Royal Decree 32/2020  
Amending Some Provisions of the Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases

We, Haitham bin Tarik, Sultan of Oman

after perusal of the Basic Statute of the State promulgated by Royal Decree 101/96,

and the Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases promulgated by Royal Decree 73/92,

and in pursuance of public interest,

have decreed as follows

Article I

The attached amendments to the aforementioned Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases shall be implemented.

Article II

All that is contrary to the attached amendments, or in conflict with their provisions, is hereby repealed.

Article III

This decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force on the day following the date of its publication.

Issued on: 28 Rajab 1441
Corresponding to: 23 March 2020

Haitham bin Tarik  
Sultan of Oman
Amendments to Some Provisions of the Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases

Article 1

The text of articles 19 and 20 of the Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases is hereby replaced with the following:

Article 19

Whoever fails to report a communicable disease in accordance with the provisions of articles 2, 3, and 5 of this law will be punished by imprisonment for a period no less than 3 (three) months and not exceeding 1 (one) year, and a fine no less than 1,000 (one thousand) Rial Omani and not exceeding 10,000 (ten thousand) Rial Omani, or one of those two punishments.

Whoever violates the provisions of articles 5bis 3, 5bis 4, 5bis 5, 5bis 7, and 5bis 8 of this law will be punished by the same punishment.

If an alien is sentenced to a punishment depriving liberty, his deportation from the country must be adjudicated.

Article 20

With the exception of the cases stipulated in article 19 of this law, whoever violates any of the provisions of this law, or the ministerial decisions implementing it, will be punished by imprisonment for a period no less than 1 (one) month and not exceeding 1 (one) year, and a fine no less than 500 (five hundred) Rial Omani and not exceeding 5,000 (five thousand) Rial Omani, or one of those two punishments.

If an alien is sentenced to a punishment depriving liberty, his deportation from the country must be adjudicated.

Article 2

New articles numbered 5bis, 5bis 1, 5bis 2, 5bis 3, 5bis 4, 5bis 5, 5bis 6, 5bis 7, 5bis 8 are hereby added to the Law on the Control of Communicable Diseases in the following wording:

Article 5bis

A person infected with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law is entitled to receive medical care and treatment in government treatment facilities in accordance with the rules and procedures specified by the Minister of Health.

Article 5bis 1

All data and information relating to the person infected with a communicable disease mentioned in the schedule attached to this law is confidential, and it is not permitted to disclose them except in cases prescribed by law, or with the written consent of that person.

Article 5bis 2

The competent health doctor shall provide the necessary advice to the person infected with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law, and make him aware of the nature of his disease, the methods by which it is transmitted, and inform him of the measures and guidance that he must follow to limit the transmission of the infection to others.
Article 5bis 3

A person infected, or suspected of being infected, with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law shall immediately go to the closest health establishment to undertake medical examination, to receive treatment and advice, and to be made aware of the dangers of the disease and the methods by which it is transmitted.

Article 5bis 4

A person infected with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law shall provide the health establishment that undertakes his treatment with all the information and data of persons who came into contact with him within the period prior to his illness as determined by the Ministry of Health.

Article 5bis 5

A person coming to the Sultanate, and who is aware that he is infected, or is suspected of being infected, with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law shall inform the border crossing authorities of this immediately upon his arrival to them, and, if available, shall provide these authorities with all documents and records relating to his health condition.

Article 5bis 6

The Ministry of Health may subject a person coming to the Sultanate from areas where a communicable disease, listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law, is spread to medical examination to ensure that he is free of the disease. The Ministry of Health may undertake appropriate procedures and measures including quarantining him and holding his luggage and personal belongings in the places it specifies, in coordination with competent bodies.

Article 5bis 7

A person infected, or suspected of being infected, with a communicable disease listed in section I of the schedule attached to this law shall abide by the instructions and guidance prescribed to him by the health establishment undertaking his treatment. It is prohibited for the person infected with any of these diseases - upon his knowledge of the infection - to practise any behaviour that leads to transmitting the disease to others.

Article 5bis 8

It is prohibited for any person to hinder, or refrain from carrying out, the procedures and measures prescribed to prevent the spread of the infection or its transmission to others.