

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

## **ANNEX III**

# PART I

### REGULATORY ADMINISTRATIVE ACT

Number 5438	Friday, 15 January 2021	43
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#### Number 11

#### THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES LAWS, CAP. 260

Decree by virtue of article 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g)

Cap. 260. 32(I) of 2003 31(I) of 2020 72(I) of 2020. The Minister of Health, in exercising the powers conferred upon him under article 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Infectious Diseases Law, Cap. 260 and by the Decision of the Council of Ministers dated 03 September 2020, hereby issues the following Decree:

Short title.

1. This Decree shall be cited as the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No. 3) of 2021.

Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus. Government Gazette, Annex III (I): 8.1.2021. 2. Whereas the protection of public health and of the health care system are the responsibility of the Republic and for imperative urgency arising from the epidemiological data with the aim of preventing the spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus disease, the protection of public health and the prevention of the possible collapse of the health system due to the spread of the virus, taking into consideration the requirements in human resources and logistical infrastructure necessary to cope with the rapid spread of the virus, and whereas the taking of requisite measures, other than the paragraphs issued by the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, has become imperative and without prejudice to the provisions of the paragraphs still in force; and

Government Gazette, Annex III (I): 23.3.2020. Whereas, by Notice published in the Government Gazette of the Republic upon authorization by the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Health has declared the local districts of Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta and Paphos as being infected by COVID-19 Coronavirus, pursuant to article 4 of the Infectious Diseases Law, Cap. 260, the following provisions are hereby issued:

Government Gazette, Annex III (I): 8.1.2021.

- 2.1 Paragraph (au) of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, shall be deleted and replaced with the following paragraph with retrospective force as of 10 January 2021:
  - "(au)(i) The public sector and the wider public sector shall work through teleworking and with physical presence of the necessary personnel at work in order to ensure the smooth operation of the Service and the service of citizens to meet emergency needs:

Provided that the outdoor construction sites/teems shall continue their works by observing the relevant health protocols,

- (ii) the competent authority, by virtue of the Public Service Laws of 1990 to 2020 or/and any laws governing the operation of Independent Services and/or Deputy Ministries, shall proceed immediately to the identification of staffing needs for teleworking and physical presence at work for the smooth operation of the Service,
- (iii) for the Substantial Services, as defined in paragraph (av) of this Decree, the competent authority shall make the necessary arrangements to ensure, to the extent possible, the physical presence at work in order to ensure the smooth operation of the Service and State.
- (iv) civil servants who fall within the categories of citizens with risk factors for serious illness by COVID-19 contained in a list prepared by the Ministry of Health and published on 20 December 2020 or/and in any future update of that list and they do not wish to return to their workplace are obliged to perform their duties from home through teleworking. If they do not wish to perform their duties through teleworking, they should apply for a special leave for reasons of public health for the period of which the said beneficiaries shall be indemnified with 60% of their earnings by their employer,
- (v) civil servants who are who are responsible for the care of children up to 15 years of age or children with disabilities despite of their age, shall submit, for evaluation, a request to the head of their service for teleworking, where possible, provided that the smooth operation of the service is guaranteed. If they do not wish to perform their duties through teleworking, they should apply for a special leave for reasons of public health for the period of which the said beneficiaries shall be indemnified with 60% of their earnings by their employer:

Provided that only one of the parents/guardians may apply for such leave at any time, giving priority to the parent/guardian who is not working at a substantial service,

- (vi) in cases where due to the nature of the work teleworking is not permitted, depending on the needs of the service, a request for special leave for reasons of public health,
- (vii) the substantial services as defined in paragraph (av) may, by decision of the Competent Authority implement flexible working hours in addition to the working hours of the personnel, in agreement with the employees,
- (viii) Organisations of Public Law and Local Authorities shall implement the provisions of this paragraph mutatis mutandis".

Official Gazette, Annex III (I): 8.1.2021.

- 2.2 Paragraph (av) of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, shall be deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:
  - "(av) For the purposes of this Decree, the following services are defined as substantial:
    - (1) the Ministry of Finance including all its Departments/Services;
    - (2) the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, including all its Departments/Services and the Human Resource Development Authority;
    - (3) the Ministry of Health, including all its Directorates/Departments and Services, as well as the State Medical Services Organisation and the Health Insurance Organisation and their Directorates and/or Services;
    - (4) the Health Services of the Local Authorities and of the public sector and of the wider public sector;
    - (5) the Administration of the Ministry of Interior, the Civil Registry and Migration Department, the Asylum Service, the Lands and Surveys Department, the Town Planning and Housing Department and the District Administrations;
    - (6) the Administration, the Department of Information Technology Services and the Department of Electronic Communication, Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy;
    - (7) the Administration and Services of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry, including the Consumers Protection Service and the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver;
    - (8) the Cyprus Intelligence Services;
    - (9) the Law Office of the Republic;
    - (10) the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, the Police, the Fire Service and the Prisons Department;
    - (11) the Administration of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works, the Civil Aviation, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, the Department of Postal Services, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Road Transport;
    - (12) the Veterinary Services, the Department of Forests, the Water Development Department, the Department of Environment, the Meteorological Service and the Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment;
    - (13) the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth including its Directorates/Departments and Services;
    - (14) the Presidency of the Republic;
    - (15) the Council of Ministers and its Secretariat;
    - (16) the Directorate General of European Programmes, Coordination and Development;
    - (17) the Courts and Registries (including their staff);
    - (18) the Ministry of Defence and the National Guard;
    - (19) the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including its Directorates/Services;
    - (20) the Treasury;
    - (21) the Port Authority, the Ports and their Services;
    - (22) the private and public hospitals, clinics, medical and diagnostic centres;
    - (23) the Substantial services of airports and air companies;
    - (24) the telecommunication and radio companies in Cyprus;
    - (25) the Electricity Authority of Cyprus (EAC);

- (26) the Water Boards and Desalination Plants;
- (27) the Office of the Transmission System Operator;
- (28) the Investigation Committee of Naturalisation by Exception of non-Cypriot Investors and Businesspersons, appointed by virtue of a decree issued by the Attorney General of the Republic (R.A.A. 406/20 and 467/20) and its staff and the Investigation Committee for establishing the facts in relation to Cypra Ltd and/or Cypra Bioenergy Ltd and/or to other connected and/or related companies and/or persons, appointed by virtue of a decree issued by the Attorney General of the Republic (R.A.A 652/20) and its staff;
- (29) the Financial Market Infrastructures & Payments Division, the Currency Management Division, the Information Technology Division, the General Administration Services Division, the Accounting Services and Controlling Division and the Supervision Crisis Team, Central Bank of Cyprus;
- (30) the Digital Security Authority,
- (31) the Sewerage Boards;
- (32) the Office of the Commissioner of Electronic Communications and Postal Regulations,
- (33) the House of Representatives;
- (34) the Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organisation; and
- (35) the Cyprus Telecommunications Authority.

In addition to the above list, for the purposes of this Decree, the following services are defined as substantial: the banking services, the insurance services, the services of credit acquiring companies, the services of protection of public safety and order, the services that are necessary to the monitoring and management of the Coronavirus pandemic, for the provisions of social services and the payment of grants and other benefits to the citizens, to ensure uninterrupted provision of electric power, the water supply services, the services for the operation of electronic communications / systems, telecommunications and postal services, to the operation of air transports and the control of air traffic, for the operation of the maritime traffic management and monitoring systems, for the operation of civil defence, for the operation of hospitals and similar services in the health sector, the Veterinary Services, the prisons, the asylum and migration, for the repair or maintenance of the electrical and mechanical installations of the National Guard and the Police, including the Fire Service, the safe waste and strategic State resources management, the operation of ports and similar and support services thereof, as well as the provision of private protection and protection system services, the provision of services to buildings and outdoors."

Official Gazette, Annex III (I): 8.1.2021.

- 2.3 Paragraph (e) of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, shall be deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:
  - "(e) Access to the following areas is permitted only for physical exercise or individual sports and provided that the number of persons does not exceed two, excluding underage children:
    - (i) parks and linear parks;
    - (ii) beaches; and
    - (iii) nature trails of the Department of Forests.".
- 2.4 Taking into consideration the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the imperative urgency to take measures such as the suspension of business activities and with the aim to mitigate these economic impacts:
  - (i) Businesses or/and self-employed under a full suspension of their business activities, by virtue of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, including businesses or/and self-employed under a full suspension of their business, but who may, by virtue of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, provide delivery or/and take away services, shall not pay the rent to the State or to Organisations of Public Law, as provided for by the lease agreements in force, corresponding to the months of January and February of 2021,

- or/and February and March of 2021 in case the rent of the month of January 2021 has already been paid.
- (ii) The obligation of payment of 70% of the rent corresponding to the months of January and February 2021, or/and February and March 2021 in cases where the rent for the month of January 2021 has already been paid, is temporarily suspended, which is paid to owners of immovable property for business lease purposes by businesses or/and self-employed under a full suspension of their business activities, by virtue of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, including businesses or/and self-employed under a full suspension of their business, but who may, by virtue of the Infectious Diseases (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Decree (No 2) of 2021, provide delivery or/and take away services, provided that the said amount should be paid by equal amounts within the next twelve months, i.e. by February 2022 the latest.
- 3. This Decree shall enter into force immediately upon its publication in the Government Gazette of the Republic.

CONSTANTINOS IOANNOU
Minister of Health