

New measures against Covid-19 enter into force in Mozambique

On January 13, was published in Mozambique the Decree no. 1/2021 of January 13, which foresees new measures against Covid-19 pandemic, and will be in force for a period of 21 days, initiated on January 15. This is the third legislative modification since the declaration of Public Calamity Situation.

Among others, these are the most important rules foreseen in the Decree:

- A new social distancing rule, extending it for 2 meters, instead of the previous 1.5 meters.
- Citizens with 65 or more years, some type of diseases, and pregnant women, have priority in the dismissal of presential work activity.
- Regarding expired documents as Visas and Residence Cards, their validity was prorogated until May 31, 2021.
- Leisure and entertainment businesses shall be closed, being interdicted all cultural or recreational activities.
- The number of participants in social events is reduced to 30 in closed spaces and 50 in outdoor spaces.
- Commercial establishments work schedule shall be set between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM from Monday to Thursday and between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM from Friday to Sunday.
- Restaurants may work between 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM from Monday to Friday and between 6:00 AM and 3:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays.
- The number of participants in conferences, meetings, and religious celebrations is now established in 50 persons. In case of funerals, are permitted 20 persons or 10, if the death was caused by Covid-19.
- Markets work schedule is fixed between 6:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

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- ❑ Disobedience to the rules foreseen in this regulation is criminally punishable, with a sanction between 3 and 15 days of prison. Transgressions related with economic activities are sanctioned with penalties as fines, suspension of the activity between 1 and 3 months or even the revocation of the commercial license.

These measures are approved when the number of cases of Covid-19 in Mozambique is increasing exponentially, in an attempt to mitigate the pandemic.