Saba, March 18, 2020

The Island Governor of Saba, considering,

- that in the Netherlands, but also worldwide, there is a pandemic due to Coronavirus (COVID-19);

- that the COVID-19 is a group A infectious disease;

- that the Island Governor of Saba, on the basis of the Public Health Act, ensures that an epidemic of an infectious disease belonging to the group A infectious disease is controlled;

- that in the case of a destination which poses a serious threat to public health, the Island Governor can close buildings and grounds and prohibit entering or using means of transport;

- that measures are taken to prevent the virus from spreading further;

- that the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) recommends limiting social contacts as much as possible;

- that the medical capacity of the hospital and health service on Saba is under pressure due to further developments in the field of possible medical missions;

- that Saba is frequently visited by tourists from home and abroad;

- that the spread of the virus can no longer be restricted or effectively controlled under normal powers;

- that, by letter of 13 March 2020, the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, via the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Control, advised the Island Governor of Saba to seriously consider using the powers in the area of public order and safety to further to prevent the spread of COVID-19;
that in the context of this crisis, the Dutch government has already issued emergency measures for the entire country on March 12, 2020 and that on Saturday March 14, 2020 Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba have been scaled up to level 3, in accordance with the coordination plan for supra-island disasters BES will apply to Saba;

that the Island Governor of Saba had decided to admit only residents of the Island of Saba for the protection of health and safety and had issued an emergency ordinance on 15 March 2020 via the website of the Public Entity Saba;

that, in accordance with the authorized person as referred to in Article 179 in conjunction with paragraph 178 of the Public Entities Act Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, the Island Governor of Saba wishes to take further measures, namely to protect all public gatherings and entertainments with more to protect safety and health. to prohibit 25 persons from closing schools, businesses and services, except for the following 'Vital Services':

a. hospital
b. seaport office
c. airport
d. administrative office (vital services)
e. bank, supermarkets, gas station, accountant, construction companies, hardware

that a ban on gathering will apply to these vital buildings and services;

that the regular means available to ensure the protection of health and safety referred to above do not currently provide sufficient relief and that it is necessary to maintain generally binding conditions in these exceptional circumstances for the maintenance of public order and the safeguarding of health and safety;

that in these circumstances it is necessary, where appropriate, to limit existing fundamental rights in accordance with Article 179 (1) of the Public Entities of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba Act in order to maintain public order or to limit the danger to health and safety. can protect;

that these prohibitions apply to the entire territory of Saba;
having regard to Article 179 of the Public Bodies Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba Act

DECIDES

To hereby adopt this emergency ordinance Coronavirus Saba 18 March 2020:

Article 1 Territory
This Regulation applies to the entire territory of Saba as indicated in the area map belonging to the Annex to this Decree. From 19 March 2020 up to and including 8 April 2020, the Vital Services are designated on the map accompanying this decision as an area where a ban on gathering applies.

Article 2 Travel restriction and mandatory quarantine
1. It is forbidden to enter Saba without a valid residence permit.
2. Residents entering from Sint Maarten are required to be quarantined for 14 days.

Article 3 Prohibition to gather
1. There is a prohibition on gathering together at the Vital Services.
2. Everyone who is not employed by the Vital Services is prohibited from staying on the Vital Services site.
3. Vital Services are only accessible to destination traffic for the duration of this emergency ordinance. Destination traffic is understood:
   a. personnel employed by the civilian operator
   b. staff employed by companies located at the airport
   c. suppliers of the companies established at the airport
   d. security service personnel
   e. KMAR personnel
   f. KPCN staff
   g. visitors to the Vital Services

Article 4 Security at the ports
All entrances and exits to the airport and seaport and the grounds of the airport and seaport are secured by the Royal Netherlands Military Constabulary (Koninklijke Marechaussee).

Article 5 Prohibition to cause hinder
Everyone should refrain from any form of nuisance with regard to the area referred to in Article 2. Any nuisance, including but not limited to the formation of a blockade that prevents access to or from the aforementioned site, is strictly prohibited.
Article 6 Ban on events
1. It is forbidden to (let) take place, to (let) organize or to (let) arise where more than 20 people will meet simultaneously.
2. Events as referred to in the previous paragraph are understood to mean all public meetings and entertainment as referred to in the General Local Regulation on Saba, as well as all meetings in a closed atmosphere where more than 25 people or participants meet simultaneously, in buildings that are open to the public as well as in buildings that do not open to the public, including the associated yards as well as those in the open air or public space.

Article 7 Closure of non-vital services
It is forbidden to keep one of the following establishments open: Establishments where food or drinks are sold and consumed on site (food and beverage outlets), with the exception of establishments in companies that are not open to the public (company canteens and catering) and establishments in hotels for the benefit of hotel guests; Sports and fitness areas; Churches; Schools; After-school care centers; Daycare; Non-vital public services.

Article 8 Instructions
1. All instructions to enforce this Regulation issued by the police or officials designated by me must be strictly and promptly followed.
2. If necessary in the context of public order and security, persons may be removed by the police and, after first giving notice, these persons must go in a direction to be determined by the police.

Article 9 Exceptions
These prohibitions do not apply to the emergency services and to persons, locations or activities designated by the Island Governor.

Article 10 Punishment
Acting in violation of the provisions of this emergency ordinance constitutes an offense and has been made a criminal offense. This is punishable by imprisonment of up to three months or a second category fine.

Article 11 Closing stipulations
1. This Regulation shall enter into force immediately after it has been published and shall apply until its repeal, but no later than 8 April 2020, or as soon as possible.
2. This Regulation may be cited as Coronavirus Saba Emergency Ordinance March 2020.
3. This Regulation will be notified as soon as possible to the Island Council of Saba, the Kingdom Representative and the head of the district public prosecutor's office Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba and it will be made public by publication on the website of the Public Entity Saba.
As decided on 18 March 2020,

Island Governor of Saba,

J.G.A. Johnson M.Ed.
Explanatory memorandum

The reason for this measure was the rapid increase in the number of patients with COVID-19, both in the Netherlands, in Europe and the United States, whereby the source of the source cannot be traced back to an increasing number of patients. On Saba the only ways of entering are via the airport or the port. This measure is a further extension of the emergency ordinance of March 15, 2020. That regulation only applied to passenger journeys and more specifically only visitors without a fixed place of residence or stay on Saba. Experience from the past 3 days has taught us that this measure does not go far enough. An average of 30 people travel to Saba every day from Sint Maarten, part of which comes from areas where there are infections by the Corona virus (COVID-19). In addition, it was announced on March 17, 2020 that there is a first case on Sint Maarten.

This measure aims to protect the people of Saba and more particularly the elderly and vulnerable persons at high risk of serious COVID-19 and maintaining health care. The hospital on Saba must prepare for seriously ill patients, while home care and nursing care for vulnerable groups must also continue. The further measures that have been taken in Europe and the United States are aimed at "social distancing". The relevant services on Saba advise the same. For example, everyone with respiratory complaints (colds, coughs, fever) is asked to stay at home.

As far as is known, there is currently no local transmission in the Caribbean Netherlands. The limited number of cases on Sint Maarten, Aruba and Curacao seems to consist of import cases. However, due to the limited capacity of both clinical and preventive and island services, the islands are vulnerable to serious consequences from this pandemic. For this reason, Prof. J.T. Van Dissen, director of the center for infectious disease control, indicated in his letter to the Lieutenant Governor of Saba of 13 March 2020 that it is serious to consider taking measures intended to minimize the chance of introduction from other countries. This applies to Saba, as the smallest island and the most with the least local capacity. The achievable minimum on Saba is zero, given the medical capacity on the island itself.