



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

No. 17/16
Date: 22.06.2021

Pursuant to Article 92 paragraph 4, Article 93 paragraph 4 and Article 55 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 5 paragraph 2.4, Article 10 and Article 12 of Law no. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating the Covid-19 Pandemic in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 89 of Law No. 04/L-125 on Health, based on Article 4 of Regulation No. 02/2021 on Areas of Administrative Responsibility of the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministries, as well as pursuant to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo No. 01/11, dated 15.03.2020, on the Declaration of Emergency for Public Health, and in implementation of the recommendations of the NIPHK in order to control, prevent and combat the spread of SARS-CoV-2 virus, in accordance with Article 19 of 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 22 June 2021, issues the following:

DECISION

For general and specific measures for the control, prevention and combating of the COVID-19 pandemic

A. [Territorial application]

1. This decision applies to the entire territory of the Republic of Kosovo.

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

2. Foreign nationals entering the Republic of Kosovo, including those with temporary or permanent residence permits in Kosovo, coming 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, based on the principle of reciprocity
3. The following are exceptions from point 2:
 - 3.1. If the foreign citizen enters Kosovo through the airport or through land border crossing points and leaves Kosovo within three (3) hours through the airport or land border crossing points, provided that at the entrance they sign the declaration that he will leave Kosovo within three (3) hours;
 - 3.2. Foreign nationals working as professional transporters (drivers), provided that they comply with the international transport protocol for protection against COVID-19;
 - 3.3. Foreign citizens passing through Kosovo through organized transport by bus or regular international line, transit, provided that a declaration is signed that they will leave the territory of Kosovo within five (5) hours;
 - 3.4. Foreign diplomats accredited in Kosovo and their families;
 - 3.5. Persons who have a certificate of full vaccination against COVID-19;
 - 3.6. Persons with a positive serum antibody test result -IgG issued no later than thirty (30) days prior to arrival.

3.7. Children under the age of eleven (11) years.

C. [Special provisions for areas with disturbing variants of the virus]

4. Entry into the Republic of Kosovo is prohibited for persons who have visited India, Brazil and South Africa in the last two weeks, except:

4.1 Citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, persons with temporary or permanent residence permits in Kosovo, foreign diplomats and medical personnel, who upon entering Kosovo must present a negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19, made in the last 72 hours and who must be quarantined in their homes (place of residence) for fourteen (14) days, being tested twice a week. Quarantine may be terminated upon presentation of the negative RT-PCR test for COVID-19 made no earlier than five days after entry.

Ç. [Protection and safety at work]

5. Pregnant women are exempt from the obligation to be physically present at work. Public or private employers are instructed to give them the opportunity to work from home.

D. [General protection and hygiene measures]

6. 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.

7. 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 facility including the sign prohibiting entry to the facility without masks, respecting the distance.

8. Officials of public and private institutions and other entities are obliged to carry out disinfection and ventilation of enclosed spaces.

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.

Dh. [Education institutions]

10. Public and private institutions of all levels of education continue teaching according to the relevant guidelines for the education sector.

11. Dormitories are allowed to work according to rule of one student in a room.

12. All public and private institutions of all levels of education are prohibited from organizing excursions and group walks.

E. [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 regular submission to the relevant offices for recording purposes as required by the relevant laws.

È. [Contact Restrictions]

14. From 00:00 to 05:00, the gathering of more than ten (10) persons is prohibited.

F. [Restriction of public and private gatherings]

15. Indoor gatherings are allowed (meetings, seminars, trainings), provided that 30% of the space capacity is used (30 people per 100m²), but not more than two hundred (200) people, in cases when 30% of the capacity of space exceeds this number. The organizer is obliged to maintain a physical distance of 1.5 meters between persons.

15.1 Meetings of the Assembly and the Government are allowed regardless of the number of persons.

16. Outdoor gatherings are allowed, provided that 30% of the space capacity is used (30 persons per 100m²), but not more than two hundred and fifty (250) persons, in cases when 30% of the space capacity exceeds this, the organizer is obliged to maintain a physical distance of 1.5 meters between persons. Point 20 of this decision applies to parties.

17. Holding a reception for consolation is allowed by ensuring that participants wear masks and respect the distance of 1.5 meters, as well as strictly adhering to the relevant instruction.

G. [Organizing parties]

18. Weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights are allowed until 23:00.

19. Music is allowed until 22:45.

20. The organization of weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights, is allowed provided that 30% of the capacity of the space (30 people per 100m²) is used, but not more than two hundred (200) guests in cases when 30% of space capacity exceeds this number.

21. The distance between the tables should be three (3) meters.

22. For weddings, engagements, family parties and graduation evenings, it is obligatory to respect the special guidelines for parties.

Gj. [Gastronomy]

23. Gastronomy services are allowed to conduct their activity in accordance with the relevant guideline. Up to 50 clients are allowed per 100 m² (5 persons per 10 m²). The surface area is calculated for the area where food and drinks are served.

24. Gastronomy services are allowed to conduct their activity from 05:00 to 23:00.

25. Music is allowed until 22:45.

26. Premises managers must ensure that the distance between customers at different tables is at least one (1) meter.

27. The back of one chair, with the back of the other chair should be one (1) meter distance.

28. Up to 4 people are allowed at the table indoors. In case the tables are bigger than two (2) meters, then the precondition is to use the space considering the capacity of five (5) people in 10 m².
29. In the indoor spaces, food and beverage service is allowed only for guests who are sitting or standing on a table or counter;
30. Outdoor spaces are allowed up to six (6) persons at the table, counter or standing tables.
31. Each table should be equipped with disinfectants containing at least 60-70% alcohol.
32. Guidelines 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]

33. The activity of shopping centres is allowed according to the relevant guidelines.
34. 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 write at the entrance the maximum number of allowed customers inside at the same time. The area is calculated for the area where customers are allowed to stay.

I. [Work with parties]

35. 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]

36. Road transport operators with passengers are allowed to work, utilizing the full capacity of the seats, provided that staff and passengers wear the mask during all the time. Transport operators cannot have more passengers on the bus than the capacity of the seats.
37. Taxis are allowed to work with up to three (3) passengers.

K. [Theatres, libraries, etc.]

38. Theatres, libraries, philharmonics, galleries, ensembles, ballet, cinemas, youth centres, museums, cultural centres with groups or other similar institutions subordinated to the MCYS and municipalities (such as and the like) are allowed to work using 50 percent of the space/area of the respective facilities for all activities (both in performances and exercises).
39. Responsible people of organizing cultural activities should ensure that guests wear masks and respect the 1.5 meters' distance.

L. [Sports and recreation]

40. Training activities are allowed which must be carried out in accordance with local and international sports protocols.

41. Organization of sports competitions is allowed complying the protocols and recommendations of world organizations for the organization of sporting events and the protection measures of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo.
42. The number of participants in the competition (athletes, clubs, officials, and other participants necessary for the development of the competition) is determined by the sports federations respecting the distance measure and other protective measures.
43. In indoor sports activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 5% 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. The organizers of the competition are obliged to take specific measures in accordance with international protocols for management of the crowd (fans) before, during, and after entering the sports facility.
44. In competitive outdoor activities, the presence of spectators is allowed up to 15% of the capacity of the facility, or sports space (stadium, sports hall, swimming pools, other indoor spaces), respecting the distance measure of 1.5 meters and other protective measures. The organizers of the competition are obliged to take specific measures, in accordance with international protocols, for the management of the crowd (fans) before, during, and after entering the sports facility.
45. It is allowed to use gyms, sports halls and similar for individual recreational activities, according to the relevant guidelines.
46. The use of gyms, sport halls and the like is done in the proportion of 1 client in 8m².
47. The person in charge of gym/sport hall is obliged to take special care at the peak of the clients' visit, i.e. between 17:00 - 20:00, to respect the distance specified in the guideline.
48. It is obligatory to place information signs and disinfectants (or other means for cleaning) on each gym facility for the purpose of raising awareness and so that they are disinfected by each client after use.

L1. [Guidelines and clarifications]

49. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue temporary, general and special guidelines for preventing and combating COVID-19, as follows:
 - 49.1. Temporary Guideline for the application of general measures for preventing and combating COVID-19;
 - 49.2. Temporary Guideline for the sector of personal services and businesses, industry, public administration and NGOs;
 - 49.3. Temporary Guideline for educational institutions of all levels;
 - 49.4. Temporary Guideline for gastronomy, hospitality, sales sector and shopping malls;
 - 49.5. Temporary Guideline for religious gatherings, funerals, workshops and cultural activities,
 - 49.6. Temporary Guideline for gyms, sport halls and other recreational and sports activities;
 - 49.7. Temporary Guideline for public transport;
 - 49.8. Temporary Guideline for health care institutions;
 - 49.9. Temporary Guideline for civil aviation;
 - 49.10. Temporary Guideline for correctional institutions, asylum centres and foreigner detention centres;
 - 49.11. Temporary Guideline for weddings, engagements, family parties and prom nights.

50. The guidelines referred to in point 49 are mandatory for all persons and sectors to which they apply.
51. The Ministry of Health is obliged to issue clarifications, when needed, on the points of this decision.

M. [Implementation]

52. The Minister of Health, FVA and the Kosovo Police, in cooperation with the municipal emergency headquarters, are obliged to monitor the implementation of this decision and submit a weekly report to the Office of the Prime Minister (every Friday until 16:00).
53. The Ministry of Health, HUCSK and NIPHK are obliged to submit to the Office of the Prime Minister a weekly report (every Friday until 16:00) on the implementation of measures, the situation in health care institutions, the epidemiological situation and forecasts for the next two weeks.
54. The Ministry of Health is obliged to, on the basis of Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo, issue operational decisions depending on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPH.
55. The Kosovo Police and responsible inspectorates are obliged to monitor the implementation of measures, other decisions and the relevant guidelines for the implementation of the Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo.
56. For violators of measures, the competent bodies are obliged to impose punitive measures in accordance with the Law No. 07/L-006 on Preventing and Combating COVID-19 Pandemics in the Territory of the Republic of Kosovo and other applicable laws.
57. The Ministry of Health is the only authority mandated to interpret this Decision, while other institutions may provide clarifications on the respective categories to which this Decision applies only after the approval of such clarification by the Ministry of Health.

N. [Repeal of Decision No. 04/14]

58. Government Decisions repealed: Decision No. 04/14 dated 28.05.2021.

Nj. [Entry into force]

59. The decision enters into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo.

R e a s o n i n g

According to the report of the National Institute of Public Health of Kosovo, the epidemiological situation with COVID-19 in Kosovo is stable with the continuation of the decrease in the number of positive cases. The decrease of positive cases for the last two weeks compared to the previous two weeks marks a decrease of 64.26%, with an average number of 14.85 cases per day, compared to the previous two weeks with an average number of 41.57 cases.

In such a situation, referring to the current data on the epidemiological situation and the recommendations of the NIPHK, the Government imposes more relaxed measures that enable increased economic activity but at the same time aim to control the spread of infection.

The Ministry of Health has coordinated the decision-making with stakeholders affected directly or indirectly 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 facilitation of the measures was done by paying attention to three objectives:

- Preventing the spread of COVID-19 infection;
- Non-infringement of economic activities, but giving priority to preserving the life and health of the population;
- Preserving the mental and physical health of citizens.

The measures set out in this decision as well as the timelines serve to keep the epidemiological situation under control despite the optimistic epidemiological data in relation to COVID-19 infection.

The partial removal of restrictions is being done responsibly and with the necessary preparations to deal with an eventual situation of increasing of the number of infections, therefore, the change of the epidemiological situation consequently requires new decisions and measures in line with the new situation. Evaluation of new mitigation or restrictive measures will be done after two weeks.

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

To be sent to:

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