

## REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



### MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY P.O. Box: 73, KIGALI

#### GUIDELINES REGARDING THE GRADUAL RE-OPENING OF BARS

Referring to the Cabinet resolutions of **21<sup>st</sup> September 2021** allowing bars to resume operations under strict COVID-19 preventive measures, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MINICOM), in collaboration with Rwanda Development Board (RDB), hereby submit the following guidelines for the gradual reopening of bars:

#### **I. CONDITIONS FOR BAR REOPENING**

1. Only bars registered with Rwanda Development Board (RDB) or those with a valid trading license issued at Sector level are allowed to resume operations.
2. Opening and closing hours for bar activities will follow the general public guidelines pertaining to curfew for trading activities.
3. There should be handwashing facilities and/or hand sanitizers at every entry and exit point of the establishment.
4. There should be visible signs to indicate acceptable and prohibited seating in the bar while maintaining a 1.5 meter distance between the seats.
5. Bars are requested to use digital payment mechanisms and strongly encourage their clients to use them as well.
6. Each bar must have an employee or a team of employees wearing a **visible yellow vest** responsible for monitoring the adherence to COVID-19 preventive measures on a regular basis.
7. Doors and windows in the bar are to remain wide open to allow for sufficient flow of air. Where possible, seating and service should be done in an open and well-ventilated space in order to reduce the risk of contamination and spread of COVID-19 while adhering to the preventative measures in place.
8. Bars are required to comply with measures related to hygiene and sanitation as recommended by competent authorities.
9. Clients are required to wear their masks properly while entering the bar.

10. All bar employees are required to wear masks properly and at all times.
11. All bar employees in the City of Kigali must be vaccinated.
12. Bar owners are to facilitate routine COVID-19 testing for their employees at least every two weeks.

#### **I. MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE GUIDELINES**

1. Bars that have fulfilled all the above requirements shall submit their application for reopening to the Sector in which they operate in or to Rwanda Development Board for those registered with RDB.
2. After assessment, bars that have fulfilled the requirements shall be granted permission to resume operations by a joint team established at sector level including a member of the Private Sector Federation or by Rwanda Development Board for those with RDB certificates of incorporation.
3. The reopening authorization shall be issued in writing by competent authorities and is to be openly displayed within the premises at all times.
4. For further enforcement of COVID-19 preventive measures, the District/City of Kigali Security Council may issue additional guidelines in order to properly implement the requirements of these guidelines.
5. Fines and penalties will be issued to non-complying bars by respective Districts/City of Kigali Councils.
6. The Private Sector organs and bar owners are responsible for the monitoring and compliance of these guidelines.
7. Bars owners must facilitate the work of teams that are responsible for the regular monitoring of implementation of these guidelines.

These guidelines may be revised at anytime in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Done at Kigali, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2021

  
**HABYARIMANA U. Beata**

Minister

