



Prague, 26th October 2021

Ref. no.: MZDR 20599/2020-126/MIN/KAN

PROTECTIVE MEASURE

The Ministry of Health, as the authorised administrative body under Section 80(1)(h) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on the Protection of Public Health and on changes to certain related Acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 258/2000 Coll.”) **has decreed** the following protective measure through a procedure defined in Section 68(1) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll. to provide protection from the introduction of COVID-19 caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2:

I.

With effect as of 27 October 2021, 00:00 it has been

I. ordered

A. Arrivals from Countries with a Low and Medium Risk of Infection

1. that all persons who stayed in the territories of the countries, which are on the list of countries or territories with a low or medium risk of incidence of COVID-19 for more than 12 hours during the last 14 days,
 - a) are required to complete Public Health Passenger Locator Form before entering the territory of the Czech Republic;
 - b) are required to submit themselves to an RT-PCR or a RAT test before entering the Czech Republic or no later than within 5 days after entering the Czech Republic;
 - c) when requested to do so during a border or residence check, are required to present a document confirming that they filled out the Public Health Passenger Locator Form or a written document that an exemption applies to the given person according to this Protective Measure;

the definition of the Public Health Passenger Locator Form is stated in clause III.2 and the test requirements are specified in clause III.3;

2. that persons referred to in clause I.5 are exempt from the obligations stated in clause I.1; exemptions from partial obligations are defined in clauses I.6 through I.10;

B. Arrivals from Countries with a High and Very High Risk of Infection

3. that all persons who stayed in the territories of the countries, which are on the list of countries or territories with a high or very high risk of incidence of COVID-19 for more than 12 hours during the last 14 days,
 - a) are required to complete Public Health Passenger Locator Form before entering the territory of the Czech Republic;
 - b) are required to have the result of an RT-PCR test before entering the territory of the Czech Republic;



- c) when requested to do so during a border or residence check, are required to present a document confirming that they filled out Public Health Passenger Locator Form, the result of a test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or written evidence that an exemption defined in this Protective Measure applies to the given person;
- d) are required submit themselves to an RT-PCR test not earlier than on the 5th day but no later than on the 7th day after their entry into the territory of the Czech Republic, unless the public health protection authority decides otherwise in a completely exceptional case;
- e) whenever they leave their place of accommodation, they are required to wear a respirator or a similar piece of equipment (without an expiratory valve) complying with all the minimum technical conditions are requirements (for the product), including the filtration capability of at least 94 % according to the applicable standards (such as FFP2, KN 95) until presenting a negative result of an RT-PCR test as specified in item c;

the definition of the Public Health Passenger Locator Form is stated in clause III.2; and the test requirements are specified in clause III.3;

- 4. that persons referred to in clause I.5 are exempt from the obligations stated in clause I.3; exemptions from partial obligations are defined in clauses I.6 through I.10;

C. Exemptions from Anti-epidemic Measures

C. a) Exemptions from all anti-epidemic measures defined in this Protective Measure

- 5. that the obligations arising from the anti-epidemic measures implemented under this Protective Measure and relating to arrivals from countries with a low, medium, high and very high risk of incidence of COVID-19 do not apply to:
 - a) international transport employees, if the reason for entry is supported by adequate documentary evidence;
 - b) persons who are authorised to enter the territory of the Czech Republic who
 - i) transit through the Czech Republic via a land route for less than 12 hours;
 - ii) travel to or from the Czech Republic via a land route for a period of time not exceeding 12 hours; with travels from third countries with a very high risk of infection, it is only possible to travel to the Czech Republic for the reason of necessary travel specified in clauses III.10(a) through (f);
 - iii) travel via a land route directly to or directly from neighbouring countries for a period of time not exceeding 24 hours;
 - c) accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including personal servants, holders of service passports issued by the Czech Republic and holders of diplomatic passports travel to or from the Czech Republic for purposes of official business and officials of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs travelling to or from the Czech Republic for purposes of official business, provided that their stay in the territory or outside the territory does not exceed 72 hours;
 - d) minor persons with an intellectual disability, with an autism spectrum disorder and a cognitive disorder or with a severe alteration in mental status, whose mental capabilities or current mental status does not allow for complying with this Protective Measure and who have had a medical certificate issued in English for this purpose by



- a physician practicing in the Czech Republic or in another Member State of the European Union; the certificate must contain a seal and the physician's identification information and telephone number;
- e) cross-border workers, pupils and students who legally cross the state border with the Czech Republic to or from a neighbouring country on a regular basis at least once a week for the purpose of performing work or receiving education, and persons who travel to or from a neighbouring country for the purpose of exercising the right of custody of a minor child or the right of contacting a minor child, or for the purpose of visiting a husband or a registered partner who is employed or studies in a neighbouring country;
 - f) officials of the Penitentiary Service or police officers escorting individuals or serving as security officers accompanying airplanes;
 - g) cross-border collaboration in actions of the integrated rescue system forces.
 - h) children less than 12 years of age;

C. b) Exemptions from certain anti-epidemic measures under this Protective Measure

6. that to vaccinated persons with a national certificate on vaccination that has been carried out, to vaccinated persons with a national certificate of completed vaccination and to persons who have had COVID-19, are required to complete Public Health Passenger Locator Form before entering the territory of the Czech Republic; and when requested to do so during a border or residence check, are required to present a document confirming that they filled out the Public Health Passenger Locator Form; persons referred to in this clause are specified in clause III. of this Protective Measure;

7. that the obligation to have the result of an RT-PCR test before a travel does not apply to a holder of a diplomatic note issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the impossibility to procure a test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus outside the territory of the Czech Republic;

8. that if persons arrive by a means of public transport, such persons are allowed to only have the result of a RAT test instead of the result of an RT-PCR test before entering the territory of the Czech Republic, and if persons arrive otherwise than by a means of public transport such persons are exempt from the obligation to have a test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus before entering the territory of the Czech Republic, provided that such persons are

- a) citizens of the Czech Republic and their co-travelling family members with an issued permit for temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic;
- b) citizens of the European Union with an issued certificate of temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic;
- c) foreign nationals with a permit for permanent residence in the territory of the Czech Republic, issued by the Czech Republic;

9. that if a person travels by a means of public transport directly to or directly from neighbouring countries for a period of time not exceeding 24 hours, such a person only has the obligation to have the result of a test before the travel and this can also be the result of an RAT test;



10. that the workers servicing the critical infrastructure whose performance of their activities is in the interest of the Czech Republic are exempt from the obligation to submit themselves to a test in the territory of the Czech Republic; however, whenever they leave their place of accommodation, they are required to wear a respirator or a similar piece of equipment (without an expiratory valve) complying with all the minimum technical conditions are requirements (for the product), including the filtration capability of at least 94 % according to the applicable standards (such as FFP2, KN 95) for a period of 14 days after entering the territory of the Czech Republic;

D. Arrival of Covid-positive Persons

11. that the persons with COVID-19, except for the persons specified in clause I.12, are prohibited from entering the territory of the Czech Republic;

12. the citizens of the Czech Republic and their co-travelling family members with an issued permit for temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic, the citizens of the European Union with an issued certificate of temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic and the foreign nationals with a permit for permanent residence in the territory of the Czech Republic, issued by the Czech Republic, in whom a test proved the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus less than 14 days before their planned entry into the territory of the Czech Republic,

- a) to transport themselves to and subsequently within the territory of the Czech Republic by individual means of transport, if possible;
- b) if they are travelling by means of public transport, to notify the carrier of possible persisting COVID-19 before starting the travel;
- c) to notify the regional Public Health Office with territorial jurisdiction immediately after entering the territory of the Czech Republic regardless of the means of transport;
- d) whenever they leave their place of accommodation, they are required to wear a respirator or a similar piece of equipment (without an expiratory valve) complying with all the minimum technical conditions are requirements (for the product), including the filtration capability of at least 94 % according to the applicable standards (such as FFP2, KN 95), until the self-isolation is completed;

E. Other Obligations of Persons and Government Authorities Relating to the Prevention of the Introduction or Spreading of COVID-19

13. the embassies of the Czech Republic in third countries to accept only visa applications and applications for temporary and permanent residence permits, if the applications fall into the following categories:

- a) all the applications filed in third countries, which are on the list of countries or territories with a low risk of infection;
- b) all the applications for short-term visas of those persons who, under this Protective Measure, are holders of a national certificate on vaccination that has been carried out or a national certificate of completed vaccination or those persons who have had COVID-19, and the period of validity of the certificate is longer than the period of validity of the short-term visa applied for; an embassy may determine preferential office hours for submission of such applications;



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- c) applications for long-term or permanent residence permits; an embassy may determine preferential office hours for submission of such applications;
 - d) applications for long-term visas;
 - e) applications for short-term visas
 - i. for the purpose of seasonal employment or for the purpose of employment, if the foreign national is going to be employed in food production, health care or social services, or short-term visas for the purpose of employment, if the applications are filed by citizens of Ukraine in Ukraine, unless they exceed the maximum number of such applications determined by the Ministry of foreign Affairs in consultation with the Ministry of Health;
 - ii. for scientists, key and highly skilled workers, provided that the conditions defined in the Key and Scientific Staff Programme and the Highly Skilled Employee Programme are met, and for workers servicing the critical infrastructure;
 - iii. for the reason specified in clauses II.1(d) through (j) as well as if the person is a minor child travelling with their legal guardian or another person who are holders of a national certificate of vaccination that has been carried out or a national certificate of completed vaccination or if the person is someone who has had COVID-19 and the period of validity of the certificate is longer than the period of validity of the visa;
14. the embassies of the Czech Republic in third countries and the Ministry of the Interior to stay all proceedings on applications for visa and residence permits filed at the embassies of the Czech Republic in third countries for those states whose measures implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic do not allow to carry out operations;
15. the embassies of the Czech Republic in third countries to enter a visa into a travel document based only on those applications, which can be accepted under clause I.13 or for which the proceedings were not stayed according to clause I.14;
16. third country nationals, who intend to enter the territory of the Czech Republic for the purpose of employment, to present a current certificate from the employer that the employer will employ the foreign national no later than before a long-term visa or a visa for the purpose of collection of a residence permit is entered into their travel document, if more than 90 days elapsed since the filing of an application for a long-term visa or a long-term residence permit;
17. foreign nationals detained under Section 27 of Act No. 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic, or under Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on changes to certain Acts, as amended, to submit themselves to the collection of a biological sample for the purpose of detecting the presence of COVID-19 and to provide healthcare professionals with the necessary collaboration in the process of taking this sample at the official sample-taking site of the provider of medical services or in the facility for detention of foreigners;
18. carriers providing international transport of persons, which transport persons to the Czech Republic, to not allow transport of those travellers who are not authorised to enter the territory of the Czech Republic under this Protective Measure or who have failed to comply with the obligations specified in clauses I.1 and I.3, unless they are exempted from such obligations under clauses I.2 or clauses I.4 through I.9;



II. prohibits

1. all third country nationals from entering the territory of the Czech Republic; this does not apply:
 - a) to foreign nationals who provide evidence that they stayed in a country with a low risk of infection for at least 14 days immediately before entering the territory of the Czech Republic and did not stay in the territories of countries with other than a low risk of infection for more than 12 hours during the last 14 days;
 - b) to holders of valid long-term visas, long-term, temporary or permanent residence permits for the territory of the Czech Republic;
 - c) to foreign nationals who have been issued short-term visas by the Czech Republic after 11 May 2020 or by a Member State of the European Union on behalf of the Czech Republic under a bilateral agreement after 1 August 2021;
 - d) to family members within the meaning of Section 15a of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on changes to certain Acts, as amended, of citizens of the Czech Republic or citizens of the European Union with their places of residence in the territory of the Czech Republic;
 - e) if the entry of these foreign nationals is in the interest of the Czech Republic, provided that the reason for their entry is supported by an adequate document;
 - f) to workers in the field of international transport, provided that the reason for their entry is supported by an adequate document;
 - g) to accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including personal servants, holders of diplomatic passports travelling to the Czech Republic for the purposes of official business and to officials of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 - h) in urgent extraordinary situations (such as the provision of planned medical services, performance of an obligation imposed by a court, a travel taken in response to a summons from a government authority, execution of a court decision, an official meeting, an entrance exam for studies, a national equivalency test, necessary care of close family members who are unable to take care of themselves on their own, exercise of custody of a minor child or exercise of the right to be in contact with a minor child, other humanitarian situations), provided that the reason for the entry is supported by an adequate document;
 - i) a foreign national who is provably in a permanent relationship as a partner with a citizen of the Czech Republic or a citizen of the European Union with temporary residence exceeding 90 days or permanent residence in the Czech Republic, based particularly on sharing the same household, and who has been issued with a certificate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to allow him/her to enter the territory of the Czech Republic under this clause;
 - j) to vaccinated persons with a national certificate on vaccination that has been carried out, to vaccinated persons with a national certificate of completed vaccination and to persons who have had COVID-19, and the period of stay will not be longer than the period of validity of the certificate;
 - m) to a minor child travelling with their legal guardian or another person who, under this Measure, is a vaccinated person with a national certificate on vaccination that has been carried out or with a national certificate of completed vaccination, or is a person who has had COVID-19;



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provided that they meet the conditions for entering as defined in this Protective Measure and are otherwise authorised to enter the territory of the Czech Republic;

III. determines

1. that the list of countries or territories with a low, medium, high and very high risk of incidence of COVID-19 is made based on the criteria specified in Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/1475, as amended by its revisions, with the criteria being:
 - a) the “14-day cumulative COVID-19 case notification rate”, i.e. the total number of newly notified COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the last 14 days at regional level;
 - b) the “test positivity rate”, i.e. the percentage of positive tests among all tests for detection of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus carried out during the last week; and
 - c) the “testing rate”, i.e. the number of tests to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus per 100,000 population carried out during the last week; this rate must amount at least to 300 per 100,000 population; while the following conditions also apply:
 - i) the list of countries or territories with a low risk of incidence of COVID-19 always contains the Member States of the European Union or, as the case may be, their parts, for which the criterion specified in item a) shows a value lower than 50 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value lower than 4%, or the criterion in item a) shows a value lower than 75 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value lower than 1%, and also contains selected third countries or territories according to Annex I to Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/912, as amended by its revisions;
 - ii) the list of countries or territories with a medium risk of incidence of COVID-19 contains the Member States of the European Union or, as the case may be, their parts, for which the criterion in item a) shows a value lower than 75 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value of 4% or higher, or for which the criterion in item a) shows a value lower than 75 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value of 1% or higher, or for which the criterion in item a) shows a value from 75 to 200 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value lower than 4%;
 - iii) the list of countries or territories with a high risk of incidence of COVID-19 contains the Member States of the European Union or, as the case may be, their parts, for which the criterion in item a) shows a value from 75 to 200 while the criterion specified in item b) shows a value of 4% or higher, or for which the criterion in item a) shows a value higher than 200 but lower than 500;
 - iv) the list of countries or territories with a very high risk of incidence of COVID-19 contains the Member States of the European Union or, as the case may be, their parts, for which the criterion in item a) shows a value of 500 or higher; these countries also include those third countries, which are not on the list of countries or territories with a low risk of incidence of COVID-19; these countries also include those Member States of the European Union or, as the case may be, their parts, in which community spread of new variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus predominates; the list of countries or territories is issued in the form of a protective measure;
2. that complying with the obligation to present a Public Health Passenger Locator Form means presenting the form in such a format, which allows for definite identification of the holder and checking the filled out information; an electronic Public Health Passenger



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Locator Form is available on the website www.prijezdovyformular.cz; the personal data processed beyond the framework of Section 79(1) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll. are the number of the travel document, citizenship, electronic mail address and telephone number; by filling out and sending an Public Health Passenger Locator Form, the regional Public Health Office with jurisdiction over the person's domicile or the person's reported place of residence is notified, via remote access, of the person's entry into the territory of the Czech Republic;

3. that a test for detection of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus/a test means:
 - a) for antigen testing, a written certificate of the negative result of a rapid antigen test (RAT), which is not older than 48 hours from the date of the antigen test, issued by a person authorised to carry out this test in the country where it was carried out;
 - b) for RT-PCR testing, a written certificate of the negative result of an RT-PCR test, which is not older than 72 hours from the date of the RT-PCR test, issued by a person authorised to carry out this test in the country where it was carried out;if it is a test carried out in a territory, which is subject to the Regulation of the European Union on the Digital COVID Certificate¹, or in the territory of a third country, for which an implementing act was adopted pursuant to the Regulation of the European Union on the EU Digital COVID Certificate¹, the result will only be proved by a certificate of the test issued in accordance with the Regulation of the European Union on the Digital Covid Certificate²;
4. that a vaccinated person with a national certificate on vaccination that has been carried out means a person who presents a valid national certificate on vaccination against COVID-19 that has been carried out, issued under the Regulation of the European Union on the EU Digital COVID Certificate³, provided that at least 14 days elapsed from completion of the vaccination scheme, and who does not show any symptoms of COVID-19;
5. that a vaccinated person with a national certificate on completed vaccination means a person who presents a valid national certificate on completed vaccination against COVID-19 as referred to in clauses III.6 or III.7, provided that 14 days elapsed from completion of the vaccination scheme, and who does not show any symptoms of COVID-19, provided that the person was vaccinated using:

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2021 on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable COVID-19 vaccination, test and recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificate) to facilitate free movement during the COVID-19 pandemic

² Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Regulation (EU) 2021/954 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2021 on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable COVID-19 vaccination, test and recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificate) with regard to third-country nationals legally staying or residing in the territories of Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council

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- a) a medicinal product containing a vaccine against COVID-19, which was granted registration under Regulation (EC) No 726/2004; or
 - b) a medicinal product, the production of which is in accordance with the patent of the medicinal product referred to in item a), provided that this medicinal product was also approved by the World Health Organisation for emergency use; the list of products referred to in items a) and b) is published on the website of the Ministry of Health;
6. that a national certificate of completed vaccination means a written confirmation issued at least in the English language by an authorised person operating in a third country, which is not the country issuing the certificate referred to in clause III.7 and the template of which is published in the list of recognised national certificates on the website of the Ministry of Health; the written confirmation must contain information on the vaccinated person, the type of vaccine administered, the date of administration of the vaccine, identification of the entity, which issued the confirmation, and it must be possible to verify this information directly from the written confirmation via a remote access;
 7. that a national certificate of completed vaccination is also deemed to be a certificate on completed vaccination issued to a vaccinated person according to clause III.5 by an authorised person operating in a third country, for which the implementing Act was adopted according to the Regulation of the European Union on the EU Digital COVID Certificate⁴ and the template of which is published in the list of national certificates on the website of the Ministry of Health, if it is not a certificate issued in the recommended format⁵; the list of these countries is published on the website of the Ministry of Health;
 8. that a person who has had COVID-19 is deemed to be that person who presents a certificate that he/she has had COVID-19, issued according to the Regulation of the European Union on the Digital COVID Certificate⁶ or by an authorised entity operating in a third country, for which the implementing Act was adopted under the Regulation of the European Union on the EU Digital COVID Certificate⁷, and at least 11 days but no more than 180 days elapsed from the first positive result of an RT-PCR test for detection of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus; if the certificate has been issued by a third country, its template must be published in the list of national certificates on the website of the Ministry of Health, if it is not a certificate issued in a recommended format⁸;
 9. that a person who has had COVID-19 is also deemed to be a holder of a diplomatic note, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; such holders can be citizens of the Czech Republic and their co-travelling family members with an issued temporary residence permit

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council

⁵ [covid-certificate_paper_guidelines_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Regulation (EU) 2021/954 of the European Parliament and of the Council

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/953 of the European Parliament and of the Council

⁸ [covid-certificate_paper_guidelines_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)



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for the territory of the Czech Republic, citizens of the European Union with an issued certificate of temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic or foreign nationals with a permanent residence permit for the territory of the Czech Republic issued by the Czech Republic, certifying a documented completed isolation due to COVID-19 in the country of departure before their entry into the territory of the Czech Republic; a diplomatic note is not usually issued earlier than 14 days after the first positive result of an RT-PCR test for detection of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and it cannot be used for purposes of the applications referred to in clause I.13 and for purposes of an entry referred to in clause II.1;

10. that necessary travel means restriction of free movement to the absolutely necessary minimum, with the exception of:
 - a) travels absolutely necessary to procure the basic necessities of life and to ensure care of children;
 - b) travels absolutely necessary to procure items to take care of animals, to use the necessary financial and postal services, to refuel;
 - c) urgent or otherwise necessary travels to a provider of healthcare services;
 - d) travels to social services facility;
 - e) travels to take care of urgent official matters;
 - f) funerals;
11. that a citizen of a third country is a foreign national, except for a citizen of the European Union and a foreign national within the meaning of Section 1(3) of Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the Residence of Foreign Nationals in the Territory of the Czech Republic and on changes to certain Acts, as amended;
12. that for the purposes of this Protective Measure, Member States of the European Union are deemed to include, in addition to the Member States of the European, the Principality of Andorra, the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Principality of Monaco, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of San Marino, the Swiss Confederation and the Vatican City State; all other countries are deemed to be third countries;
13. that for the purposes of this Protective Measure, the term “written confirmation” means both a hardcopy format (an original or a simple copy) and an electronic format, as long as it contains the name, surname and date of birth or the number of the travel document of a specific addressee; a written confirmation in an electronic format cannot be presented in the form of an SMS message;
14. that the holders of diplomatic notes on the impossibility to take a test for detection of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the country of departure can be citizens of the Czech Republic and their co-travelling family members with an issued temporary residence permit for the territory of the Czech Republic, citizens of the European Union with an issued certificate of temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic, foreign nationals with a permanent residence permit for the territory of the Czech Republic issued by the Czech Republic and the workers servicing critical infrastructure, whose performance of their activities is in the interest of the Czech Republic;
15. that a means of public transport is such a means of transport, in which persons who are not members of the same household are being transported at the given moment;



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16. that if an embassy of the Czech Republic is accredited for more countries then the current inclusion of the given country in the list of countries or territories with a low, medium, high and very high risk of incidence of COVID-19 is decisive for the acceptance and processing of visa applications and residence permit applications from each of the countries.

II.

With effect as of 27 October 2021 at 00:00, the Protective Measure of the Ministry of Health, dated 10 September 2021, ref. no.: MZDR 20599/2020-116/MIN/KAN, has been repealed.

III.

This Protective Measure has become effective on the date, on which it has been issued.

Minister of Health