



Brussels, 27.8.2020
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 27.8.2020

**on Specific Health and Safety Rules for the Commission Sites of Brussels and
Luxembourg**

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THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY,

Having regard to the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union¹, and in particular Article 1e (2) thereof, and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union², and in particular Articles 10 (1) and 80 (4) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Decision C(2006)1623/3 of 26 April 2006 establishing a harmonised policy for health and safety at work for all Commission staff³, and in particular Article 3 (1) a) thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) The Director-General for Human Resources and Security has delegated powers to adopt health and safety rules for the Commission sites of Brussels and Luxembourg.
- (2) The current COVID-19 pandemic requires the adoption of specific health and safety rules for the Commission sites of Brussels and Luxembourg in order to prevent the virus spreading further and to protect staff, while ensuring business continuity and adopting solutions for staff to enable them to perform their work efficiently and effectively.
- (3) In order to ensure maximum safety for people entering Commission premises during the pandemic, it is essential that those who have a body temperature of 37.7°C or above do not enter Commission buildings; this threshold corresponding to a beginning fever has been set based on the medical recommendation of the Commission's medical service. As a result, temperature screening of people intending to enter Commission buildings needs to be carried out where the situation so requires.
- (4) The temperature screening is aimed at enforcing the policy, pursued since the beginning of the pandemic, that staff should stay at home when they are sick and at limiting to a minimum the risk of contamination when coming to the office. Denying access to people with a body temperature of 37.7°C or above is the most appropriate way to achieve this aim and is thus proportionate.
- (5) People carrying the COVID-19 virus may be asymptomatic but still present a risk of contaminating others; wearing a facemask significantly reduces the risk of contamination and should therefore become mandatory inside all Commission buildings in Brussels and Luxembourg to ensure maximum safety.
- (6) The full effect of the specific health and safety measures adopted under this Decision can be achieved only if the measures apply broadly to people entering Commission buildings in Brussels and Luxembourg. They therefore apply equally to Commission

¹ OJ P 045 14.6.1962, p. 1385.

² Ibidem.

³ O/99/2006 OJ 1742 , point 10.

staff as defined in Article 2 'b' of Commission Decision C(2006)1623/3, to external personnel of Commission contractors, as referred to in Article 8(3) thereof, and to external visitors.

- (7) Operational details on thermal scanning should be laid out in a protocol annexed to this decision.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Temperature screening shall be performed on all people entering those Commission sites of Brussels and Luxembourg specified in the 'Thermal Scanning Protocol' annexed to this Decision and according to the provisions specified therein.

Access to those Commission sites of Brussels and Luxembourg shall be denied to any person who is found to have a body temperature of 37.7°C or above or who refuses to have the body temperature checked.

The name of the person and the result of the temperature screening shall not be stored, transferred or processed in any other way.

Article 2

People entering any Commission sites in Brussels and Luxembourg shall wear a facemask that covers mouth and nose at all times while in those buildings, except

- in the immediate office environment (i.e. sitting at the desk or when alone in a closed individual office) or
- for speakers in a meeting where physical distancing is ensured or
- when sitting in the cafeterias or restaurants in Commission premises provided that physical distancing of at least 1.5 meters for Belgium and 2 meters for Luxembourg is ensured or
- in any other situation where wearing the facemask is impossible or impracticable.

People shall put on their facemask before entering Commission buildings and before approaching security personnel at entrances. In car parks, people shall wear facemasks outside of vehicles.

Article 3

This decision takes effect as of the date of signature.

Done at Brussels, 27.8.2020

For the Commission
Gertrud Ingestad

Director-General of Human Resources and
Security