



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government

No. 01/27

Date: 18.08.2021

Pursuant to Article 92, paragraph 4, Article 93, paragraph 4 and Article 55 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo; Article 4, Article 5, paragraph 2.4, Article 6, paragraph 1, Articles 10 and Article 12 of Law no. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo; Article 89 of Law No. 04/L-125 on Health; based on Article 4 of Regulation (GRK) - No. 02/2021 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, and pursuant to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo No. 01/11 dated 15.03.2020 on the Declaration of Public Health Emergency and in implementation of the recommendations of NIPHK, for the purpose of controlling, preventing and combating the spread of SARS-CoV-2 virus, in accordance with Article 19 of the Regulation No. 09/2011 on Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, in the meeting held on 18th of August 2021 issues the following:

DECISION

For general and specific measures to control, prevent and combat COVID-19 pandemics

A. [Territorial application]

1. This decision shall apply to the entire territory of the Republic of Kosovo.

B. [Entries and exits of foreign citizens from the Republic of Kosovo]

2. All citizens entering the Republic of Kosovo, including those with temporary or permanent residence permits in Kosovo, and who come from high-risk countries according to the official list of the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo (NIPHK), must have a negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19 done in the last 72 hours.
3. The following are excluded from point 2:

- 3.1. Citizens entering Kosovo via an airport or land border crossing point and leaves Kosovo within three (3) hours via an airport or land border crossing point, provided that he/she signs a statement at the entrance that he/she will leave Kosovo within three (3) hours;
- 3.2. Citizens working as professional transporters (drivers), provided they adhere to the international transport protocol for protection against COVID-19;
- 3.3. Citizens passing through Kosovo by organized bus or regular international transit line, provided that they sign a statement that they will leave the territory of Kosovo within five (5) hours;
- 3.4. Foreign diplomats accredited in Kosovo and their families;
- 3.5. People who have a certificate of complete vaccination against COVID-19;
- 3.6. Persons with a positive serological antibody test -IgG, issued at most thirty (30) days prior to arrival.
- 3.7. Children under the age of eleven (11) years.

C. [Protection and safety at work]

4. Pregnant women are exempt from the obligation to be physically present at work. Public or private employers are instructed to create, to the extent possible, conditions for their engagement in work from home.

Ç. [General protection and hygiene measures]

5. Public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to keep hand sanitizers and face masks in accessible places at the entrance of the building and indoors.
6. Public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to place visible signs of the rules of conduct for protection from COVID-19 at the entrance of each building including the sign prohibiting entry to the building without masks, respecting the distance.
7. Officials of public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to carry out disinfection and ventilation of indoor spaces.
8. Entry to closed buildings without a mask is prohibited.
9. Wearing a mask covering the nose and mouth is mandatory in all cases, except:
 - 9.1. When walking outdoors, alone;
 - 9.2. While driving the vehicle alone or in a group with no more than four (4) persons;
 - 9.3. When running, cycling and exercising;
 - 9.4. While eating or drinking.

10. All public and private institutions are obliged to appoint an employee to monitor the implementation of the measure set out in point 8.

D. [Education institutions]

11. Public and private institutions of all levels of education continue teaching according to the relevant guidelines for the education sector.
12. All public and private institutions of all levels of education are prohibited from organizing excursions and group walks.

Dh. [Showing up for social and pension schemes]

13. The Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers is instructed to release all beneficiaries of social and pension schemes managed by the MFLT from showing up regularly at the relevant offices for recording purposes as required by the relevant laws.

E. [Restriction of public and private gatherings]

14. Indoor gatherings are allowed (meetings, seminars, trainings), provided that 30% of the space capacity is used. The organizer is obliged to maintain a physical distance of at least 1 meter between persons, according to the evidence set out in point 17 of this Decision.
15. Outdoor gatherings, social gatherings (festivals, concerts, etc.) are allowed, provided that 50% of the space capacity is used, according to the evidence set out in point 17 of this Decision.

F. [Nightclubs and parties]

16. Activity of nightclubs, weddings, engagements, family parties and proms in the entire territory of the Republic of Kosovo is prohibited from 20th of August 2021 until 1st of September 2021.

G. [Entry, use and organization of certain activities]

17. From 20 August 2021 until 01 September 2021, entry into the premises where gatherings, mass gatherings (festivals, concerts), sports and cultural activities are held, which have a capacity of over 100 people, and organization of these activities is allowed, only if customers/participants possess one of the following evidence:

- 17.1 Vaccination certificate for complete vaccination or receiving a dose of COVID-19 vaccine;
 - 17.2 RT-PCR negative test for COVID-19, not older than 72 hours;
 - 17.3 Evidence that the person has passed COVID-19 (positive RT-PCR test issued not less than 21 days and not more than 180 days or positive result of serological antibody test - IgG, issued no more than 30 days ago;
 - 17.4 Rapid negative antigen test not older than 48 hours.
18. From 20 August 2021 to 01 September 2021, one of the evidences mentioned in point 17 must be possessed by all employees within the businesses/activities mentioned in point 17, who are in direct contact with customers.
19. Responsible persons of the businesses/activities mentioned in point 17, are obliged to appoint a person who will check the possession of at least one of the evidences according to point 17.
20. Persons under the age of 16 are not obliged to possess any of the evidence referred to in point 21.

Gj. [Gastronomy]

21. Gastronomy services including restaurants and similar hotel spaces are allowed to work until 22:30h and carry out their activity in accordance with the relevant guideline. Up to 50% of the space capacity is allowed in indoor spaces. Up to 70% of the space capacity is allowed in outdoor spaces. The area is calculated for the area where food and drinks are served.
22. Premises managers must ensure that the distance between customers at different tables is at least one (1) meter.
23. The back of one chair with the back of the other chair should have at least one (1) meter distance.
24. Up to 4 people are allowed in indoor tables. In case the tables are bigger than two (2) meters, then the precondition is to use the space respecting the limitation of five (5) people in 10 m².
25. In the indoor spaces, food and beverage service is allowed only for guests who are sitting or standing at a table or at the counter.
26. In the outdoor spaces, up to six (6) persons are allowed at the table, counter or standing tables.

27. Each table should be equipped with disinfectants containing at least 60-70% alcohol.
28. Instructions should be placed in the outdoor areas of the premises regarding informing the clients about the measures protocol against COVID-19.

H. [Shopping malls and other economic operators]

29. The activity of shopping malls is allowed in accordance with point 8 of this Decision and according to the relevant guidelines.
30. All operators who have wholesale and retail trade as their economic activity are obliged to set the maximum number of customers in the premises, while respecting the rule - 1 person per 8 m². These operators are obliged to indicate at the entrance the maximum number of customers allowed inside at the same time. The area is calculated for the area where customers are allowed to stay.

I. [Working with parties]

31. The responsible person of the public or private institution and of the economic operators is obliged to stop lining up or gathering inside and outside the work/business environment unless they keep a physical distance of at least 1.5 meters from other groups of persons.

J. [Public transport]

32. Using public transport without a mask is prohibited.
33. Passenger road transport operators are allowed to work, utilizing the full capacity of the seats, provided that staff and passengers wear masks at all times. Operators of transport cannot have more passengers on the bus than the capacity of the seats.
34. Taxis are allowed to work with up to two (2) passengers.

K. [Theatres, libraries, etc.]

35. Theatres, libraries, orchestras, galleries, ensembles, ballet, cinemas, youth centres, museums, cultural centres with groups or other similar institutions subordinated to the MCYS or municipalities are allowed to work using 50% of the space/area of the respective facilities for all activities (both in performances and exercises), according to point 17 and according to the evidence set out in point 21 of this Decision.

L. [Sport and recreation]

36. Organization of sports competitions and exercises is allowed in accordance with the protocols and recommendations of world organizations for the organization of sports events and the protection measures of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo.

37. In indoor competitive activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 15% of the capacity of the sports facility or space (sports halls, swimming pools, other indoor spaces) respecting the distance measure of 1.5 meters and other protective measures, according to point 8 and according to the evidence set out in point 17 of this Decision.

38. In outdoor competitive activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 30% of the capacity of the sports facility or space (stadium, swimming pools, other indoor spaces) respecting the measure of 1.5 meters distance and other protective measures, according to point 8 and evidence set out in point 17 of this Decision and relevant guidelines.

39. The organizers of the competition are obliged to undertake specific measures, in accordance with international protocols, for the management of the crowd (fans) before, during, and after entering the sports space.

40. It is allowed to use gyms, sports centres and similar spaces for individual recreational activities, according to the evidence defined in point 17 of this Decision and relevant guidelines.

41. The use of gyms, sports centres and similar spaces is done in the proportion of 1 client in 8m², according to evidence defined in point 17 of this Decision and relevant guidelines.

42. It is obligatory to place information signs and disinfectants (or other means for cleaning), in each gym device for the purpose of awareness and disinfection of them by each client after use.

LL. [Guidelines and clarifications]

43. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue temporary, general and special guidelines for preventing and combating COVID-19, as follows:

- 43.1 Temporary Guideline for the application of general measures for preventing and combating COVID-19;
- 43.2 Temporary Guideline for the sector of personal services and businesses, industry, public administration and NGOs;
- 43.3 Temporary Guideline for educational institutions of all levels;
- 43.4 Temporary Guideline for gastronomy, hospitality, sales sector and shopping malls;
- 43.5 Temporary Guideline for religious gatherings, funerals, workshops and cultural activities,
- 43.6 Temporary Guideline for gyms, sports halls and other recreational and sports activities;
- 43.7 Temporary Guideline for public transport;
- 43.8 Temporary Guideline for health care institutions;
- 43.9 Temporary Guideline for civil aviation;
- 43.10 Temporary Guideline for correctional institutions, asylum centres and foreigner detention centres;

44. The guidelines referred to in point 43 are mandatory for all persons and sectors to which they apply.

45. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue clarifications, when needed, on the points of this decision.

M. [Implementation]

46. The Ministry of Health, FVA and the Kosovo Police, in cooperation with the municipal emergency headquarters, are obliged to monitor the implementation of this decision and to submit a weekly report to the Office of the Prime Minister (every Friday until 16:00).

47. The Ministry of Health, HUCSK and NIPHK shall be obliged to submit to the Office of the Prime Minister the weekly report (every Friday, at 16:00h), on the implementation of measures, the situation in health institutions, the epidemiological situation and forecasts for the next two weeks.

48. The Ministry of Health shall be obliged, based on Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo, to issue operational decisions, depending on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPHK.

49. The Kosovo Police and the responsible inspectorates shall be obliged to supervise the implementation of the measures, other decisions and relevant guidelines pursuant to Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo.
50. For violators of the measures, the competent bodies shall be obliged to impose punitive measures according to Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the territory of the Republic of Kosovo and other applicable laws.
51. The only authority that can provide an opinion on this decision is the Ministry of Health, while any other institution can provide clarifications on the respective categories to which this decision applies, only after the approval of that clarification by the Ministry of Health.

N. [Repeal of decision no. 01/25]

52. Government Decision no. 01/25 dated 12.08.2021 shall be repealed.

Nj. [Entry into force]

53. The decision shall enter into force on its publication day on the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo and shall be valid until 01.09.2021.

Reasoning

Measures to preserve public health and protect against COVID-19 have proven to be critical to limit COVID-19 transmission and reduce deaths.

According to the latest reports of the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo, the epidemiological situation with COVID-19 in Kosovo represents a vast increase of COVID-19 infection cases.

From the last 173 samples, 171 have resulted with the DELTA variant, or 98.84%. This makes it a high-risk situation. Based on ECDC data on the epidemiological situation with COVID 19, as well as the CDC report dated 10 August 2021 on the level of positive cases with SARS-Cov 2, in the last seven days, in most countries, despite the high rate of vaccination, there is an exponential increase in positive cases. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>; <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/cases-2019-ncov-eueea>

In such a situation, referring to the current data on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPHK, the Government has balanced the interest of preserving public health and economic interest, by taking measures which on one hand enable increased economic activity, while on the other hand control and prevent the distribution of COVID-19.

Considering that in the state of available scientific knowledge, the risks of transmission of the COVID-19 virus are reduced among people who have been vaccinated, recently cured or who have just tested negative for the presence of the COVID-19 virus, the Government has taken restrictive measures , in order to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19, in activities and businesses which bring together a large number of people in the same place, and in which maintaining physical distance is difficult and thus poses an increased risk of virus transmission.

The measures taken are proportionate to the health risks caused and appropriate to the circumstances of the time and place, as well as based on the authorizations of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the territory of the Republic of Kosovo. The measures taken through this decision do not define, in any case, the obligation of compulsory vaccination, since the restrictions imposed on the public can be met by presenting proof of vaccination status, the result of a test that concludes that the person is not infected with COVID-19, or that the person has recovered from COVID-19 and has sufficient antibodies.

The decision on measures against COVID-19 was based on an assessment of the situation of transmission intensity and the capacity of the health system to respond, but also by assessing them in light of the effects these measures may have on the overall well-being of society and individuals.

The Ministry of Health has coordinated decision-making with stakeholders, who have been directly or indirectly affected by the pandemic. The Government notes that these parties have exercised their right to democratic influence in decision-making, in accordance with Article 45.3 of the Constitution.

The measures set out in this decision as well as the timelines serve to keep the epidemiological situation under control but do not exclude the possibility of undertaking new restrictive or mitigating measures.

Therefore, based on the recommendations given by the NIPHK, line ministries, stakeholders and relevant experts, it was decided as in the enacting clause of this decision.

Albin KURTI

Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

Sent to:

- Deputy Prime Ministers
- All ministries (ministers)
- Municipalities;
- Responsible inspectorates;
- Kosovo Police;
- Secretary General of the OPM;
- Government Archive.



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government

No. 02/27
Date: 18.08.2021

Pursuant to Article 92 paragraph 4. And Article 93 paragraph (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Articles 42 and 83 of the Law No. 06/L-114 on Public Officials, according to Article 4 of Regulation No. 02/2021 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, in accordance with Article 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo No. 09/2011, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, in the meeting held on 18 August 2021 issues the following:

DECISION

1. The mandate of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Health, Mr. Naim Bardiqi, is extended for another four (4) years.
2. Mr. Naim Bardiqi, performs all duties and responsibilities defined by applicable law.
3. The Ministry of Health is obliged to implement this decision.
4. The decision enters into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

Albin KURTI

Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

Shall be forwarded to:

- Deputy Prime Ministers
- All ministries (ministers)
- Secretary General of the OPM
- Government Archive



Republika e Kosovës
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Qeveria - Vlada - Government

No. 03/27
Date: 18.08.2021

Pursuant to Article 92, paragraph 4 and Article 93, paragraph 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Law No. 07/L-030 on Ratification of the Framework Loan Agreement between the Council of Europe Development Bank and Kosovo - Public Sector Financing Instrument for Emergency Response to COVID-19, Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating the Covid-19 Pandemic in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 24 of the Law No. 07/L-041 on Budget Appropriations for the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo for 2021, as amended and supplemented with the Law No. 08/L-016, according to Article 4 of the Regulation No. 02/2021 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, in accordance with Article 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo No. 09/2011, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, in the meeting held on 18th of August 2021 issues the following:

DECISION

1. The request of the Ministry of Health for the temporary engagement of 1,116 (one thousand one hundred and sixteen) health professionals and support staff for the management of the Pandemic and support of the vaccination process against COVID-19, for three months, with the possibility of extension for another three months, in total amount of 3,192,854€ (three million one hundred ninety-two thousand eight hundred and fifty-four Euros) is hereby approved.
2. The funds according to point 1. of this decision are used from the budget of the Ministry of Health, sub-program Relevant Pharmaceutical Services with code 71300 (sub-code 71310), category of expenditures of goods and services, source of financing from loaning (source fund 04) from credit Public Sector Financing Instrument for Emergency Response to COVID-19, through reallocation of funds received from sub-code 71310, as follows:
 - 2.1. The amount of 1,596,427€ (one million five hundred and ninety-six thousand four hundred and twenty-seven Euros), is reallocated to sub-program 71301, code 00099, to compensate health professionals and support staff for the first three months;
 - 2.2. The remaining amount of 1,596,427€ (one million five hundred and ninety-six thousand four hundred and twenty-seven Euros), in case of continuation of the commitment for another three months can be reallocated according to point 2.1, at the request of the Ministry of Health addressed to the Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers.

3. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers are obliged to implement this decision.
4. The decision enters into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

Albin KURTI

Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

Shall be forwarded to:

- Deputy Prime Ministers
- All ministries (ministers)
- Secretary General of the OPM
- Government Archive

