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Ordinance on Measures to Combat the COVID-19 epidemic in International Travel (COVID-19 Ordinance on International Travel)¹

of 23 June 2021 (Status as of 17 February 2022)

The Swiss Federal Council,

on the basis of Articles 41 paragraphs 1 and 3 and 79 paragraph 1 of the Epidemics Act of 28 September 2012² (EpidA),³
ordains:

Section 1 Purpose and Subject Matter

Art. 1⁴

¹ This Ordinance aims to prevent the cross-border spread of the Sars-Cov-2 coronavirus.

² It regulates the following for persons entering Switzerland from a country or region with a variant of the virus of concern:

- a. the recording of contact data in accordance with Article 49 of the Epidemics Ordinance of 29 April 2015⁵ (contact data) and any other health data required;
- b. the test and quarantine requirement;
- c. the enforcement of quarantine.⁶

³ ...⁷

RU 2021 380

¹ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

² SR 818.101

³ Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

⁴ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

⁵ SR 818.101.1

⁶ Amended by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

⁷ Repealed by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, with effect from 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

Section 2 Countries and Regions with a Variant of the Virus of Concern

Art. 2

¹ Categorisation as a country or region with a variant of the virus of concern requires proof or the presumption that in this country or region a variant of the virus is widespread:

- a. that carries a higher risk of infection or causes a more severe form of the disease than the variants of the virus that are present in Switzerland; or
- b. that escapes detection and for which there is no defence through pre-existing immunity to the variants of the virus present in Switzerland (immune evasive).⁸

² The list of countries and regions with a variant of the virus of concern that is immune evasive or the immune evasive status of which is unclear is provided in Annex 1 number 1.

³ The list of countries and regions with a variant of the virus of concern that is not immune evasive is provided in Annex 1 number 2.

⁴ Regions on the border with Switzerland which have close economic, social and cultural ties with Switzerland may be exempted from inclusion in the lists mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 even if they meet the requirements set out in paragraph 1. The regions deemed to be border regions are listed in Annex 1a.⁹

Section 3 Recording Contact Data

Art. 3¹⁰ Persons subject to the requirement

¹ The requirement to record contact data pursuant and where necessary to record health data applies to all persons entering Switzerland from a country or region specified in Annex 1.¹¹

² An exemption to the requirement under paragraph 1 applies to persons who:

- a. carry goods or passengers across the border in terms of their professional activities;
- b. travel through Switzerland without a stopover.

⁸ Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

⁹ Amended by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021, in force since 4 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591).

¹⁰ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

¹¹ Amended by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

Art. 4 Obligations of persons subject to the requirement

¹ The persons specified in Article 3 must record their contact data before entry as follows:

- a. online by means of the platform for recording contact data for travellers¹² provided by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH); or
- b.¹³ on the paper passenger locator forms provided by the FOPH, in duplicate.

² Persons who enter Switzerland but not as a passenger with a travel operator pursuant to Article 5 and who record their contact details on a passenger locator form must retain the form for 14 days.¹⁴

Art. 5 Obligations for travel operators

¹ Coach or airline operators carrying passengers specified in Article 3 internationally shall ensure that passengers provide their contact data in accordance with Article 4 paragraph 1.¹⁵

² They shall send the contact data under Article 4 paragraph 1 letter b to the FOPH on request within 24 hours.

³ They shall retain the contact data for 14 days and thereafter destroy the data.

⁴ They shall send the FOPH on request within 48 hours lists of all cross-border coach journeys or flights that they have scheduled for the following month.¹⁶

⁵ They shall send the contact data under Article 4 paragraph 1 letter b and the lists under paragraph 4 via the platform for travel operators¹⁷ provided by the FOPH.

Art. 6 Duties of the FOPH and the cantons

¹ The FOPH shall ensure that the contact data is available in order to enforce the provisions on the quarantine requirement under Article 9. It shall also ensure that the data is forwarded immediately to the cantons responsible for the persons entering Switzerland.¹⁸

² As soon as it is notified that a person infected with Sars-CoV-2 has entered Switzerland, the FOPH shall take the following measures:

- a. It shall request the travel operator to provide the contact data recorded on paper relating to the persons who entered Switzerland at the same time as the person infected with Sars-CoV-2.

¹² The platform for recording contact data for travellers can be accessed at <https://swissplf.admin.ch>

¹³ Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

¹⁴ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

¹⁵ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

¹⁶ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

¹⁷ The platform for passenger transport operators can be accessed at <https://swissplf.admin.ch>

¹⁸ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

- b. It shall establish the identity of the persons who were in close contact with the person infected with Sars-CoV-2 on the basis of contact data recorded online and the contact data in accordance with letter a.
- c. It shall forward the processed contact data immediately to the cantons responsible for the persons entering Switzerland.

³ The FOPH may delegate its duties under paragraphs 1 and 2 to third parties. In doing so, it shall ensure that data protection and data security are guaranteed.

⁴ The FOPH or the third parties shall destroy the data one month after the entry of the persons concerned.

⁵ The cantons shall destroy the data one month after they have received the same from the FOPH or from third parties.

Section 4 ...

Art. 7¹⁹

Section 5 Requirement for Persons entering Switzerland to be tested, to quarantine and to report

Art. 8²⁰ Test requirement

¹ Persons aged 6 and over entering Switzerland from a country or region specified in Annex 1 must be able to show a negative test result. The requirements for tests and proof of testing are regulated in Annex 2a.²¹

² Persons who are unable to provide proof of a negative test under paragraph 1 on entering Switzerland must immediately undergo one of the following tests on entry:²²

- a. a molecular-biological analysis for Sars-CoV-2; or
- b.²³ a Sars-CoV-2 rapid test for specialist use in accordance with Article 24a paragraph 1 of COVID-19 Ordinance 3 of 19 June 2020²⁴ unless it is based on a sample taken solely from the nasal cavity or on a saliva sample;
- c.²⁵ a laboratory immunological analysis for Sars-CoV-2 antigens in accordance with Article 19 paragraph 1 letter c of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance of 4 June 2021²⁶.

¹⁹ Repealed by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, with effect from 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

²⁰ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

²¹ Amended by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

²² Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

²³ Amended by Annex No 2 of the O of 17 Dec. 2021, in force since 18 Dec. 2021

(AS 2021 881).

²⁴ SR 818.101.24

2bis ...²⁷

3 ...²⁸

4 ...²⁹

Art. 9³⁰ Quarantine requirement

¹ On entering Switzerland, persons who in the ten days before entry have stayed in a country or region listed in Annex 1 must travel immediately and directly to their home or to other suitable accommodation. They must remain there without leaving at any time for 10 days following their entry (quarantine on entry).³¹

² Where a person has entered Switzerland from a country or region that does not have a variant of the virus of concern, the competent cantonal authority may take account of the duration of the person's stay in that country or region when calculating the time to be spent in quarantine.

³ Persons required to quarantine on entry who have entered Switzerland from a country that is not specified in Annex 1 number 1 may leave quarantine within 10 days provided they undergo either a molecular-biological analysis for Sars-CoV-2, a Sars-CoV-2-rapid test for specialist use in accordance with Article 24a paragraph 1 of COVID-19 Ordinance 3 of 19 June 2020³² or a laboratory immunological analysis for Sars-CoV-2 antigens in accordance with Article 19 paragraph 1 letter c of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance of 4 June 2021³³ and the result is negative. The test may be carried out at the earliest on the seventh day of quarantine. The competent cantonal authority may, in justified cases, suspend the early termination of quarantine.³⁴

^{3bis} The persons mentioned in paragraph 3 may leave quarantine in order to be tested. When doing so, they must wear a face mask and maintain a distance of at least 1.5 metres from other persons.³⁵

⁴ Persons who leave quarantine early pursuant to paragraph 5 must wear a face mask and maintain a distance of at least 1.5 metres from other persons when outside their home or accommodation until the point in time at which quarantine under paragraph 2 would have ended.

²⁵ Inserted by Annex No 2 of the O of 17 Dec. 2021, in force since 18 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 881).

²⁶ SR 818.102.2

²⁷ Inserted by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814). Repealed by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, with effect from 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

²⁸ Repealed by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, with effect from 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

²⁹ Inserted by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814). Repealed by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, with effect from 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

³⁰ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

³¹ Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

³² SR 818.101.24

³³ SR 818.102.2

³⁴ Amended by Annex No 2 of the O of 17 Dec. 2021, in force since 18 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 881).

³⁵ Inserted by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

Art. 9a³⁶ Exemptions from the test and quarantine requirement

¹ The following persons are exempt from the requirement to be tested under Article 8 and to quarantine from the requirement to under Article 9:

- a.³⁷ ...
- b. persons who in the course of their professional activities transport passengers or goods across borders;
- c.³⁸ ...
- d. persons who travel through Switzerland without stopping;
- e.³⁹ persons who enter Switzerland from countries or regions that are not specified in Annex 1 number 1 and who provide proof that they have been vaccinated against Sars-CoV-2; the persons who are regarded as having been vaccinated, the duration for which the vaccination is regarded as effective and the accepted forms of proof are regulated in Annex 2;
- f.⁴⁰ persons who enter Switzerland from countries or regions that are not specified in Annex 1 number 1 and who provide proof that they have been infected with Sars-CoV-2 and have recovered; the duration of the exemption and the accepted forms of proof are regulated in Annex 2;
- g. who enter Switzerland on important and immediate medical grounds;
- h. who enter Switzerland as cross-border commuters.

² The following persons are also exempt from the requirement to be tested in Article 8:

- a.⁴¹ ...
- b. persons who can prove that they are unable on medical grounds to take a Sars-CoV-2 test;
- c.⁴² persons who enter Switzerland from a region listed in Annex 1a, provided the country or region concerned is not listed in Annex 1 number 1;
- d.⁴³ persons whose activity in Switzerland is essential to maintain the proper functioning of institutional beneficiaries in terms of Article 2 paragraph 1 of the Host State Act of 22 June 2007⁴⁴ and who can prove this by providing confirmation from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA);

³⁶ Inserted by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS 2021 563).

³⁷ Repealed by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021, with effect from 4 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591).

³⁸ Repealed by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, with effect from 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

³⁹ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

⁴⁰ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

⁴¹ Repealed by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, with effect from 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

⁴² Amended by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021, in force since 4 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591).

⁴³ Inserted by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021, in force since 4 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591).

⁴⁴ SR 192.12

- e.⁴⁵ persons whose activity in Switzerland is essential to maintain Switzerland's diplomatic and consular relations and who can prove this by providing confirmation from the FDFA.

2bis ...⁴⁶

2ter The quarantine requirement in accordance with Article 9 does not apply to the following persons:

- a. persons whose activity in Switzerland is essential to maintaining:
 1. the proper functioning of the health service,
 2. public security and order,
 3. the proper functioning of institutional beneficiaries in terms of Article 2 paragraph 1 of the Host State Act,
 4. Switzerland's diplomatic and consular relations;
 - b. persons who as transit passengers have spent less than 24 hours in a country or region specified in Annex 1;
 - c. persons who re-enter Switzerland after participating in an event in a country or region specified in Annex 1, provided they can prove that their participation and stay took place in compliance with a specific precautionary measures plan; participation in an event includes in particular participation on a professional basis in a sporting competition, cultural event or specialist conference;
 - d. persons who enter Switzerland from a country or region specified in Annex 1 in order to participate in an event in Switzerland; participation in an event includes in particular participation on a professional basis in a sporting competition, cultural event or specialist conference;
- e. and f.⁴⁷ ...⁴⁸

³ The exemptions under paragraphs 1–2^{ter} do not apply to persons displaying symptoms of COVID-19, unless the person concerned can provide certified medical evidence that the symptoms have a different cause.⁴⁹

⁴ The competent cantonal authority may in justified cases permit further exemptions from the requirement to be tested and to quarantine or may relax certain conditions.

Art. 10⁵⁰ Requirement to report

Persons required to quarantine on entry under Article 9 must report to the competent cantonal authority within two days of their arrival in Switzerland and must follow the instructions given by the authority.

⁴⁵ Inserted by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021, in force since 4 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591).

⁴⁶ Inserted by No I of the O of 17 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 883). Repealed by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, with effect from 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

⁴⁷ Repealed by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, with effect from 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

⁴⁸ Originally para. 2^{bis}. Inserted by No I of the O of 1 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591). Amended by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021, in force since 4 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814).

⁴⁹ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Dec. 2021, in force since 20 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 883).

⁵⁰ Amended by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, in force since 22 Jan. 2022 (AS 2022 19).

Section 6 Checks and Reports⁵¹

Art. 11 Border control authorities⁵²

¹ The border control authorities may conduct risk-based checks on persons entering Switzerland. In doing so, they shall verify:⁵³

- a.⁵⁴ that the person checked has tested negative in accordance with Article 8 paragraph 1;
- b. that the contact data of the person checked has been recorded in accordance with Article 4 paragraph 1.

² If the person checked is unable to produce a negative test result or show that their contact data has been recorded, the border control authority shall report the matter to the competent cantonal authority. The report shall include the details of the person checked, the time and place of the check, the address the person has specified in Switzerland, and the outcome of the check.

³ The border control authorities may impose fixed penalty fines.

Art. 11a⁵⁵

Art. 11b⁵⁶

Section 7 Updating the Annexes

Art. 12

¹ The Federal Department of Home Affairs shall update Annex 1 continuously in consultation with the Federal Department of Justice and Police, the Federal Department of Finance and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

² It shall update Annex 2 in accordance with the latest scientific knowledge and in consultation with the Federal Commission for Vaccination.

³ It shall update Annex 2a in accordance with the latest scientific knowledge.⁵⁷

⁵¹ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563).

⁵² Inserted by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563).

⁵³ Amended by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563).

⁵⁴ Amended by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS **2022** 98).

⁵⁵ Inserted by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563). Repealed by No I of the O of 19 Jan. 2022, with effect from 22 Jan. 2022 (AS **2022** 19).

⁵⁶ Inserted by No I of the O of 3 Dec. 2021 (AS **2021** 814). Repealed by No I of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, with effect from 17 Feb. 2022 (AS **2022** 98).

⁵⁷ Inserted by No I of the O of 17 Sept. 2021, in force since 20 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563).

Section 8 Final Provisions**Art. 13** Repeal and amendment of other legislation

¹ The COVID-19-Ordinance on International Passenger Transport of 27 January 2021⁵⁸ is repealed.

² The amendment of other legislation is regulated in Annex 3.

Art. 14 Commencement

This Ordinance comes into force on 26 June 2021 at 00.00.

⁵⁸ [AS 2021 61, 94, 276, 298, 352]

Annex 1⁵⁹

(Art. 2 paras 2 and 3, 3 para. 1, 9 paras 1 and 3, 9a para. 2 let. c and 12 para. 1)

List of countries and regions with a variant of the virus of concern⁶⁰**1. Countries and regions with a variant of the virus of concern that is immune evasive is or the immune evasive status of which is unclear (Art. 2 paras. 1 and 2)***There are no entries currently on this list***2. Countries and regions with a variant of the virus of concern that is not immune evasive (Art. 2 paras. 1 and 3)***There are no entries currently on this list*

⁵⁹ Amended by No I of the FDHA O of 3 Aug. 2021 (AS **2021** 465). Revised by No II of the O of 3 Dec. 2021 (AS **2021** 814) and of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS **2022** 98).

⁶⁰ If a state is on the list, this includes all its areas, islands and overseas territories, even if these are not separately listed.

*Annex 1a*⁶¹
(Art. 2 para. 4 and 9a para. 2 let. c)

Regions bordering Switzerland

Regions in Germany:

- Baden-Württemberg
- Bavaria

Regions in France:

- Grand-Est
- Burgundy / Franche Comté
- Auvergne / Rhône-Alpes

Regions in Italy:

- Piedmont
- Aosta Valley
- Lombardy
- Trentino / South Tyrol

Regions in Austria:

- Tyrol
- Vorarlberg

Regions in Liechtenstein:

- Entire Principality

⁶¹ Inserted by No II of the O of 1 Oct. 2021 (AS 2021 591). Revised by No II of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

Annex 262
(Art. 9a para. 2^{ter} lets e and f and 12 para. 2)

Persons who have been vaccinated and who have recovered

1 Persons who have been vaccinated

- 1.1 Persons who have been vaccinated are persons who have received a vaccine that:
- a. is authorised in Switzerland and which has been administered in full in accordance with the FOPH recommendations;
 - b. has been authorised by the European Medicines Agency for the European Union and has been administered in full in accordance with the requirements or recommendations of the country in which the vaccination was administered;
 - c. is authorised under the WHO Emergency Use Listing and has been administered in full in accordance with the requirements or recommendations of the country in which the vaccination was administered; or
 - d. has been shown to have the same composition as a vaccine licensed under letter a or b but marketed by a licence holder under a different name, and which has been administered in full in accordance with the requirements or recommendations of the country in which the vaccination was carried out.
- 1.2 The vaccination is regarded as being effective for 270 days from the date on which it was administered in full; the Janssen Ad26.COVS.S / Covid-19 vaccine is regarded as being effective for 270 days from the 22nd day after it was administered in full.
- 1.3 Proof of vaccination may be provided in the form of a COVID-19 certificate in accordance with Article 1 letter a number 1 of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance of 4 June 2021⁶² or a recognised foreign certificate in accordance with Section 7 of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance.
- 1.4 Proof may also be provided in a different form from that in number 1.3. It must be a form of proof that is customary at the time. In addition to the surname, forename and date of birth of the person concerned, it must include the following information:
- a. the date of vaccination;
 - b. the vaccine used.

⁶² Revised by No II para. 1 of the O of 17 Sept. 2021 (AS **2021** 563), Annex No 3 of the O of 19 Jan. 2022 (Extension of Measures, Reduction in the Period of Validity of Vaccination and Recovery Certificates, Waiving the Collection of Contact Data, Exemption from the Certificate Requirements for International Delegations, Provisions on the Federal Baccalaureate and Professional Baccalaureate Examinations) (AS **2022** 21) and No II of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS **2022** 98).

⁶³ SR **818.102.2**

2 Persons who have recovered

- 2.1 Recovery is valid for the following duration:
 - a. when based on a molecular-biological analysis for Sars-CoV-2: from the eleventh to the 270th day after confirmation of infection;
 - b. when based on an analysis for Sars-CoV-2 antibodies: for the term of validity of the certificate concerned (Art. 34a para. 1 let. c of the COVID-19 Ordinance on Certificates of 4 June 2021⁶⁴).
- 2.2 Proof of recovery may be provided in the form of a COVID-19 certificate in accordance with Article 1 letter a number 2 of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance of 4 June 2021 or a recognised foreign certificate in accordance with Section 7 of the COVID-19 Certificates Ordinance.
- 2.3 Proof may also be provided in a different form from that in number 2.2. It must be a form of proof that is customary at the time. In addition to the surname, forename and date of birth of the person concerned, it must include the following information:
 - a. confirmation of the infection including the name and address of the confirming body (test centre, doctor, pharmacy, hospital);
 - b. confirmation that isolation has been terminated or confirmation from a doctor of recovery.

*Annex 2a*⁶⁵
(Art. 8 para. 1 and 12 para. 3)

Test and proof of testing requirements

1. The test procedure must be an up-to-date scientific and technical procedure, whereby:
 - a. a molecular-biological analysis for Sars-CoV-2 may not have been taken more than 72 hours previously;
 - b. a Sars-CoV-2 rapid test for specialist use or a laboratory immunological analysis for Sars-CoV-2 antigens may not have been taken more than 24 hours previously.
2. The document showing the test result must contain the following information:
 - a. Surname, first name and date of birth of the person tested;
 - b. Date and time the test was carried out;
 - c. Type of test under No 1 letter a or b;
 - d. Test result.

⁶⁵ Inserted by No II para. 1 of the O of 17 Sept. 2021(AS 2021 563). Revised by No II of the O of 3 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 814), Annex No 2 of the O of 17 Dec. 2021 (AS 2021 881) and No II of the O of 16 Feb. 2022, in force since 17 Feb. 2022 (AS 2022 98).

Annex 3
(Art. 13 para. 2)

Amendment of another enactment

...⁶⁶

⁶⁶ The amendments may be consulted under AS 2021 380.

