

**OFFICIAL GAZETTE**  
**OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**  
**THIRD ANNEX**  
**PART I**

**REGULATORY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTS**

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<b>Number 5414</b>	<b>Thursday, 10 December 2020</b>	<b>3261</b>
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Number 581

THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES LAW, CAP. 260

Regulations pursuant to section 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f)

The Minister of Health, in exercising the powers under section 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Infectious Diseases Law, Cap. 260, conferred on him by Decision of the Council of Ministers dated 3 September 2020, hereby issues the following Regulations.

1. This Decree shall be referred to as the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of the Covid-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No.57) of 2020.

2. As the protection of public health and the health care system are the responsibility of the Republic with the aim of containing the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus disease, the protection of public health as well as the prevention of the possible collapse of the health system by any dissemination of the virus, taking into consideration the needs in human resources and logistical services that may be necessary to combat the rapid spread of the disease, and as the adoption of additional measures beyond the Regulations that have been issued by the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Regulations (No.1) to (No. 56) of 2020, has become imperative, and without prejudice to those of the Regulations which continue in force, and

As, by Notice published in the Official Gazette of the Republic on the authorization of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Health has declared the local districts of Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos as being infected by the COVID-19 Coronavirus, pursuant to article 4 of the Infectious Diseases Law, Cap. 260, the following Regulations are issued:

2.1 Regulation 2.6 of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No.55) of 2020, is hereby deleted and abolished as of the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2020 at 05:59 am.

2.2 Regulations 2.7 to 2.10 of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No.55) of 2020, are hereby deleted and abolished.

2.3 Due to the compelling need arising from the epidemiological data for the protection of public health, combating the COVID-19 Coronavirus and taking into consideration that, despite the measures taken previously, from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 until 9 December 2020 inclusive, 3,016 cases have been recorded while the average rate of persons hospitalized daily fluctuates at 120 patients per day, and given the fact that during the above period 21 deaths of patients have been recorded with the COVID-19 disease as the ultimate cause and given that 8 in 10 incidents recorded are local infections, and also because the percentage of positive results from laboratory examinations has increased from 3.5% to 5.5%, the following will apply in the districts of Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos as of the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2020 at 06:00 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 at 05:00 am, unless otherwise stated in this Regulation:

- (a) 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, hereby attached as an Appendix,
  - (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 the 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).

- (b) With the exception of the catering areas of the Larnaca and Paphos airports, as well as the catering areas of hotels and tourist accommodation, which may function until 9.00 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 8.30 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:

It is further noted that pursuant to Regulation 2.1 of the Infectious Diseases ((Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of the Covid-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No.28) of 2020, the operation of night

clubs, discotheques, entertainment establishments and dance halls is suspended,

(c) Mass gatherings and other events, demonstrations, parades, concerts, open-air bazaars, Christmas fairs, festivals in public or private venues, are prohibited,

(d) Gatherings of over two persons are prohibited with the exception of underage children accompanying their parents in private and public meeting spaces, such as parks, squares, churchyards and other religious places, water reservoirs, picnic areas, beaches, pedestrian areas, marinas, etc.:

It is noted that residences are exempt as well as any other areas defined in the Ministry of Health guidelines.

(e) Gatherings of persons in residences are allowed, with a maximum number of 10 persons, including underage children.

(f) Church services and other forms of religious worship in religious sites shall be performed without the presence of congregants: 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.

(g) Individual prayer in churches, mosques and other religious sites is allowed, outside church service hours or/and other religious ceremonies and provided that not more than 10 persons are simultaneously present within the religious worship place.

(h) Religious ceremonies (weddings, christenings, funerals) are permitted with a maximum number of 10 persons attending,

- (i) 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).
- (j) Visits to hospitals, clinics, medical and diagnostic centres, are prohibited.
- (k) 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.
- (l) The operation of open-air and indoor theatres, amphitheatres, cinemas and performance halls, is suspended.
- (m) The suspension of operations of children's playgrounds, amusement parks and thematic parks, continues.
- (n) The carrying out of conferences, trade and art exhibits and assemblies, is suspended.
- (o) The operation of camping areas is suspended.
- (p) Meetings/elections of Trade Unions registered according to the Trade Union Laws of 1965-1996, may take place by using electronic means, upon the approval of the Registrar of Trade Unions.
- (q) The maximum number of passengers allowed to travel on all regular buses with a fare per passenger, as well as on all public and/or private transport means, relative to their capacity, is defined in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and

Works. It is noted that the use of a protective facemask is mandatory for employees and passengers on all transport means mentioned in this paragraph.

- (r) The operation of indoor shopping centres (malls) is suspended.  
It is noted that all retail trade outlets may provide their services online or via telephone with house delivery.
- (s) 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 in the presence of an authorized person so that the maximum number of customers is upheld,
- (t) Popular markets shall function at 50% capacity and social distancing of 1.5 m. on the basis of the relevant protocol.
- (u) 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.
- (v) The operation of casinos is suspended.
- (w) 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.
- (x) 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,

- (y) The operation of gyms, dancing schools as well as other sports schools is suspended. It is noted that personal exercise or/and training in the installations mentioned in this paragraph is allowed, provided that participants do not exceed two persons, including the instructor/coach.
- (z) 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.
- (aa) All athletic team events and social activities for persons under the age of 18, are suspended. It is noted that the carrying out of sports or/and social activities with only two persons being physically present, including the coach/instructor, is allowed as well as the carrying out of the aforementioned activities through online teaching.
- (bb) All group lessons in private tutoring institutes and private educational centres 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.

(cc) Retail food trade outlets shall on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays (if applicable) provide services, from their opening time until 9 am, only to the following persons:

(i) Aged 65 and over, and

(ii) With disabilities.

(dd) The maximum number of persons allowed to be present in Courts and courtrooms is defined on the basis of the guidelines by the Supreme Court.

(ee) The ports of the Republic shall operate only for commercial transactions and activities. The boarding of cruise ships by passengers is prohibited.

(ff) 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.

(gg) Any person arriving and/or entering unlawfully in the territory of the Republic shall remain for 14 days since arrival in areas of compulsory isolation (quarantine) designated by the Republic:

It is noted that asylum seekers, who enter, are placed and/or are obliged to stay in reception, hospitality and/or detention centres for asylum seekers, are instead placed in areas of mandatory isolation (quarantine) for 14 days, before coming into any contact with those already staying there, and the relevant medical protocol is followed in each case.

(hh) The carrying out of written examinations and/or meetings of State Authorities and/or meetings of Authorities and/or Services and/or Organs and Bodies is allowed, provided that the security and health guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health are upheld,

(ii) With effect from 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020, the operation of public and private Lyceums, Technical/Vocational Schools, Tertiary and Higher Education Institutions shall be carried out through online education. 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.

2.4 Businesses under suspension may carry out work of administrative nature or/and other work behind closed doors.

2.5 All businesses the operation of which is not suspended, shall operate pursuant to the safety and health guidelines of the Ministry of Health or/and the competent Ministry/Authority as the case may be.

2.6 The competent authority, by virtue of the Public Service Laws 1990 to 2020 or/and depending on internal legislation governing the operation of Independent Services and/or Deputy Ministries in each case, may in exceptional case and if deemed necessary apply such employment arrangements regarding its personnel with the purpose of preventing the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic to their services, by allowing inter alia, the discretion to the personnel of the Ministry/ Deputy Ministry and their Departments/Services, to work remotely until the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2021, provided that the smooth operation of the Ministries/Deputy Ministries/Independent Services and their Departments/Services is not affected in any way.

2.7 The Public Law Organizations and the Local Government Authorities may appropriately apply the provisions stipulated in Regulation 2 of this Decree until the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2021, provided the smooth functioning of their services is not affected in any way.

3. This Decree shall take immediate effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

CONSTANTINOS IOANNOU  
Minister for Health

**Appendix**

(Regulation 2.3)

**EMPLOYEE MOVEMENT CONFIRMATION FORM\***

The employee .....  
of company/service/organization .....  
is obliged to move for work purposes in the District/s of  
.....  
between ..... and .....hours.

The identification of the above employee can be verified by presenting his/her identity card/passport.

Full name of employer/supervisor: .....

Signature of employer/supervisor: .....

Date: .....

\*The same form is applicable to and is to be used by self-employed persons.