## PRESS RELEASE

Following the promulgation of the COVID-19 (Restriction of Access to Specified Institutions) Regulations 2021, the Ministry of Health and Wellness wishes to draw the attention of non-vaccinated **personnel engaged in the Health, Educational and Early childhood sectors** of the following measures:

- As from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and until further notice, personnel of the above mentioned sectors, who believe they cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19, by reason of the contraindications mentioned below, are invited to be medically examined by a Panel of 2 Government Medical Officers, already set up at the 5 Regional Hospitals of the island.
- This panel is the sole body entitled to emit duly certified documented medical certificates stating that a person cannot be vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Medical Panels will be operational in the following alphabetical order:
  - Names starting with letters A to F: Mondays and Tuesdays (12 00 15 00 Hours)
  - Names starting with letters **G to N**: Wednesdays and Thursdays (12 00 15 00 Hours)
  - Names starting with letters O to Z: Fridays (12 00 15 00 Hours) and Saturdays (09 00 12 00 Hours)
- Formal contraindications for COVID-19 vaccination are:
  - > <u>Absolute contraindications</u>:
    - History of severe anaphylactic shock to any allergen
    - History of Angioedema (Oedème de Quincke) with any allergen
    - History of severe reactions to any vaccine
  - > <u>Relative and temporary contraindications</u>:
    - Pregnancy
- All personnel concerned are invited to produce medical evidence related to the above mentioned contraindications, if any, along with their National Identity Card.