



COUNTRY REPORT

Rwanda

I. Background

This *working* report summarizes the range of measures taken by Rwanda in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. For more information, visit the [COVID-19 Law Lab](https://covidlawlab.org/). As of Feb,7,2022, Rwanda reported 128,971 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 1,444 cumulative Deaths.¹ Resolutions issued by the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda covered most of the COVID-19 related measures introduced in Rwanda. On March 14, 2020, Rwanda reported the country's first case of COVID-19.² From that time onwards, the government of Rwanda has introduced several preventive measures and strategies aimed at deterring the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. State of Emergency/Public Health Emergency

On [March 6, 2020](#), prior to the first COVID-19 case, the Prime Minister introduced precautionary measures. This was in place of declaring a state of emergency. People were advised to keep their distance, avoid handshaking, follow personal protection guides, and avoid unnecessary travel to countries affected by the virus.³ Moreover, the prime minister nominated and chaired a national crisis committee of key Ministries involved in the response. "The committee put in place a COVID-19 Joint Task Force (JTF) on March 9, 2020, to coordinate the implementation of a preparedness and response plan just in time for the first case."⁴ On March 14, 2020, Rwanda reported the country's first case of COVID-19.⁵ After the announcement of the first case, the Ministry of Health issued a statement on how people should behave in an attempt to prevent the spread of the virus.⁶

¹ COVID-19 Law Lab, <https://covidlawlab.org/>

² WHO Africa; COVID-19 in Rwanda: A country's response (July,20,2020) <https://www.afro.who.int/news/covid-19-rwanda-countrys-response>

³ Public Notice from the Office of the Prime Minister on Coronavirus Disease 2019, March,6,2020, <https://covidlawlab.org/page/2/?s&topic®ion&country=Rwanda>

⁴ WHO Africa, July,20,2020, <https://www.afro.who.int/news/covid-19-rwanda-countrys-response>

⁵ Id.

⁶ Denis Bikesha, Constitutionalism, and COVID-19 In Rwanda, African Network of Constitutional Lawyers, (May 2, 2020), last accessed February 5, 2022, <https://ancl-radc.org.za/node/630>

III. Access to Medicine and Intellectual Property

On April 17, 2020, the Rwanda Food and Drug Authority issued [guidance](#) on manufacturing and use of barrier masks, stating that “barrier masks are intended to complement protective measures in place for the general public, and any healthy or asymptomatic person in particular.” The guideline also provided that “barrier masks are not intended to be used by health care providers in contact with patients or other persons in a zone at high risk of contamination.”⁷ Further, on January 18, 2021, the authority issued a [circular on the registration of antiseptic products](#) informing the manufacturers and importers of antiseptic and disinfectant products to register their products and submit their registration application to the authority. The authority also notified the local manufacturers to register their products before placing them on the market.⁸

IV. Disease surveillance and technology

On April 7, 2020, the World Bank Group approved \$14.25 million International Development Association credit in immediate funding to support Rwanda’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic under a new operation, “the Rwanda COVID-19 emergency project.”⁹ As reported by the World Bank, “the project focuses on harnessing digital solutions and data analytical tools that will improve the management and containment of the COVID-19 response.” It further claims that “building on the country’s strong track record on digital solutions, several innovations will be explored, including digital maps that allow to visualize the spread of the disease in real-time; mobile apps for sending health messages; and telemedicine capability to allow for suspected cases to be assessed without the need for physical movements by patients.”¹⁰

Also, the government of Rwanda has effectively responded to public health crises brought by the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic through [existing and new innovative digital solutions](#).¹¹ This has included contact tracing in which infections are being traced through the paperless Open Data Kit application that can be downloaded on a mobile device. Data is collected

⁷ Rwanda FDA Guidance on Manufacturing and Use of Barrier Masks, April 17, 2020, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/RWANDA_2020.04.17_FDA_GUIDANCE_ON_MANUFACTURING_AND_USE_OF_BARRIER-MASKS_EN-1.pdf

⁸ Circular on Registration of Antiseptic(hand sanitizer) Products DAR/CRC/086/FDA/2021, January 18, 2021, <https://covidlawlab.org/item/circular-on-registration-of-antiseptic-hand-sanitizer-products-dar-crc-086-fda-2021/>

⁹ The World Bank Press Release, April 7, 2020, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/04/07/world-bank-group-supports-rwanda-covid-19-response>

¹⁰ Id.

¹¹ IMF News, Rwanda Harnesses Technology to Fight COVID-19, Drive Recovery, August,6,2020, <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/08/06/na080620-rwanda-harnesses-technology-to-fight-covid-19-drive-recovery>

for analysis by outbreak investigation teams. It has also included COVID-19 surveillance, in which a health facility digital reporting surveillance system is used to monitor influenza-like illnesses and severe acute respiratory infections in real-time to provide an early warning of suspected COVID-19 cases.¹²

V. Isolation and Quarantine Measures

On March 14, 2020, Rwanda reported the country's first case of COVID-19.¹³ The declaration of the outbreak was followed by a series of preventive measures, such as mandatory quarantine for all travelers coming into the country. On June 2, 2020, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda passed a [cabinet decision](#) encompassing measures against the spread of COVID-19. Among these measures was the decision for the continuance of the closure of borders except for transportation of essential goods and citizens entering the country from abroad, all of which were subject to mandatory quarantine on arrival.¹⁴

As of June 15, 2020, the Rwanda Ministry of Health has required all international travelers entering the country to have a negative test result performed within 72 hours before departure.¹⁵ All travelers arriving or transiting for more than 12 hours will be screened upon arrival and take a second PCR test. Moreover, passengers who have traveled to India or Uganda within the seven days before their arrival were required to complete seven days mandatory quarantine upon arrival at the designated hotels at their own cost.¹⁶

On May 5, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda, chaired by President Kagami, reviewed measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and passed a [resolution](#) introducing preventive measures with a nationwide effect from May 6 through May 31, 2021.¹⁷ Accordingly, international travelers were permitted to enter the country with the condition of negative PCR test results taken 72 hours before departure. However, all passengers arriving from India had to undergo seven days mandatory quarantine. On October 13, 2021, the Cabinet also approved a

¹² Id.

¹³ WHO Africa; COVID-19 in Rwanda: A country's response (July,20,2020), <https://www.afro.who.int/news/covid-19-rwanda-countrys-response>

¹⁴ Statement on Cabinet Decision, June 2, 2020, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Republic-of-Rwanda-Prime-Minister-Office_-STATEMENT-ON-CABINET-DECISIONS-OF-2nd-JUNE-2020.pdf

¹⁵ International Travel regulation, June 15, 2020, <https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/International-Travel-Regulations-1.pdf>

¹⁶ Id.

¹⁷ Cabinet Communique, May 6, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.05.05_Cabinet-communique_EN-1.pdf

[resolution](#) effective from October 14 through November 14, 2021.¹⁸ The resolution stated that fully vaccinated passengers were no longer required to quarantine at hotels, but COVID-19 tests were still required upon arrival.

VI. Vaccine

On March 3, 2021, [Rwanda received 240,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines](#) through the COVAX Facility – a platform co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and WHO in partnership with UNICEF.¹⁹ On April 16, 2021, The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved \$30 million in additional financing to the Republic of Rwanda to acquire and deploy safe and effective COVID-19 (coronavirus) vaccines. This was the second additional financing for the [Rwanda COVID-19 Emergency Response Project](#), bringing a total of \$45.19 million in World Bank contributions to the country's national COVID-19 health response and vaccination campaign.²⁰

On September 1, 2021, the President of the Republic of Rwanda chaired a Cabinet meeting, and the Cabinet approved a resolution taking nationwide effect from September 2 through September 22, 2021.²¹ As per the [resolution](#), social events and gatherings such as concerts, festivals, and exhibitions were gradually resumed for vaccinated and tested participants.

On October 13, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda approved a [resolution](#) constituting measures effective from October 14 through November 14, 2021.²² Fully vaccinated passengers were no longer required to quarantine at hotels, but COVID-19 tests were required on arrival. Further, swimming pools, massages, parlors saunas were allowed to resume gradually, and their customers were required to be fully vaccinated and possess negative COVID-19 test results.²³

VII. Movement and distancing restriction measures

¹⁸ Cabinet Communique, October 13, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.10.14_Cabinet-Resolution_EN-1.pdf

¹⁹ Gavi, Rolling out of COVID-19 Vaccine in Rwanda, last accessed February 6, 2022, <https://www.gavi.org/vaccineswork/rolling-out-covid-19-vaccines-rwanda>.

²⁰ The World Bank Press Release, April 16, 2021, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/04/16/world-bank-approves-30-million-to-support-covid-19-vaccination-rollout-in-rwanda>

²¹ Cabinet Communique, Sep. 1, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.09.01_Cabinet-communicue_EN-1.pdf

²² Cabinet Communique, October 13, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.10.14_Cabinet-Resolution_EN-1.pdf

²³ Id.

As a primary precaution measure before the declaration of the first COVID-19 case, on March 6, 2020, the prime minister's office issued a [public notice](#) informing the Rwandan public that the government has established a multidisciplinary team to assess and strengthen preparedness and response to the COVID-19.²⁴ At a similar notice, the office has also urged the public to keep distance, avoid handshaking, follow personal protection guides, and avoid unnecessary travel to countries affected by the virus. Further, on March 21, 2020, the Office of the Prime Minister announced [enhanced prevention methods](#).²⁵ This announcement includes, among other things, the prohibition of movement outside the home except for essential services. It also indicated that all workers must work from home except those providing essential service. Moreover, the notice indicated borders were closed except for goods and cargo, as well as returning Rwandan citizens. The closure of shops and markets except those selling essential goods such as medicines and hygiene and cleaning products was also announced. In addition, bars were closed, and hotels and restaurants were only allowed to provide takeaway services.

On June 2, 2020, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda passed a [decision](#) encompassing measures against the spread of COVID-19.²⁶ The measures, among other things, include nationwide mass screening and testing; wearing a mask at all times; curfew(from 9 PM to 5 AM); order for public and private business employees to continue working from home, except an essential staff; the permission of non-contact outdoor sport, resumption of intra-state movement except movement from two districts; permission of funeral gathering and civil marriage ceremonies with a limited number of people, and continuance of closure of borders except for transportation of essential goods and citizens entering the country from abroad. Further, those violating the law were subject to criminal penalties. For instance, on April 20, 2020, [The New Times](#) Newsletter reported the arrest of 28 people by the Rwanda National police for hosting bars in their homes violating the lockdown rules. The arrestees include those selling alcohol from their homes, buyers, and others who bought beers and hosted friends in their homes.²⁷

²⁴ Public Notice from the Office of the Prime Minister on Coronavirus Disease 2019, March,6,2020, <https://covidlawlab.org/page/2/?s&topic®ion&country=Rwanda>

²⁵ Announcement on Enhanced COVID-19 Prevention Measures, March 21, 2020, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2020.03.21_government-notice_Announcement-on-enhanced-COVID-19-prevention-measures_EN.pdf

²⁶ Statement on Cabinet Decision, June 2, 2020, <https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Republic-of-Rwanda-Prime-Minister-Office-STATEMENT-ON-CABINET-DECISIONS-OF-2nd-JUNE-2020.pdf>

²⁷ Lockdown violations, April 20,2020, <https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Police-arrests-28-for-violating-lockdown-regulations--The-New-Times--Rwanda.pdf>

On January 4, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda approved a [resolution](#) of its previous meetings held on December 14, 2020.²⁸ In its resolution, the Cabinet tightened existing health measures (limited movements and social interactions) to contain the rise in COVID-19 cases and deaths. As part of its resolution, the Cabinet introduced tight public health measures, including, among other things, a curfew from 8 PM - 4 AM; restriction of intra-state movement – except for travel for essential services; require COVID-19 test results for domestic and international tourists traveling across districts; require public and private institutions to operate in no more than 30% capacity and the rest of their employees to work from home on a rotational basis; and other prohibitions and restrictions on the social gathering, sports activities, and events.²⁹

Likewise, on January 18, 2021, considering the surge in the number of cases in Kigali, the government of Rwanda, through [cabinet resolution](#), ordered the lockdown of the city of Kigali.³⁰ In addition, the following measures (subject to health assessment-based review within 15 days) were also introduced in Kigali.³¹ Unnecessary movement, including visits outside the home, was prohibited except for essential services, including healthcare, food shopping, banking, and others. Intra-state travel between Kigali and other parts of the country was prohibited except for essential services and tourism. All public and private employees were required to work from home except those providing essential services. Apart from that, businesses were closed, restaurants were only permitted to provide take away services, places of worship were closed, and funeral gatherings, hotel services, tourism activity were permitted with a limited number of people and strict adherence with COVID-19 guidelines.³² In the remaining part of the country, some movement and distancing restrictions, among other things prohibition of movement from 6 PM to 4 PM, closure of places of worship and bars, prohibition of social gathering and events, the continuance of school, and some hotel services were permitted with some exceptions.³³ On February 2, 2021, the Cabinet passed a [resolution extending the lockdown in the city of Kigali](#) from February 3 through February 7, 2021. Through the same resolution, the Cabinet has also introduced the following changes to the lockdown in Kigali from February 8 through February 22, 2021. Prohibition of movement

²⁸ Cabinet Communique, Jan,4, 2020 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Rwanda_2021.01.04_Government-Press-Release_Cabinet-Communique_EN-1.pdf

²⁹ Id.

³⁰ Cabinet Communique, Jan, 18-2021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Rwanda_2021.01.18_Government-Press-Release_Cabinet-Communique_EN.pdf

³¹ See id.

³² Id.

³³ See Id.

(curfew) from 7 PM-4 AM; closure of public offices (working from home except for essential services); resumption of private business with essential staff; closure of schools including Universities; ban on movement from Kigali to other provinces except for essential services and tourism; resumption of public transport within the city of Kigali with limited capacity. In the meantime, bars, cafes, gyms, and places of worship remained closed, and gaming activity remained prohibited.³⁴

On February 19, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda reviewed measures on COVID-19 and approved a [resolution](#) introducing the following measures – effective February 23 through March 15, 2021.³⁵ The measures, among other things, include the prohibition of movement from 8 PM – 4 AM; public offices resuming service with essential staff at no more than 30% capacity and the rest ordered to work from home; schools and universities resumed classes; public transport resumed service with 75% capacity; restaurants and cafes resumed service with 30 % capacity and until 6 PM; places of worship resumed with 30 % occupancy; civil and religious weddings were allowed with no more than 20 attendants. In the meantime, gaming activities and physical meetings were prohibited, and gyms and recreational centers remained closed.³⁶ Further, on March 15, 2021, a cabinet meeting approved a [resolution to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic](#).³⁷ The measures introduced through the cabinet resolution include the prohibition of movement from 9 PM – 4 AM, and gaming activities; closure of bars, gyms, and recreational centers; resumption of movement between Kigali and other provinces and between other districts of the country; resumption of public transport, physical meetings, public office, and restaurant and café service with limited occupancy and adhering to guidance on COVID-19.³⁸ Moreover, individual and non-contact outdoor sports and civil and religious activities were permitted with limited capacity and strict adherence to COVID-19 preventive measures.³⁹ Besides, on March 30, 2021, the [Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda passed a resolution](#) containing the following measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴⁰ Subject to renewal within 15 days, movements were

³⁴ Cabinet Communique, Feb 2,2021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.02.02_Statement-on-Cabinet-Resolutions_EN-1.pdf

³⁵ Cabinet Communique, Feb 19, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.02.19_Cabinet-Communique%CC%81_EN-1.pdf

³⁶ Id.

³⁷ Cabinet Communique, March 15,2021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.03.15_Statement-on-Cabinet-Resolutions_EN-1.pdf

³⁸ Id.

³⁹ See Id.

⁴⁰ Announcement on COVID-19 prevention measures; March,30,32021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.03.29_government-notice_Announcement-on-COVI-19-Prevention-Measures.EN_-1.pdf

prohibited between 9 PM – 4 AM; movements between different provinces of the country were permitted to continue; public transport allowed to operate with 50 % capacity; public offices and private businesses were permitted to continue with 30 % capacity while other workers continued to work from home; restaurants and cafes to operate with 30% capacity and service time limit; civil and religious weddings, tourism activities and individual, non-contact outdoor sports, and international travels were permitted to continue. Meanwhile, gaming activities remain prohibited.⁴¹

On May 5, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda, chaired by President Kagami, reviewed measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and passed a [resolution introducing preventive measures](#) with a nationwide effect from May 6 through May 31, 2021.⁴² The measures introduced include, among other things, curfew between 10 PM-4 AM; internal movements in different provinces of the country are permitted except the prohibition of movement between 7 PM – 4 AM in the southern province districts. Meanwhile, public transport, physical meetings, public office, private business, worship, sporting activities, and restaurant and café services were permitted to operate with limited capacity and strict adherence to COVID-19 health guidelines. However, gambling activities were required to remain closed.⁴³

On June 14, 2021, a cabinet meeting reviewed previous measures on the spread of the COVID-19 and approved a [resolution](#) encompassing the following measures subject to review within two weeks.⁴⁴ As per the resolution, the country's movements between provinces continued, as did the curfew between 9 PM- 4 AM. International passengers were required to present a negative PSR test and comply with other health measures. Public offices, private businesses, places of worship, and restaurants and cafés were permitted to operate with limited occupancy and adhering to other health guidelines. Individual and non-contact sporting activities, tourism activities, and civil and religious weddings were permitted to be undertaken not exceeding limits and following COVID-19 preventive measures. Social gatherings in homes were prohibited, and all bars remained closed. Unlike the previous resolution, gaming operations gradually resumed activities upon fulfilling COVID-19 prevention guidelines.⁴⁵

⁴¹ Id.

⁴² Cabinet Communique, May 6, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.05.05_Cabinet-communicue_EN-1.pdf

⁴³ Id.

⁴⁴ Cabinet communique, June 14,2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.06.12_Cabinet-communicue_EN-1.pdf

⁴⁵ Id.

On June 21, 2021, considering the rise in COVID-19 cases, an extraordinary Cabinet meeting chaired by the President of the Republic of Rwanda approved a [stricter resolution](#) than the previous one. The resolution took effect on June 23, 2021, and was subject to review within two weeks.⁴⁶ The resolution introduced measures such as; a curfew from 7 PM – 4 AM; prohibition of internal movements from Kigali to other provinces and movements between districts across the country; requirement for international passengers to present a negative COVID-19 PSR test result. Meanwhile, public transport and physical meetings continued operation with limited capacity and adhering to COVID-19 prevention measures; all social gatherings, including celebrations of all kinds, were prohibited; traditional and religious weddings were suspended; public offices and private businesses continued only with a limited number of essential staffs; sporting activities were permitted with strict adherence to COVID-19 health guidelines, and gaming activities were permitted to resume activities gradually up on fulfilling COVID-19 preventive measures.⁴⁷

On July 25, 2021, the government of Rwanda, through a [Communique](#) has, extended the existing preventive measures for five days from July 27 through July 31, 2021.⁴⁸ Some of the measures took place in Kigali, Gicumbi, Kamonyi, Musanze, Nyagatare, Rubavu, and Rutsiro. These measures included, among other things: the prohibition of outdoor movements and visit outside the home except for essential services; prohibition of sports and recreational activities; and public transport; closure of offices and businesses except for essential services; closure of schools and higher education institutions, and swimming pools and spas. International passengers were permitted to enter the country presenting a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken 72 hours before departure. In the meantime, tourism, farming activities, and funeral gatherings were permitted with limited capacity and strict adherence to COVID-19 guidelines.⁴⁹ In some parts of the country, the following measures were introduced. A curfew between 6 PM – 4 AM; prohibition of movement between districts except for essential services; prohibition of gaming activities, social gatherings, and celebrations; suspension of traditional, civil and religious weddings; continuance of public

⁴⁶ Cabinet Communique, June 12, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.06.21_Cabinet-Communique%CC%81_EN-1.pdf

⁴⁷ Id.

⁴⁸ Cabinet Communique, June 27, 2021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.07.27_Cabinet-resolution_EN-1.pdf

⁴⁹ Id.

office and private business with essential staff; places of worship, restaurants and cafes continued operation adhering to health guidelines and with limited capacity.⁵⁰

On August 11, 2021, a cabinet meeting chaired by the President of the Republic of Rwanda reviewed existing measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 and passed a [resolution](#) constituting measures effective from August 12 – September 1, 2021.⁵¹ Accordingly, public officials and private businesses were allowed to continue with essential staff at no more than 50% capacity and the rest of their staff to work from home. Physical conferences, public transport, motor and bicycle transport, and restaurant service were permitted to operate with limited capacity and adhering to COVID-19 preventive measures. International passengers arriving at Kigali International Airport were required to present negative COVID-19 test results. Tourism activities and individual and non-contact outdoor sports were permitted with strict adherence to COVID-19 preventive measures. Gym and fitness centers and marriage ceremonies were allowed to resume with limited capacity and comply with COVID-19 preventive measures, whereas gaming activities remained closed.⁵² Likewise, on September 1, 2021, the President of the Republic of Rwanda chaired a Cabinet meeting that approved a [resolution](#) taking nationwide effect from September 2 – September 22, 2021.⁵³ Reviewing the existing measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Cabinet made some amendments to the previous measures and maintained the rest to continue in effect. As per the amended measures, physical conference and meeting participants were required to present a negative COVID-19 PSR test result within 72 hours before the meeting. Also, guests in a civil, religious, and traditional marriage ceremony were required to possess negative test results taken 72 hours before the event. Moreover, social events and gatherings such as concerts, festivals, and exhibitions were allowed to resume gradually for vaccinated and tested participants. Gambling activities were also permitted to resume gradually. The rest of the previous movement and distancing restrictions were in place with some modifications.⁵⁴

On September 21, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda, chaired by President Paul Kagame, reviewed existing health measures to contain the spread of COVID-19. It approved a

⁵⁰ Id.

⁵¹ Cabinet Communique, Aug. 12, 2021 https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.08.11_government-notice_Cabinet-Communique%CC%81_EN-1.pdf

⁵² Id.

⁵³ Cabinet Communique, Sep. 1, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.09.01_Cabinet-communicue_EN-1.pdf

⁵⁴ Id.

[resolution](#) effective from September 23 through October 13, 2021.⁵⁵ As an update to the previous resolution, the Cabinet decided that "all events conducted in homes should not exceed 50 persons, and guests must test negative for COVID-19 72 hours before the event and must comply with COVID-19 preventive guidelines." Also, "events held in designated venues including outdoor tents were required not to exceed 50% capacity, and guests to possess negative COVID-19 test result." Moreover, bars were permitted to resume service gradually.⁵⁶ Further, on October 13, 2021, the Cabinet approved a [resolution](#) effective from October 14 through November 14, 2021.⁵⁷ Amending some parts of the previous resolution, the Cabinet prohibited movements between midnight (12 AM-4 AM). Meanwhile, private businesses were permitted to operate adhering to COVID-19 preventive measures. Ordered Bars to resume gradually, and customers were required to possess negative COVID-19 test results.

On November 12, 2021, the Cabinet of the Republic of Rwanda convened its meeting at Urugwiro village. The meeting reviewed existing health measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 and passed a [resolution](#) with a nationwide effect from November 15 through December 14, 2021.⁵⁸ The Cabinet updated the measures constituted under the previous resolution. Accordingly, "public transport is required to continue with buses operating at full capacity for seated passengers and 50% for standing passengers, and bus operators were required to ensure that passengers maintain social distancing." Arriving and departing passengers at Kigali international airport were required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result. All citizens were also reminded of the critical importance of complying with health measures.⁵⁹

⁵⁵ Cabinet Communique, Sep. 23, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.09.23_Cabinet-Resolutions_EN-1.pdf

⁵⁶ Id.

⁵⁷ Cabinet Communique, October 13, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.10.14_Cabinet-Resolution_EN-1.pdf

⁵⁸ Cabinet Communique, Dec. 14, 2021, https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Rwanda_2021.11.15_Government-Press-Release_Cabinet-Communique_EN.pdf

⁵⁹ Id.