality hostels for the homeless, day centres and child protection units, with the exception of persons with disabilities whereby each tenant may receive two visits per week, with the possibility of additional visits being considered by a competent officer when an exceptional need arises.

30. The operation of camping areas is suspended.

31. The entry and/or exit of any person into and from the centres for the reception, hospitality and detention of asylum seekers, is prohibited, except for the entry of new-arriving asylum seekers.

It is noted that entry into and/or exit from the said centres are permitted for the staff as well as exceptionally, for humanitarian and/or medical reasons, upon a relevant permit by the Minister of the Interior.

**32. As of 30 December 2020, the public and wider public sector shall operate only with the necessary security personnel, for management and providing service to the public for emergency issues. The rest of the personnel will be working from home.**

22.12.2020