EXTRAORDINARY MEASURE

The Ministry of Health, as the competent administrative authority, pursuant to Section 80(1)(g) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on Public Health Protection and amendments to certain related acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 258/2000 Coll.”), orders this extraordinary measure, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(i) and (2) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., in order to protect the population and prevent the occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus:

I.

1. Retail sales and sale of services at establishments shall be prohibited, with the exception of the following stores or establishments:
   - food,
   - fuel,
   - propellants,
   - hygienic goods, cosmetics and other toiletries and household products,
   - pharmacies, dispensaries and medical device shops,
   - small pets,
   - animal feed and other supplies for animals,
   - glasses, contact lenses and related goods,
   - newspapers and magazines,
   - tobacco products,
   - laundry and dry cleaning services,
   - repair of road vehicles, if there are not more than 30 persons in the establishment at the same time,
- towing and the removal of defects of vehicles in traffic on roads,
- sale of spare parts for vehicles and production technologies,
- establishments enabling the collection of goods and shipment from third parties,
- sale of gardening supplies including seeds and seedlings,
- ticket sales,
- spa facilities, provided that only spa services covered at least in part from public health insurance are provided,
- funeral services,
- flower shops,
- construction of buildings and their removal, project-related activities in construction, geological work, surveying, testing, measurement and analysis in construction,
- sale of textiles and haberdashery,
- service of computer and telecommunication equipment, audio and video receivers, consumer electronics, devices and other household products,
- real estate brokering and activities of accounting advisors, accounting, keeping tax records,
- locksmithery and servicing of other household products,
- repair, maintenance and installation of household machinery and equipment,
- operation of burial grounds, carrying out embalming and preservation, incineration of human remains, including the placing of human remains into urns,
- car washes,
- household goods, if protective equipment for the respiratory passages such as respirators, face masks, kerchiefs, scarves or other resources that prevent the spreading of droplets, gloves and disinfection can be purchased at the store,
- hobby markets, building supply and material stores and hardware stores,
- bicycle stores and repair shops,
- raw material collection and buyback yards and composting yards, where the sale of the listed goods or services represents a major part of the activities of the establishment concerned. This prohibition does not apply to activities that are not trades under the Trade Licensing Act. Furthermore, this prohibition does not apply to the sale of food at stores for which the sale of food does not constitute the primary activity of the given store, but the part of the store where food is sold is separated from the other parts of the store.

2. It is ordered that the following rules be observed at the establishments pursuant to paragraph 1, which are allowed to operate:

- to actively prevent customers from coming closer than 2 meters to each other,
- to ensure the management of queues of waiting customers, both inside and outside the store, particularly by marking the waiting area and placing symbols indicating the minimal distance between customers (a minimal distance of 2 m),
- to place disinfectant products near frequently touched objects (especially handles, railings, shopping carts), so that it is available to employees and customers of the establishment and can be used for regular disinfection,
- to ensure that workers at the establishment wear gloves when coming into contact with goods or accepting payments from customers,
- to ensure that customers are informed of the above rules, primarily by means of information posters at the entrance and throughout the establishment, or by stating the rules through loudspeaker announcements in the establishment.

3. The presence of the public at establishments offering dining services, with the exception of establishments not serving the general public (e.g., staff dining, dining for healthcare and social services providers, penal institutions) shall be prohibited; this prohibition shall not apply to sales for consumption outside of the dining establishment (e.g., fast-food establishments with a dispensing windows or take-out foods where the customer does not enter the establishment).

4. Sales at dining service establishments located within shopping malls with a sales area exceeding 5,000 m² are be prohibited.

5. It is ordered that the sale of unpackaged bakery goods is permitted only if the following conditions are met:
   - it is ensured that there is no crowding together of people at the bakery product collection points,
   - the point of sale is equipped with personal hygiene aids.

6. It is ordered that business owners operating a self-service grocery store provide disposable gloves free of charge to customers at each entrance to such a shop, or other similar hand protection (e.g. plastic bags).

7. The following is prohibited:
   - gambling and casino operations,
   - operation of driving schools,
   - operation of a taxi service, with the exception of taxis delivering foodstuffs or persons authorized to be a taxi driver,
   - operation of self-service laundries and dry cleaners,
   - public presence on the premises of service providers, including indoor sports grounds.

8. The sale of accommodation services is prohibited, with the exception of persons providing accommodation in residences, spa facilities, and school accommodation facilities. This prohibition does not apply to the sale and provision of accommodation services:
   - to persons engaged in the performance of an occupation, business or other similar activity,
   - foreigners until they leave the Czech Republic and foreigners with a work permit in the Czech Republic, and
   - persons who have been ordered into quarantine by the public health authority.

9. This extraordinary measure is issued with effect from 0:00 a.m. on 7 April 2020 until the end of the state of emergency, except for the items under paragraph I/1 “hobby markets, building supply and material stores and hardware stores” and “bicycle stores and repair shops”, and under paragraph I/2, which come into effect from 0:00 a.m. on 9 April 2020.

II.

With effect from 0:00 a.m. on 7 March 2020, the extraordinary measure of 1 April 2020 Ref. No. MZDR 13361/2020-3/MIN/KAN is repealed.
This extraordinary measure takes effect on the date of its issue.

Rationale:

The Extraordinary Measure has been issued in connection with the adverse development of the epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease, caused by the novel coronavirus designated as SARS-CoV-2 in Europe.

Given the current spread of the COVID-19 disease in the Czech Republic and in most countries around the world, it is necessary to prevent the further spread of the COVID-19 disease, which the World Health Organisation declared a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

Since 1 March 2020, when the COVID-19 disease was first proven in a patient in the Czech Republic, the number of cases has grown to 2,657 (as at 28 March 2020). The daily increase in the number of patients newly proven to have the COVID-19 disease has exceeded 200 in recent days (25 March: 291, 26 March: 259, 27 March: 373, 28 March: 262).

This Measure is an important prerequisite for preventing the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV2 coronavirus in the Czech Republic. The coronavirus is transmitted from person to person in close contact. It is known as a droplet infection, which is airborne. Most frequently, it affects the mucous membranes of the upper and lower respiratory tract, and the conjunctives. The incubation period is two to fourteen days. The most common ways for the virus to enter the human body are the mucous membranes, meaning the mouth, nose and also the eyes. These places are an open door for the virus.

The aim of this measure is to close inessential stores and establishments so as to prevent contact with other persons and maximally limit the community transmission of the COVID-19 disease. Yet, given the progressive development of the epidemic, it is suitable to allow the partial renewal of operations of certain establishments. However, important rules are stipulated for maintaining the required distance between persons and their enforcement, including the use of personal protective equipment and disinfectant products.

Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA
Minister of Health

Signed electronically