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Information by Finland to the World Health Organization on continued public health measures in the control of the epidemic caused by COVID-19 pursuant to Article 43 of the International Health Regulation

Ref: verbal notes PC0UC1J2-22 of 20 March 2020, PC0UC1J2-26 of 8 April 2020, PC0UC1J2-34 of 14 May 2020, PC0UC1J2-43 of 15 June 2020, PC0UC1J2-49 of 14 July 2020, PC0UC1J2-55 of 24 July 2020, PC0RN2C0-189 of 10 August 2020, PF1PG1G3-256 of 24 August 2020, PF1PG1G3-313 of 17 September 2020, PF1PG1G3-331 of 25 September 2020, PF1PG1G3-339, PF1PG1G3-349 of 12 October 2020, PC0RN2C0-234 of 10 November 2020, PF1PG1G3 of 23 November 2020, PF1PG1G3-420 of 15 December 2020, PF1PG1G3-429 of 22 December 2020, PC0UC0XV-2 of 5 January 2021, PF1PG163-1 of 12 January 2021, PF1PG163-13 of 19 January 2021

Pursuant to Article 43 paragraph 5 of the *International Health Regulations* Finland informs the World Health Organization about the following:

There have been both imported COVID-19 cases and local transmissions in Finland. So far, 41 915 laboratory-confirmed cases caused by COVID-19 have been diagnosed. Since the beginning of the outbreak, altogether 644 persons have died because of COVID-19.

Due to the COVID-19 situation and for the sake of public health and health security, **the Government of Finland, together with the President of the Republic, declared a state of emergency in Finland on 16 March 2020. The state of emergency was lifted on 15 June 2020.**

However, Finland continues to apply some temporary restrictions on Finnish border traffic in order to still contain COVID-19 spread and mitigate its potential impact. On January 22, 2021 the Government decided on following measures:

As of 27 January, Finland will restrict entry **from all Schengen countries**. Only essential travel for work will be permitted across internal borders. The entry of foreign nationals is also permitted for essential and justified reasons.

Regarding the external borders, the validity of the decision made on 7 January 2021 will be extended until 25 February. The decision will be amended as of 27 January so that restrictions on external border traffic will be lifted for traffic arriving in Finland from **South Korea** for residents of South Korea.

The suspension of the passenger flights from the **United Kingdom, Ireland and South Africa** expired on 25 January 2021.

Suspension of passenger flights from the United Kingdom, Ireland and South Africa expired 25 January 2021 at 11:59 (EET).

Other measures communicated by this note are valid from January 27, 2021 at 00:00 (local time, EET). The measures will remain on force until February 25, 2021 at 24:00 (local time, EET)