## TEMPORARY TOLERANCE DRIVING TIMES AND REST PERIODS

Following the announcement of the emergency measures taken by the National security council against the corona virus, shops and pharmacies have been confronted with a collective hoarding of food and medication.

In order to avoid a stock-out and increase in panic among the population, I have decided to accept a temporary and complete tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times on the basis of article 14. 2 of Regulation 561/2006 for drivers active in the transport of food, medication and other life essential goods to shops and pharmacies.

This temporary tolerance applies from 14/03/2020 at 00:01 for a period of 5 days until 18/03/2020 at 23:59.

The relaxation applies only to the driving and resting times of drivers involved in the transport of food, medication and other life essential goods in order to stock shops and pharmacies.

The drivers in question must note on the back of their tachograph charts or printouts the reason why they are exceeding the normally permitted limits. This is the usual practice in emergencies and is essential for enforcement purposes.

The temporary relaxation described above reflects the exceptional circumstances. I wish to make clear that **driver and road safety** must not be compromised. Drivers should not be expected to drive whilst tired — employers remain responsible for the safety of their employees and other road users.

All enquiries regarding the interpretation of these temporary arrangements should, in the first instance, be made via e-mail to <a href="mailto:info@mobilit.fgov.be">info@mobilit.fgov.be</a>

The Minister of Transport,

François BELLOT