

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

No. 44-2147/4

Skopje, March 12, 2020

To MINISTRY OF HEALTH

SKOPJE

Excerpt

Of the Draft – Minutes of Meeting of the seventeenth session of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, held on March 12, 2020

“Item 1: Minutes of meeting of the Coordination Body for collecting and exchange of information for implementation of the measures on prevention of the occurrence, early detection, prevention of spreading and suppression of the coronavirus infection, held on March 12, 2020, with List of chronic conditions diagnoses and Explanation about the declaring Pandemic by the World Health Organization

The Government has considered the Report from the meeting of the Coordination Body for collecting and exchange of information for implementation of the measures on prevention of the occurrence, early detection, prevention of spreading and suppression of the coronavirus infection, held on March 12, 2020, with List of chronic conditions diagnoses and Explanation about the declaring Pandemic by the World Health and according thereof the proposals given during the session discussion, and for the purpose of prevention and spreading of this virus, has adopted the following conclusions, measures and recommendations:

1. According to the determined categories of persons who should be released from work and work activities based on the enclosed confirmation receipt by their family doctors/primary care doctors for the following conditions: 1) Chronic respiratory diseases, 2) Severe cardiovascular diseases, 3) diabetes – Type 1; 4) malignant diseases; and 5) immune compromising conditions, has accepted the list of chronic diseases diagnoses received in consultation with the directors of the Clinics for endocrinology, pulmonology, cardiology and nephrology, and it is as follows:
 - 1.1. Chronic respiratory diseases:
 - HOBBS – Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease J44
 - Asthma – J45
 - Interstitial fibrosis – J84
 - 1.2. Severe cardiovascular diseases:
 - Heart failure with EF<40
 - Acute myocardial infarction to 3 months
 - Heart diseases with severe pulmonary hypertension
 - Severe aortic and mitral stenosis
 - Inflammatory diseases of heart (myocarditis, endocarditis) <6 months
 - Implanted pacemaker or heart device up to 3 months
 - Deep venous thrombosis up to 3 months
 - 1.3. Diabetes mellitus

- Diabetes type I – insulin dependent
 - Diabetes type II on insulin therapy with comorbidity:
Myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular insult, stenosis on peripheral circulation and HBI
- 1.4. All malignant diseases – C00-C97
 - 1.5. Immune compromising conditions:
 - Transplanted kidney – Z94.0
 - Chronic nephrotic syndrome – N04.9
 - Intermittent hemodialysis – Z99.2
 - Conditions with biological or combined immune modulated therapy – M05, M06, M45.00
 - Necrotizing vasculopathies, systemic erythematosus lupus, dermatopolymyositis, systemic sclerosis – M31 – M34.
 2. To stop working all cinemas, theaters, playgrounds and museums and all other institutions, where mass gatherings, events or concerts or other cultural-informative events may take place, that is, complete prohibition for holding an organizing any kind of public, private gatherings, no matter the volume and number of participants during this period.
 3. To stop the work and to close all sports facilities or gyms, where any kind of gatherings and event can take place, regardless the volume and number of participants during this period.
 4. Catering facilities, cafeteria, bars, restaurants, clubs, casinos, and sports bets to work with shortened working hours, from 07.00h until 18.00h, with half of their capacity for guests, that is, to keep the minimum distance of at least 1 ½ - 2 meters between people staying within this facilities.
 5. To prohibit entry to the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia to foreign citizens from the high risk countries according to the List of WHO published on the Ministry of Health web site, except for those who will submit confirmation receipt issued by a competent authority for completed quarantine.
 6. To implement measures on penalties according to Article 205 and 206 of the Criminal Code for all natural persons and legal entities violating the adopted resolutions by the State Sanitary and Health Inspectorate and to proceed thereof to the Public Prosecution of the Republic of North Macedonia to act according to legally defined competencies thereof.
 7. Taking into consideration that the border crossing “Ribarci” in the Republic of Serbia as of today, March 12, 2020 (Thursday) as of 7.00h, has been closed for transfer of passengers and vehicles according to the instructions by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, all passengers and vehicles from the border crossing “GolemaCrcorija” – Golesh (KrivaPalanka region) in the Republic of North Macedonia to be redirected to the border crossings that are opened for free passengers and vehicles flow.
 8. Considering that the Prohor Pciniski border crossing is closed for passage for passengers and vehicles from 12 March 2020 (Thursday) from 07:00 in accordance with the instructions of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, all passengers and vehicles from border crossing Pelince in the Republic of North Macedonia to redirect to the joint border crossing with the Republic of Serbia-Tabanovce - Presevo.

9. For all chronically ill patients who have previously scheduled surgery and there is possibility, to be postponed, or to perform only urgent surgical interventions, especially oncology.
10. Regarding the continuation of therapy for chronically ill patients who by now had to visit a specialist doctor in the following days to turn to their GPs. This measure does not apply to newly diagnosed patients.
11. With regard to the emerging situation and the local transmission with spread of the disease COVID 19 on the territory of Debar and Center Zupa, Ministry of Health is in charge in cooperation with public health centers to take additional measures to protect against spreading of this virus, ie to mobilize medical teams with an epidemiologist from Ohrid and an infectologist or a doctor (or an infectologist who is employed in Capa spas, to be put into service for the needs of public health centers).

For these measures by the end of today to submit Report, with aim Ministry of Health to issue preventive statement on the territory of the municipalities of Debar and Centar Zupa, for the possibility of introduction of quarantine.
12. To terminate the specialization of all specializing and subspecialists doctors employed in the Health Center Skopje for a period of 14 days and return to their workplace in the home institution.
13. The Ministry of Health is obliged, in cooperation with the public health facilities, to immediately increase the capacity for the needs of Home Visit service and to include doctors of general practice and mentors.
14. The Ministry of Information Society and Administration is obligated in co-operation with the Ministry of Health and telephone and mobile operators, to consider sending a circular message through mobile applications (sms, webmail, etc.), with recommendations especially to the younger population, to respect the conclusions, measures and recommendations regarding the prevention and spread of COVID - 19. For o this purpose, consider using the existing mobile application Moj DDV (MY VAT).
15. M-NAV AD Skopje and Ministry of Health are obliged to undertake the following activities to inform participants of the air traffic, measures and activities to prevent the spread of disease COVID-19 (corona virus):
 - 15.1. M-NAV AD Skopje is obliged to issue the following NOTAM messages:

NOTAM 1 - Airlines, with their staff – crews are obliged to collect PLF (passenger locator form) forms during their flights, from passengers, to review them and submit them to their agent upon arrival in the Republic North Macedonia. Authorized agent of the airline is obliged to submit PLF (passenger locator form) to emergency medical service at TAV DOOEL Macedonia - Skopje International Airport and to medical service at “St. Paul the Apostle”- Ohrid, responsible for monitoring the prevention measures and activities against spread of the disease COVID-19 (coronavirus).

All passengers, crew and operating personnel at arrival by plane to the Republic of North Macedonia must fill out the PLF (passenger locator form) .

All PLF (passenger locator form) must be collected by the crew, checked and counted and submitted to the agent immediately upon landing.

NOTAM 2 - Airlines, after previously obtained information from the competent services of the Republic of North Macedonia in charge to monitor the measures and activities to prevent the spread of the disease COVID-19 (corona virus), are obliged before taking off, to inform passengers of the precautions in force upon entering the Republic of North Macedonia, in accordance the current situation and the measures and activities taken for the prevention of the spread of the disease COVID -19 (corona virus), proposed by the Ministry of Health.

- all airlines arriving in the Republic of North Macedonia, to inform their passengers before entering the aircraft, for the following:

a) all foreign nationals entering the Republic North Macedonia, who in the last 14 days visited the following countries / territories: (list of countries to which the measure taken - the list will be renewed on a daily basis and submitted to MNAV AD Skopje (Department of NOTAM) by Ministry of Health, at the following e-mail address: notam@mnavigation.mk , will be subject to the mandatory 14 daily self - isolation.

b) all foreign nationals who do not have a regular residence in The Republic of North Macedonia must own proof of reserved accommodation. This obligation will be subject to modification depending on the further development of the situation.

c) all nationals of the Republic of Northern Macedonia who in the last 14 days have visited the following countries / territories: (list of countries to which the measure taken - the list will be renewed on a daily basis and submitted to MNAV AD Skopje (Department of NOTAM) by Ministry of Health, at the following e-mail address: notam@mnavigation.mk , will be subject to the mandatory 14 daily self - isolation.

This 14-day period shall be calculated from the last day of residence in the country / territory at risk, according to the list of countries of the World Health Organization.

16. The Ministry of Health is obliged to regularly, on a daily basis, submit a list of countries to which are valid the measures and activities for prevention of the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) disease, to M-NAV AD Skopje.
17. The Ministry of Health is obliged to inform the Civil Aviation Agency immediately for these conclusions, measures and recommendations of the Government.
18. Recommended is for Macedonian Radio Television, on a regular basis, daily to allocate space for educational program for children from preschool and elementary schools, that will be prepared by the Ministry of Education and Science and the Bureau for development of education, in collaboration with the educational staff of kindergartens and schools, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs , UNESCO and all relevant educational institutions.
For this purpose Ministry of Education and Science - Bureau for development of education is obligated, as soon as possible to prepare urgent educational program in the languages covered by the educational process and to broadcast it in cooperation with Macedonian Radio Television on daily basis.

- It is also in charge of the Ministry of Education and Science to share materials across all social networks and channels.
19. To appeal to the citizens of our country living in countries with high and medium risk of delaying their arrival in the country during this period.
 20. All Ministries are required to form their own teams, to designate separate email and telephone line to provide information on administrative matters related to implementation of recommendations and measures for the management of coronavirus COVID-19 and the data from the formed team and their contact information shall be submitted to the Department of Public Relations of the Government which will publish them on the web site of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia.
 21. Assigned is Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of finance, Public Revenue Office and Customs Administration, to nominate persons for contact with chambers of commerce (for communication with the real sector) and to submit them to the chambers of commerce in order to provide them on a regular basis to receive conclusions from Government sessions and respond in a timely manner on questions asked about the implementation of recommendations and measures for prevention of coronavirus COVID-19.
 22. All conclusions, measures and recommendations adopted by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia to be submitted to all Ministries for publication on their websites.
 23. The Ministry of Health is obligated, all materials related to prevention of the spread of coronavirus COVID-19 to translate them into Albanian language.
 24. Ministry of Foreign Affairs is obligated, through diplomacy - consular offices of the Republic of North Macedonia, to inform our nationals abroad about high risk countries, according to the List of World Health Organization.
 25. Reviewed was the request by Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of North Macedonia for the realization of the Spa and Climate Recreation Project for 2020 and concluded that the realization and implementation of the first group of the Project to be postponed.
 26. The Public Relations Department of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia should immediately publish these conclusions, measures and recommendations on the website of the Government and submit them all in writing and electronically to the media, in order to regularly inform the citizens.

Having regard to the foregoing, for the purpose of ordering measures for prevention of ingestion and spread and the possibility of contamination from Coronavirus COVID-19, with the aim of providing health protection to the population on the territory of the Republic of North Macedonia,

The Government has adopted this decision.

**SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

Dragi Raskovski, PhD

APPENDICES:

- List of diagnoses of chronic conditions;
- Explanation of declaring Pandemic by World Health Organization;
- PLF (passenger locator form) translated into Macedonian

SUBMITTED TO:

- All state institutions
- Association of the units of local self-government
- Department of Public Relations of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
- Chambers of Commerce in the Republic of North Macedonia

//This document is a translation from Macedonian to English of the original Government Announcement published here: <https://bit.ly/2TNVdF9>