

Notification of derogation from driving and rest times pursuant to Art. 14 (2) of Regulation 561/2006

In response to the extraordinary crisis situation due to the pandemic of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), PORTUGAL plans to adopt a temporary and limited relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times for the drivers of vehicles transporting **ALL TYPES OF GOODS**.

This relaxation is granted pursuant to

<input type="checkbox"/>	Article 14(1) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006
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and the purpose of this document is to notify the Commission accordingly.

This temporary relaxation applies from **23.12.2020** and will run until **13.01.2021**. It will apply to all drivers **coming from the United Kingdom**, irrespective of their nationality, when operating on the territory of the Member State.

PORTUGAL has made it clear that working conditions of drivers and road safety must not be compromised. Drivers should not be expected to drive whilst tired - employers remain responsible for the health and safety of their employees and other road users.

For the above-mentioned category of drivers, the following provisions will be temporarily relaxed as follows:

- **Derogation to Article 6(1) of Regulation 561/2006:** replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours;
- **Derogation to Article 6(2) of Regulation 561/2006:** replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours;
- **Derogation to Article 6(3) of Regulation 561/2006:** replacement of the maximum accumulated driving time during any two consecutive weeks from 90h to 96h.
- **Derogation to Article 8(1) of Regulation 561/2006:** reduction of the daily rest requirements from 11 to 9 hours;
- **Derogation to Article 8(6) of Regulation 561/2006:** postponement of a weekly rest period beyond six-24 hours period.
- **Derogation to Article 8(8) of Regulation 561/2006:** possibility for the driver to take the regular weekly rest in the vehicle, as long as it has suitable sleeping facilities for each driver and the vehicle is stationary.

The temporary relaxation of the rules described above reflects the exceptional circumstances stemming from the COVID-19 outbreak. PORTUGAL wishes to emphasise that, as a general rule, we expect business to plan for and manage the risks of disruption to supply chains.