THE QUARANTINE LAW, CAP. 260

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

The Minister of Health, in exercising the powers conferred upon him under article 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g) of the Quarantine Law, Cap. 260 and by the Decision of the Council of Ministers dated 3 September 2020, hereby issues the following Decree:

1. This Decree shall be cited as the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No. 7) of 2021.

2. Whereas the protection of public health and 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, 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 those issued by the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021, has become imperative; and without prejudice to the measures that remain in force; and
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 Quarantine Law, Cap. 260, the following Regulations are issued and entered into force as of 06 February 2021 unless otherwise stated in the paragraphs hereof:

2.1 Paragraph 2.2 (au) of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and replaced by the following new paragraph (au) entering into force as of 08 February 2021:

(au) The operation and use of indoor and outdoor sports facilities is suspended, with the exception of the following cases:

(i) the operation of sports facilities for training and matches of team sports, without the presence of spectators, for the professional championships of 1st division clubs and national clubs, without using changing rooms and similar infrastructures and in compliance with the health protocols:

Provided that on the day of the match, the operation of the changing rooms is permitted,

(ii) the operation of sports facilities for the training of team sports for the professional championships of the second division clubs without using changing rooms and similar infrastructures and in compliance with the health protocols, as well as the operation of sports facilities as of 13 February 2021 for second division matches without the presence of spectators.

Provided that on the day of the match, the operation of the changing rooms is permitted.

(iii) the operation of outdoor sports facilities for individual training without physical contact, provided that the number of athletes should not exceed 5 including the coach without using changing rooms and similar infrastructures and in compliance with the guidelines of the Cyprus Sports Organisation and the Ministry of Health:

Provided that, athletics events are permitted in outdoor track facilities with a maximum number of 5 persons per group, including the coach, and provided that the overall number of persons per sports facility does not exceed thirty persons:

Provided further that in large football pits the training of athletes is permitted with a maximum number of 5 persons per group, including the coach, and provided that the overall number of persons per sports facility does not exceed fifteen persons;

(iv) the operation of indoor sports facilities designated by the Cyprus Sports Organisation, for the training of high-performance athletes included in the list of the Cyprus Sports Organisation (athletes included in the High Performance and Talent Planning of the Cyprus Sports Organization), athletes of national teams of all sports, as well as athletes that came to the Republic through exchange programmes, under sports partnership protocols, signed by the Cyprus Sports Organisation with other States, without the use of changing rooms and similar infrastructures, provided that in outdoor and open-air sports facilities, despite of sqm, as well as in indoor sports facilities of over 100 sqm, the maximum number of persons should not exceed 5, including the coach, and that in indoor sports facilities of less than 100 sqm the maximum number of persons should be 3 including the coach:

Provided further that the list of athletes of national teams shall be prepared by the competent federation and subject to the approval by the Cyprus Sports Organisation and the Ministry of Health,

(v) upon the entry into force of this paragraph all persons over 18 who under the provisions of subparagraphs (i) to (iv) resume training, shall undergo a COVID-19 rapid test according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and the Cyprus Sports Organisation.

2.2 As of 08 February 2021, paragraph 2.2(ac) of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and replaced by the following new paragraph (ac):

(ac) the operation of indoor sports facilities designated by the Cyprus Sports Organisation, for the training of high-performance athletes included in the list of the Cyprus Sports Organisation (athletes included in the High Performance and Talent Planning of the Cyprus Sports Organization), athletes of national teams of all sports, as well as athletes that came to the Republic through exchange programmes, under sports partnership protocols, signed by the Cyprus Sports Organisation with other States, without the use of changing rooms and similar infrastructures, provided that in outdoor and open-air sports facilities, despite of sqm, as well as in indoor sports facilities of over 100 sqm, the maximum number of persons should not exceed 5, including the coach, and that in indoor sports facilities of less than 100 sqm the maximum number of persons should be 3 including the coach:

Provided further that the list of athletes of national teams shall be prepared by the competent federation and subject to the approval by the Cyprus Sports Organisation and the Ministry of Health,

(ac) upon the entry into force of this paragraph all persons over 18 who under the provisions of subparagraphs (i) to (iv) resume training, shall undergo a COVID-19 rapid test according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and the Cyprus Sports Organisation.

"(ac) The operation of swimming pools is suspended other than for therapeutic exercise of persons with disabilities or for training of persons falling within the provision of paragraph (au) and in compliance with the guidelines of the Cyprus Sports Organisation and the Ministry of Health."

2.3 As of 08 February 2021, paragraph 2.2(ad) of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be amended by deleting the comma, replacing it by a semicolon and adding, immediately after, the following new reservation:

"Provided that sporting activities falling within the provisions of paragraph (au) are permitted subject to the provisions of this paragraph, as well as sports in areas where sports are permitted by virtue of paragraph 2.2€ of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021."

2.4 Paragraph (ai) of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and repealed as of 07 February 2021 at 23:59 p.m.

2.5 The operation of open-air and indoor theatres, amphitheatres, cinemas and performance halls shall be permitted as of 08 February 2021 with a maximum of 50 persons attending and in compliance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Health.

2.6 Paragraph 2.9 of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and replaced by the following new paragraph 2.9:

"2.9 The entry into the Republic is permitted to persons, regardless of nationality, from countries of category A and B, according to the categorisation of countries based on the risk estimate, as announced by the Ministry of Health and on the following terms:

(a) passengers from countries of category A shall remain in mandatory self-isolation for a period of three days as of their date of arrival which shall be counted as day “0”, undergo a molecular COVID-19 test performed 72 hours as of their time of arrival and be released in case of a negative result;

(b) passengers from countries of category B:

(i) should hold a certificate of negative molecular COVID-19 test from a certified laboratory, valid 72 hours before departure;

(ii) where it is documented that the authorities of the country do not provide molecular COVID-19 testing service, may be tested upon their arrival in the Republic at their own expenses;

(iii) who are Cypriot citizens, their alien spouses and minor children, as well as persons residing legally in the Republic entering the Republic from countries of category B, who do not hold a certificate of negative molecular COVID-19 test from a certified laboratory, valid 72 hours before departure, shall undergo the molecular COVID-19 test immediately after their arrival in the Republic at their own expenses;

(iv) falling within categories (i) to (iii) shall remain in mandatory self-isolation for a period of three days as of their date of arrival which shall be counted as day “0”, undergo a molecular COVID-19 test performed 72 hours as of their time of arrival and be released in case of a negative result;

(c) notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (a) and (b), passengers arriving in the Republic from countries of category A and B for carrying out public works or for business purposes and their stay does not exceed 4 days shall:

(i) either produce a certificate of negative molecular COVID-19 test from a certified laboratory, valid 72 hours before departure;

(ii) or undergo a molecular Covid-19 test immediately after arriving in the Republic at their own expenses and remain in mandatory self-isolation until they receive the result;

(iii) these persons should undergo daily Covid-19 rapid tests until the day of their departure, have with them the testing proof for control purposes and take precautionary measures and measures of self-protection in their place of accommodation;

(d) persons diagnosed positive to COVID-19 shall remain in mandatory self-isolation and the
medical protocol of the Ministry of Health shall be observed.

2.7 Subparagraph (a) of paragraph 2.13 of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and replaced by the following new paragraph (a):

“(a) if their stay in the Republic does not exceed 4 days:

(i) they may either produce a certificate of negative molecular COVID-19 test from a certified laboratory, valid 72 hours before departure;

(ii) or undergo a molecular Covid-19 test immediately after arriving in the Republic at their own expenses and remain in mandatory self-isolation until they receive the result;

(iii) these persons should undergo daily Covid-19 rapid tests until the day of their departure, have with them the testing proof for control purposes and take precautionary measures and measures of self-protection in their place of accommodation;

(iv) persons diagnosed positive to COVID-19 shall remain in mandatory self-isolation and the medical protocol of the Ministry of Health shall be observed.”

2.8 Paragraph 2.14 of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted and replaced by the following new paragraph 2.14:

“2.14 The following applies to those coming legally to the Republic from the legal maritime entry points:

(i) for recreational craft coming to the Republic from countries of category A, passengers should remain in mandatory self-isolation for a period of three days as of their date of arrival which shall be counted as day “0”, undergo a molecular Covid-19 test performed 72 hours as of their time of arrival and be released in case of a negative result;

(ii) for recreational craft coming to the Republic from countries of category B, passengers must produce a certificate of negative molecular COVID-19 test valid 72 hours before the departure of the craft or undergo a molecular COVID-19 test at the berthing area and in this case they must remain in mandatory self-isolation for a period of three days as of their date of arrival which shall be counted as day “0”, undergo a molecular Covid-19 test performed 72 hours as of their time of arrival and be released in case of a negative result;

(iii) for recreational craft that come from countries not falling into the categories A and B and have not entered during the previous 14 days as of their arrival any port or they have entered ports of countries of category A and B, the passenger aboard must undergo a molecular COVID-19 test upon their arrival at the berthing area and remain in self-isolation for a period of three days as of their date of arrival which shall be counted as day “0”, undergo a molecular Covid-19 test performed 72 hours as of their time of arrival and be released in case of a negative result;

(iv) the persons of categories (i) and (iii) of this paragraph, coming to the Republic and are diagnosed positive for COVID-19 shall remain in mandatory confinement and the medical protocol of the Ministry of Health shall be observed:

Provided that the operators of the legal maritime entry points shall ensure that the persons aboard observe the above provisions.

2.9 Subparagraph (a) of paragraph 2.2 of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be amended as follows:

(i) by adding to subparagraph (iii) thereof immediately after the word “pharmacy” (first line) the phrase “or to a Medical Council”;

(ii) by deleting and replacing the third reservation thereof, by the following new reservation:

“Provided further that the written declaration of citizen’s movement by exception attached as Annex II may be used by people over 65 only twice a day, as well as for the transfer of a minor for activities that are permitted by the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decrees (No 6) and (No 7) of 2021 subject to presentation of a proof of the date and time of the activity.
2.10 Annex II of the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19) Decree (No 6) of 2021 shall be deleted as of 07 February 2021 at 23:59 p.m. and replaced by the following new Annex II:

Annex II
(Regulation 2.2)
Form B

DECLARATION OF CITIZEN’S MOVEMENT BY EXCEPTION

I, the undersigned, ………………………………………...

identity card/passport no ………………………………………...

home address ………………………………………………

hereby declare that the need for travelling at ………… (fill in the exact time) arises from the following reasons:
(tick with √ the appropriate box below)

☐ 1. Going to a pharmacy or for blood donation, visiting a physician or to a Medical Council or laboratory testing for Covid-19 or for vaccination at the vaccination centres.

☐ 2. Going to a retail store or catering service for essential goods/services, including take away.

☐ 3. Going to the bank for transactions not available online.

☐ 4. Strictly necessary visits to public services or services of the wider public sector and local authorities.

☐ 5. Helping people who cannot take care of themselves or people who must protect themselves or who are in self-isolation and/or in places of compulsory isolation (quarantine) or for visiting a house.

☐ 6. Physical activity or individual sports practiced in areas where access is permitted.

☐ 7. Going to church services/other forms of religious worship or for Individual prayer or to ceremonies such as funerals, weddings and christenings.

☐ 8. Any other reason that may be justified under the lockdown measures (Note 2): …………………………………………………………………………

☐ 9. Going to an undertaking /organisation the operation of which has not been suspended according to the Quarantine Decrees.

Notes: (1) During their movements, citizens should carry their identity card/passport.

(2) Point 8 above shall also include the movement of divorced or separated parents, which is necessary for the uninterrupted communication between parents and children;

- going for specialised therapies for people with disabilities or chronic diseases, together with their carer;

- driving a soldier from and to his army camp;

- going to and coming back from Larnaca and Paphos Airports for the transport of persons upon presentation of proof (ticket) showing the day and time of arrival/departure;

- movement of farmers and livestock farmers, provided that they produce the CAPO form of hectare or animal subsidy or, in case this is not available, a relevant certificate by the District Agricultural Office;
- going to and coming back from animal shelters to take care or feed stray animals, provided that the person has a certificate validated by a recognised animal welfare organisation and the relevant notification to the Veterinary Services.

Signature: ............................................................

Date: ............................................................

3. This Decree shall enter into force immediately after its publication in the Government Gazette of the Republic.

CONSTANTINOS IOANNOU
Minister of Health