



## CONSTITUTION OF KIRIBATI

### COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Regulations 2020

Regulations issued pursuant to Section 16(2) of the *Constitution of the Republic of Kiribati*, in relation to a Proclamation of a State of Public Emergency to prepare for and manage the impact of Novel Corona Virus 2019 Pandemic.

#### 1. Short title

These Regulations may be cited as the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Regulations 2020.

#### 2. Commencement

These Regulations shall come into force immediately.

#### 3. Partial Lockdown; Closure of Schools

Closure of all schools in the Republic of Kiribati is effective from 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 or otherwise if earlier revoked:

(a) Movement of children under the age of 18 shall be restricted and confined within their homes throughout this period when the schools are closed except for those seeking urgent life-saving, health emergency or medical attention or other medical services.

(b) A person with parental responsibility for a child in relation to whom a restriction is imposed under this regulation must ensure that their children are complying with this regulation. Parent or guardians of a child found in breach of this regulation shall be held accountable for the actions of their children and will be held liable for the offence.

(c) Te Beretitenti, may by Order, issue the notice to extend the period for school lockdown under this partial lockdown regulation.

(d) In the event that a complete lockdown is necessary, the Beretitenti may make another regulation to regulate how the lockdown should be enforced.

#### 4. Orders for Quarantine

Orders of quarantine shall be made, if necessary, in line with the Quarantine Act and other relevant laws and to be issued by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and the Kiribati Customs Office (MOJ).

## **5. False Information**

Any person who is found to have spread false information relating to COVID-19 in Kiribati is guilty of an offence. Publication of false information in all forms of the media is considered an act of spreading false information.

## **6. Enforcement**

These Regulations shall be enforced by the Police:

- (a) The Commissioner of Police is empowered to enforce these Regulations;
- (b) The Commissioner of Police may use reasonable force if necessary in the exercise of a power under this Regulation.

## **7. Offence and Penalties**

For the purposes of these regulations, any person who contravenes these regulations shall be guilty of an offence and upon conviction such offender is liable to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

## **8. Expiry**

These regulations shall cease to have effect at the end of the period of the state of public emergency or otherwise if earlier revoked.

Dated .....

**TANETI MAAMAU**  
**His Excellency Te Beretitenti**

Printed by exhibition at the Office of the Beretitenti on \_\_\_\_\_

**DR NAOMI BIRIBO**  
**Secretary to the Cabinet**