

Brussels, 04.03.2020

Subject: Coronavirus outbreak – additional measures and economic impact

Dear Madam/Sir,

The current crisis caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is having wide-ranging consequences for the transport sector – both users and operators.

The European Commission is working on all fronts to support efforts to tackle this outbreak. This includes ongoing coordination with Member States to share information, assess needs and ensure a coherent EU-wide response. Both transport users and operators have a role to play in supporting such efforts.

Many transport operators have already put in place **additional specific measures**, including hygiene measures, to protect employees and passengers and to contain the spread of the virus. I would like to ask you to inform us about any such measures you are aware of from within your sector (e.g. availability of hand sanitiser dispensers, additional cleaning efforts, specific guidance to staff, etc.).

In addition and in order to effectively respond to the challenges the transport sector faces in the current situation, my services and I are seeking information on the extent to which your sector is affected. We would be interested in particular in any assessment – both quantitative and qualitative – of the **economic impact suffered from your sector** because of outbreak. This includes impacts suffered as a consequence of the various measures and restrictions imposed on the providers, of the autonomous choice of passengers not to travel and/or of the operators' decisions not to provide certain services (or of any other reason related to the outbreak). In this context, we would be interested to receive information on the initiatives, if any, that your sector as a whole or some of your members individually have taken or intend to take to contain/alleviate the economic damage.

I would kindly ask you to provide information on both issues as soon as possible (ideally no later than 13 March 2020), by email, to this address: MOVE-DIRECTORATE-C@ec.europa.eu

I take this opportunity to also inform you about the webpages of the European Commission dedicated specifically to inform the public about the COVID-19 outbreak and the EU's initiative to master this crisis. These pages can be accessed here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response_en. You find there also a section dedicated to transport: https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/mobility_en#transport

I thank you in advance for your collaboration.

With kind regards,

Elisabeth Werner