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, orders this Extraordinary Measure, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(b) 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.

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 4 May 2021, the extraordinary measure of 29 April 2021 Ref. No. MZDR 14600/2021-6/MIN/KAN is amended, in that:

1. in Art. I(6), the new letters (d) and (e) are added after letter (c), which shall read:

“d) at primary art schools in the Karlovy Vary, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Pardubice, Plzeň, Central Bohemian regions and the City of Prague, group consultations or schooling on indoor or outdoor premises with maximally 3 pupils in one group,

e) at primary art schools in the Karlovy Vary, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Pardubice, Plzeň, Central Bohemian regions and the City of Prague, consultations or schooling conducted on outdoor premises, with more than 3 pupils but maximally 20 persons in one group, under the condition that there is at least 15 m² of space per person, and the conditions under point 15 are met,”;

2. In Art. I(7) at the end of letter (a), the word “and” is replaced with a comma and the new letters (c) and (d) are added after letter (b), which shall read:

“c) consultations or schooling in the Karlovy Vary, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Pardubice, Plzeň, Central Bohemian regions and the City of Prague, conducted on indoor or outdoor premises with maximally 3 participants in one group,d) consultations or schooling in the Karlovy Vary, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Pardubice, Plzeň, Central Bohemian regions and the City of Prague, conducted on outdoor premises, with more than 3 participants but maximally 20 persons in one group, under the condition that there is at least 15 m² of space per person, and the conditions under point 15 are met,”;

3. In Art. I, a new point 15 will be added after point 14, which shall read:

“15. by stipulating the following conditions for participation in schooling, if required by this extraordinary measure: the participant or pupil

   a) shall demonstrate that

      i) they have taken an RT-PCR test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus antigen with a negative result no more than 7 days ago, or

      ii) they have taken a POC test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus antigen with a
negative result no more than 72 hours ago, or

iii) they have been issued a certificate by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic on vaccination against COVID-19, and at least 14 days have passed since the application of the second dose of a vaccine in the case of a two-dose scheme in accordance with the summary of product characteristics (hereinafter “SPC”) or at least 14 days have passed since the application of the first dose of a vaccine in the case of a single-dose scheme in accordance with the SPC, or

iv) they have undergone a laboratory-confirmed instance of COVID-19, where the period of isolation in accordance with a valid extraordinary measure of the Ministry of Health has ended, and no more than 90 days have passed since the first positive RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 or POC antigen test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 antigen, or

b) they present a statutory declaration or a statutory declaration of their legal representative stating that they took an antigen test for SARS-CoV-2 intended for self-testing or certified under the Ministry of Health for use by the general public at least in the preceding 72 hours, that the result was negative, or

c) they take an antigen test for SARS-CoV-2 intended for self-testing or certified under the Ministry of Health for use by the general public at least in the preceding 72 hours, with a negative result, or

d) they present a confirmation from their employer demonstrating that they took an antigen test for SARS-CoV-2 intended for self-testing or certified under the Ministry of Health for use by the general public at least in the preceding 72 hours, and that the result was negative;

a participant or pupil who does not meet these conditions will not be allowed to participate in schooling by the school or school facility."

II.

This extraordinary measure takes effect on the date of its issue.

Rationale:

Due to the current favourable epidemiological situation in the Karlovy Vary, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Pardubice, Plzeň, Central Bohemian regions and the City of Prague regarding the incidence of COVID-19, characterized by the gradual and continuous decline in all the monitored parameters, i.e. seven-day incidence values, seven-day rolling average, number of cases in the senior population group, number of hospitalizations (both total and in intensive care units), it is possible to ease in-person schooling or consultations at primary art schools or educational care centers.

In the Karlovy Vary and Hradec Králové regions, the seven-day incidence value is around 50 cases per 100,000 inhabitants per 7 days, which is three times lower than the national average; in the Plzeň region, the seven-day incidence value is on the limit of 100 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, and in the Liberec, Pardubice, Central Bohemian regions and in the City of Prague, the seven-day incidence value is close to 100 cases per 100,000 inhabitants. In-person schooling or consultation is allowed for groups of up to maximally 3 participants, both on indoor and outdoor premises. The improving epidemiological situation enables the organization of in-person schooling or consultations in smaller groups of participants without the condition of mandatory testing. Only on outdoor premises, in-person schooling or consultations can be conducted in larger groups of over 3 participant up to a maximum capacity of 20 persons in the group. Given that the epidemiological situation is improving, it is appropriate to allow schooling or consultations at educational care facilities in limited numbers, while observing other measures. Given that the participants are not subject to mandatory testing for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or its antigen, it is essential that the participants fulfill the conditions stipulated in this extraordinary measure, i.e. demonstrate that they have the negative result of such a test. This is a legitimate requirement, the purpose of which is to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 virus transmission. To fulfill this condition, it will suffice to present a negative result of an antigen test performed by the participant (or performed by another
non-professional, e.g. parent) at the location before joining the group.

Prof. MUDr. Petr Arenberger, DrSc., MBA, undersigned
Minister of Health