

Briefing of the Deputy Government Spokesperson Aristotelia Peleri on Covid 19

Following a video conference held yesterday, August 10, by Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis with the competent Ministers, government officials, and the Head of the Committee of Infectious Diseases, Professor Sotiris Tsiodras, and further to the proposal made by the competent Committee, decisions were taken as follows:

1: The 85th Thessaloniki International Fair, which was scheduled for September 5 to 13, 2020, will not take place. The Prime Minister will be present in Thessaloniki delivering the usual speech, on September 5, addressing a limited audience.

2: Based on the course and the evaluation of the epidemiological data, it was decided that as from August 17, in order to enter Greece, it is mandatory to present a negative molecular test result for Covid- 19 (PCR test) upon arrival. The test should be performed up to 72 hours before entering Greece, for travellers by plane from Sweden, Czech Republic, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands.

3: Regarding entry via land borders: from August 17, it is mandatory to present a negative molecular control test (PCR test) for all persons entering Greece via land borders. The test must be performed up to 72 hours before entering Greece. Greek citizens and people with Greek residence permits are also obliged to present the said test. The test must have been performed in the country of origin and not in Greece.

4: From August 16, there will be a ceiling in the allowed number of entries from the border crossing of Kakavia. More precisely, from August 16, up to 750 people per day will be allowed to cross.

5: All public events, where participants are expected to be standing, including concerts and performances, are suspended throughout the country.

6: Based on scientific data and the epidemiological burden, it was decided to ban the operations of health interest stores (i.e. restaurants, bars etc) between 12.00hrs midnight to 7.00hrs in the morning, from August 11 to 23, in the following areas:

- The Regions of Crete, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace;
- The Regional Units of Thessaloniki, Halkidiki, Larissa and Corfu;
- The Municipalities of Mykonos, Paros, Santorini, Volos, Katerini, Rhodes, Antiparos, Zakyntos, Kos.

Ban may be extended to other areas of the country or further similar measures may be taken horizontally, depending on how the epidemiological data are progressing.