



**EQUATORIAL
GUINEA**
MANAGING THE
IMPACTS OF
COVID-19

COVID-19 Outbreak Update #5 | Prime Minister's 14 April 2020 Order

15 April 2020

On 14 April 2020, the Prime Minister enacted an Order setting forth a fifteen (15)-day extension of the State of Alarm for Health Reasons declared in Equatorial Guinea by its President of the Republic by way of Decree 42/2020 of 31 March 2020. According to the Order's Final Provision, it becomes effective on 15 April 2020.

In said Order, the following measures to prevent, contain and control de COVID-19 pandemic in Equatorial Guinea are also provided:

- Ambulances and firefighters, vehicles of SEGESA (power company), of GETESA (telecom operator), of National Security and of the Ministry of Defence, as well as garbage collection vehicles, may freely circulate in the Insular Region (i.e., in the Island of Bioko);
- The circulation of any other vehicles and people not mentioned immediately above between the different Districts of the Country's Insular Region is suspended until 30 April 2020, thus putting all Insular Region's Districts in isolation;
- Any company vehicle transporting materials for infrastructure works or to provide services (i) cannot carry personnel and (ii) must obtain a Prime Minister's authorization to circulate, which, if accepted, is issued by the Traffic General Director;
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and of the Environment is responsible for organizing, with the producers of essential food, the transportation in trucks of the products and of the people selling them from different places of the Island to the city of Malabo to stock its markets;
- Everyone must be completely isolated, meaning that no one can go out to the streets unless it is to deal with urgent needs or in *force majeure* situations, such as going to Health Centres, markets or pharmacies, as well as to go to work;
- In the case of a justified displacement mentioned immediately above, the permanent use of masks and gloves is mandatory and a credential issued (free of charge) by the President of Neighbourhood Community authorizing said displacements is required;
- All companies must provide their employees with credentials justifying their displacements to and from their workplaces;

- SEGESA is ordered not to cut the power of its clients during the fifteen (15)-day period set forth in the Order as no citizen may go out to pay power bills;
- All businesses, shops and factories must stay closed during the abovementioned fifteen (15)-day period;
- As an exception to the obligation mentioned immediately above, supermarkets, markets that exclusively sell food, grocery stores, laundries or ironing shops, pharmacies and clinics may stay open, as well as the following stores selling construction materials, electrical spare parts and machinery materials in general (e.g., for vehicles): Cuatro, Ryesa, Fifti Fifti, the Cocoteros and K5 Ventage stores and Cerámico;
- All restaurants and restaurant-bars must stay closed but may serve home delivered food;
- Pilots leaving any aircrafts carrying goods that had to land in Malabo will be subject to specific testing to confirm that they are not infected with the coronavirus;
- No crew member of any vessel carrying goods, food and groceries between Douala and Malabo may disembark;
- Clinics are ordered to transfer all their patients with fever, cough or breathing difficulties to the Country's reference hospital as per the indications of the Technical Committee; and
- Members of the Armed Forces and National Security will oversee, subject to the instructions of their hierarchical superiors, strict compliance with this Order.

As per the Order's Final Provisions:

- The Ministry of Health, Home Ministry, Ministry of National Security, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Craftsmanship and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation may adopt as many measures as are appropriate to ensure the enforcement of the measures enacted by way of this Order; and
- The Novel Coronavirus Surveillance Technical Committee, headed in the mainland by the Home Minister assisted by the Deputy General Director of National Security, Governors and Government Delegates, are to ensure full compliance with these measures during the length of the crisis.

We plan to continue issuing Country-related updates on this subject matter.

CONTACTS

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