REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT [CAP 234]

Declaration of Public Health Emergency (Specific requirements, offences and penalties) Order No. 43 of 2022

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 21A and subsection 73F(6) of the Public Health Act [CAP 234], I, the Honourable BRUNO LEIGNKONE, Minister of Health, make the following Order.

1 Specific requirements for responses to the Declaration of Public Health Emergency

(1) A person must:

(a) wear a mask upon leaving his or her residence; or

(b) physically distance himself or herself of at least 1.5 or 2 meters from other persons in a public area or in a business or company premises.

(2) A business owner or company must:

(a) ensure his or her staff wear a mask; and

(b) set up hand washing stations at the business or company premises; and

(c) enforce the physical distancing of at least 1.5 or 2 meters; and

(d) provide security personnel to ensure hand washing and control of the distancing of people within the business or company premises.

(3) A public land transport driver must:

(a) ensure that all passengers entering his or her public transport wear a mask; and

(b) provide a hand sanitizer to passengers upon entering the public land transport; and

(c) provide transportation in accordance with the following requirements:

(i) in the case of a 12 or more seater vehicle - not more than 5 passengers;

(ii) in the case of a 6 - 11seater vehicle- not more than 4 passengers;

(iii) in the case of a 4 - 5 seater vehicle- not more than 2 passengers.

(4) The driver of a boat, used for the purpose of transporting passengers, must:

(a) ensure that all passengers entering his or her boat wear a mask; and

(b) provide a hand sanitizer to passengers upon entering the boat; and

(c) not transport more than 4 passengers at any one given time.

(5) A ship owner or an airline operator must comply with the Standard Operating Procedures for COVID-19.

(6) A business or a company that is not defined or approved as an essential service must not operate during curfew hours.

2 Offences and penalties

(1) A person who fails to comply with:

(a) subclauses 1(1) to (6) of this Order; or

(b) the provisions relating to curfew under the Declaration of Public Health Emergency Order No. 6 of 2022; or

(c) any other provisions of the Declaration of Public Health Emergency Order No. 6 of 2022 (other than subparagraph 3(a)(ii)),

commits an offence.

(2) A person who commits an offence under this Order is liable on conviction:

(a) in the case of an individual - to a fine not exceeding VT100,000; or

(b) in the case of the owner of a business or a company – to a fine not exceeding VT500,000.

3 Commencement

This Order commences on the day on which it is made.

Made at Port Vila this 28th **day of** March **, 2022.**

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
MINISTER OF HEALTH
MINISTRE DE LA SANTE
REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

Honourable BRUNO LEIGNIKENE
Minister of Health