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THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

(Cap. 242)

THE LAIKIPIA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION OF COVID-19) REGULATIONS, 2020

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

- 1—Citation and commencement.
- 2—Definitions.
- 3—Restriction of certain activities and operations.
- 4—Responsibilities of owners of premises.
- 5—Responsibilities of occupiers of business premises.
- 6—Disposal of masks, gloves and other personal protective gears by the public.
- 7—Disposal of masks, gloves and other personal protective gears by health facilities.
- 8—Isolation units.
- 9—County entry points.
- 10—Power of executive member to set up interim markets.
- 11—Other precautions and measures.
- 12—Offences.
- 13—Saving.
- 14—Expiry.

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IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Public Health Act and the coming into force of the Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19) Regulations, 2020, the Laikipia County Executive Committee Member responsible for Health makes the following Regulations—

THE LAIKIPIA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION OF COVID-19) REGULATIONS, 2020

Citation and Commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Laikipia County Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19) Regulations, 2020 and shall come into operation twenty four hours from the date of publication in the *Kenya Gazette*.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations unless the context otherwise requires—

“executive member” means the County Executive Committee Member for the time being responsible for Medical Services and Public Health;

“infected” means suffering from, or in the incubation stage of, or contaminated with the infection of, any infectious or communicable disease;

“isolation” means the segregation and the separation from and interdiction of communication with others, of persons who are infected;

“isolated” and “isolation centre” have corresponding meanings;

“occupier” includes any person in actual occupation of land or premises without regard to the title under which he occupies and in case of premises subdivided and let to lodgers or various tenants the person receiving the rent payable by the lodgers or tenants whether on his own account or as an agent for any person entitled thereto or interested therein;

“owner” as regards immovable property, includes any person, other than the Government, receiving the rent or profits of any lands or premises from any tenant or occupier thereof or who would receive such rent or profits if such land or premises were let whether on his own account or as agent for any person, other than the Government, entitled thereto or interested therein, the term includes any lessee or licensee from the Government and any superintendent, overseer or manager of such lessee or licensee residing on the holding;

“Pauper” means a person earning less than 1USD a day or one who is eligible for public charity;

“premises” includes any building or tent together with the land on which the same is situated and the adjoining land used in connexion therewith, and includes any vehicle, conveyance or vessel;

“public place” means any highway, street, public park or garden, any sea beach and any public bridge, road, lane, footway, square, court, alley or passage, whether a

thoroughfare or not, and includes any open space and any premises to which, for the time being, the public have or are permitted to have access, whether on payment or otherwise;

“Quarantine” means a sanitary measure to prevent, control and suppress covid-19 by isolating persons suspect to have been infected; “Quarantined” and “Quarantine Centres” have corresponding meanings;

“virus” means the virus known as Covid-19.

Restriction of certain activities and operations

3. For purposes of preventing, controlling and suppressing the spread of the virus, no person shall—

- while in a group of more than two persons and while on board an immobile vehicle, consume alcohol, chew khat, smoke or take any hard drug that impairs or has potential to impair his common judgment;
- while offering ferrying services using motorcycles or motor vehicle shall allow the congregation of more than two individuals around the vehicle or motor cycle and when owing to the fact that the vehicle is allowed to ferry more than two individuals it is necessary for more than two individuals to congregate in order to board the vehicle, such individuals shall queue in such a manner that observe the one meter distance rule;
- to hold any form of house parties, garden party or any other form of party with any persons except those consisting of one nuclear family of one generation.
- all boda boda, tuku tuk, matatu or any other form of public transport operators shall not at any time operate without wearing a face mask.

Responsibilities of owners of premises

4. To ensure better compliance of the rules set in place to ensure social distancing and to ensure that the spread of the virus is controlled and eventually suppressed, all owners of business premises are responsible for the following—

- ensuring that clean water and soap is available for hand washing at all entry points of their premises; and
- ensuring all occupiers of their premises provide clean water and soap at the entrances of the sections of the premises that they occupy.

Responsibilities of occupiers of business premises

5. To ensure better compliance of the rules set in place to ensure social distancing and to ensure that the spread of the virus is controlled and eventually suppressed, all occupiers of business premises are responsible for the following—

- ensuring that clean water and soap is available for hand washing at all entry points of section of the premises that they occupy;
- clearly marking the one-meter distance in all queuing points within their premises such as hand washing points and payment points;
- ensuring that people queuing whether to access their sections of the premises, washing hands or being served maintain at least a one-meter distance between them at all times;

- (d) ensure that people accessing premises such as supermarkets, malls and other places that owing to their nature are prone to having more than three people accessing them at a go have masks properly worn at all times while accessing the premises;
- (c) limit the number of individuals accessing their premises to facilitate the observance of the one-meter social distancing rule; and
- (f) for businesses that serve more than three individuals at a go, the occupier of the premises shall keep an updated record of individuals accessing their premises and which records shall contain the following details: name of customer, contact of customer, Place of residence and next of kin and their travel history.

Disposal of masks, gloves and other personal protective gears by the public

6. In the disposal of used masks, gloves and other personal protective gears, the following rules shall be observed—

- (a) such waste shall be separated from other wastes;
- (b) the waste shall be packed in a bag before being disposed into any garbage bin.

Disposal of masks, gloves and other personal protective gears by health facilities

7. All health care facilities whether public or private shall observe the following rules in the disposal of personal protective equipment—

- (a) the health care facilities are required to keep separate color-coded bins, colour coded bag and containers, puncture proof sharp containers in the clinical areas and wards;
- (b) ensure there is proper segregation of waste as per the bio-medical waste management (BMWM) rules, 2016 and the National waste management guidelines;
- (c) double layered bags should be used for the collecting waste from COVID-19 isolation wards to ensure that no accidental leakage occurs from the bags;
- (d) it is mandatory to label bags and containers used for collecting bio-medical waste from COVID-19 isolation areas and treatment points;
- (e) the waste bags should be clearly labelled as infectious waste indicating the source as COVID-19 waste to enable common bio-medical waste treatment facility (CBMWTF) identify the waste easily;
- (f) the bio-medical waste should be collected and stored separately by the same CBMWTF staff prior handling it. A dedicated collection bin labelled as COVID-19 should be used to store waste from the isolation wards;
- (g) at the waste treatment area, prioritize treatment and disposal of waste coming from the COVID-19 treatment and isolation areas immediately upon receipt;
- (h) the inner and outer surface of the containers, bins and trolleys used for storage of COVID-19 waste should be disinfected with sodium hypochlorite solutions;
- (i) all containers for offsite transport must be well labelled Hazardous COVID-19 waste and sealed; and
- (j) infectious waste must be treated without delay.

Isolation units or quarantine centers

8. (1) The executive member may set up isolation units or quarantine centers for individuals suspected or confirmed to have been infected with the virus.

(2) Isolation units or quarantine centers set up under sub rule (1) shall only be accessible to individuals authorized by the executive member or his delegated officers.

(3) In addition to using standard precautions, all individuals, including family members, visitors and HCWs, should use contact and droplet precautions or as they will be advised at the entrance before entering the isolation or quarantine rooms.

(4) The number of members and visitors who may wish to visit or who are in contact with a suspected and confirmed COVID-19 patient in isolation wards shall be limited as the county executive member deem necessary.

Screening points

9. (1) The County Executive Committee Member may designate any point within the County, including all County entry points, to be a County screening point. The following shall be observed at all Laikipia County screening points—

- (a) Public Health officers with the assistance or security personnel or enforcement officers shall require persons or motor vehicles or any other form of conveyance to stop and any persons on board to—
 - (i) be checked their body temperature or any other health check that may be introduced;
 - (ii) give their particulars which will include name, contact, next of kin, place of residence, place travelling to, duration of travel and travel history;
- (b) A Public Health Officer may require that any person who is suspect to have been infected be—
 - (i) taken blood samples for purposes of undertaking further health tests.
 - (ii) be placed under quarantine or isolation at their own costs unless it is a pauper.

Power of Executive Member to Set up Interim Markets

10. The executive member may in consultation with other authorities and stakeholders set up interim markets that will enable traders serve their customers while ensuring that the one-meter social distancing rule is observed and also enable the traders to have sufficient distance among them.

Other Precautions and Measures

11. The Executive Member may order any of the following precautions and measures to further facilitate the control and suppression of the virus—

- (a) closure of businesses and equipment that are deemed to be potential sources of infection of the virus;
- (b) closure of construction sites that are deemed to be incapable of observing the measures put in place to suppress the spread of the virus;
- (c) relocation of business premises.

- (d) suspension of travelling agents like matatus who do not keep proper records as per this Regulations or as advised by the County Executive Committee Member,
- (e) suspend any gathering whosever that may seem to be agent to spreading of the Virus,
- (f) send a person or persons to quarantine where he or his designate feels the person deserves to be quarantined for any reason that makes the person suspect to have been infected with the virus;
- (g) others.

Offences

12. (1) Any person who fails to comply with any orders or directives issued to him or her by the County Executive Committee Member or his designate to assist in the prevention, control and suppression of covid-19 shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with a restriction order, absconds from an isolation or quarantine centre, gives false information to any health, security or enforcement official or obstructs any measure taken to prevent, control and suppress covid-19 shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Any person who acts in contravention of these Regulations commits an offence and shall, if no penalty is expressly provided for such offence, contravention or default, be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty thousand shillings, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both and, if the offence, contravention or default is of a continuing nature, to a further fine not exceeding one thousand shillings for each day it continues.

(4) Police or enforcement officers shall use reasonable force to detain persons who commits an offence under these Regulations without a warrant as a mitigating measure to prevent, control and suppress covid-19.

Saving

13. All rules, measures and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health shall operate in tandem with these rules and in cases of conflict between these rules and those issued by the ministry of Health, those issued by the ministry of health shall take precedence.

Expiry

14. These rules shall be in force subject to such lengths of time as the Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19) Rules, 2020 shall remain in force and any extension of time thereof.

Made on the 29th April, 2020.

LENAI KAMARIO,
*County Executive Committee Member,
Medical Services and Public Health.*