

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES

As the administrative authority with jurisdiction pursuant to Section 80(1)(h) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on the Protection of Public Health and on amendments to some related acts, as amended (hereinafter "Act No. 258/2000 Coll."), the Ministry of Health **orders** the following protective measures, by the procedure pursuant to section 68(1) and (3) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., to protect against the introduction of the new coronavirus 2019-nCoV from foreign countries through international airports in the Czech Republic:

### I.

**All airlines operating direct flights from all airports within the territory of the regions of Emilia-Romagna, Piedmont, Lombardy and Venice in the Italian Republic, with passengers on board the aircraft, to all airports within the territory of the Czech Republic, are forbidden to operate these flights for the period of the following 14 days effective from Thursday 5 March 2020.**

### II.

This protective measure becomes valid on the date it is announced.

### Reasoning:

This extraordinary measure is issued in relation to the unfavourable development of the epidemiological situation in relation to occurrence of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new coronavirus identified as SARS-CoV-2 in the regions of Emilia-Romagna, Piedmont, Lombardy and Venice in the Italian Republic. The purpose of this measure is to create conditions preventing the spread of this disease.

The new coronavirus identified as SARS-CoV-2 is causing an exponentially growing epidemic in these regions in the Italian Republic, with the potential to double the numbers of infected individuals every 5 to 7 days and with a mortality rate of around 2.5%. Not even strict anti-epidemic measures within the territories of these regions are currently leading to effective control and this disease has now also spread to the Czech Republic.

The number of infected individuals in nearby Italy has increased rapidly within a short period, from several individuals to over 1,700 patients at this time. The epidemic is particularly present in the northern regions of Italy, in Lombardy, Venice, Emilia-Romagna and Piedmont. There are currently approx. 20,000 people from the Czech Republic in these areas, particularly at the local skiing resorts, who are continuously returning to the Czech Republic.

For the reasons set out above it is desirable to restrict or prohibit current and potential new direct flights from the aforementioned regions in the Italian Republic to the Czech Republic for the specified period.

This measure applies to all airlines operating direct flights from the aforementioned areas to the Czech Republic.

This measure is one of the important conditions for preventing the further introduction and spread of infection by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 within the territory of the Czech Republic.

(round stamp with state emblem)

Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic

(illegible signature)

**Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA**

Minister of Health