



## General Staff Update - 26Apr21

The Government have set out a phased easing of restrictions throughout April, May and June. In order to review the current situation for the DF with respect to COVID-19 related matters a COVID-19 JOPG was held on the 22nd of April.

The General Staff reviewed the issues raised and provide necessary guidance.

The medical force protection of all personnel remains the priority of the General Staff.

The follow updates and guidance were provided by the General Staff:

- A revised DF Framework for Living with COVID-19 (Ver 10) will b issued on 23Apr and become effective from 26Apr.
- The DF is following Government advice in relation to the prioritisation of the vaccine. There are three DF cohorts that can be nominated for vaccination outside of the age related priority:
  - DF pers working in COVID facing tasks.
  - DF pers listed to deploy on an overseas mission
  - DF pers in the medically vulnerable categories - managed by Formation MOs and it is a medical in confidence matter.
- All Formations and Units are required to comply with guidance issued by DCOS (Sp) to recorded COVID-19 vaccinations on the Socrates Medical System.
- The rotation of the 117 Inf Bn UNIFIL is scheduled for the 10th and 31st of May. Upon arrival at Dublin airport all pers will be transported to a designated hotel for a PCR test from a CMU staff.
- DCOS (Sp) is considering a proposal from GOC 1Bde to conduct local (pilot) RDF recruitment drive.
- All Formations and Units are requested to ensure that all their personnel are aware of the Letter of Instruction issued by DJ1 on 14Apr which states that only DCOS (Sp) may authorise the travel to the state by members of the DF as being in the course of performing their duties. No other travel to the state will be considered as travel in the course of DF duty (In the context of exemption from public health requirements)

DF Internal Communications Team.

