Press Release

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of March 29th, 2021

The Council of Ministers met, via videoconference, and, after analysing the presentation gave by the coordinators of the Integrated Crisis Management Centre (CIGC), on the national epidemiological situation, approved the Government Decree draft for the first amendment to the Decree of Government n. 6 /2021, of March 2nd, on the measures to implement the State of Emergency Declaration made by the President of the Republic’s Decree n. 15 /2021, of March 1st, in force until April 2nd, 2021, 11:59 p.m.

With this amendment, the therapeutic isolation can now be fulfilled in the residence, through a reasoned order from the Minister of Health.

It is also provided for the possibility of mandatory prophylactic isolation (quarantine) at home, and expenses related to prophylactic isolation are borne by each individual when it is fulfilled in a private health facility, residence or isolation centre.

This Government Decree draft also decides that all individuals residing in Timor-Leste are obliged to avoid the formation of the agglomerations, on the public road. For the purpose of this Government Decree, the gathering of more than two persons, less than two meters between them, is considered to be an agglomeration of persons.

Regional, municipal and community leaders also have a special duty to cooperate in the inspection, monitoring and supervision of compliance with prophylactic or therapeutic isolation and the dispersion of agglomerations of people on public roads.

The Council of Ministers also approved the Government Resolution draft for the renewal of the imposition of a health fence and general home confinement of the population in the municipalities of Baucau and Viqueque, until April 2nd, 2021, 11:59 p.m.

All the rules previously defined in Government Resolutions n. 17/2021, 18/2021, 19/2021 and 20/2021, of March 15th, which imposed health fences and home confinement in the municipalities of Baucau and Viqueque, remain.

Thus, the movement of people between these two municipalities and the other administrative districts continues to be prohibited, except in duly justified cases for reasons of public security, public health, humanitarian assistance, maintenance of public supply systems or the pursuit of the public interest.

The imposition of general home confinement for all persons currently residing in the municipalities of Baucau and Viqueque also remains, except for the reasons previously defined, in particular for reasons of health, work and for access to goods and services of first necessity. END