

Occupational Safety, Health and Welfare (First-aid) Regulations 1989

GN 65/1989

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE ACT 1988

Regulations made by the Minister under section 80(1) of the Occupational Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1988

1. These regulations may be cited as the Occupational Safety, Health and Welfare (First-aid) Regulations 1989.

2. In these regulations —

“Act” means the Occupational Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1988;

“first-aider” means a person who has been trained by and holds a current first-aid certificate issued by an organisation approved by the Mauritius Qualifications Authority for the purposes of these regulations.

Amended by [Act No. 28 of 2005]

3. (a) Every employer shall provide and maintain a suitably located first-aid box or a similar container at every place of work.

(b) Where work is required to be performed in an isolated location more than one kilometre from any place where first-aid treatment can be provided to an injured employee, the employer shall provide a travelling first-aid kit to every employee or group of employees, as warranted by the circumstances.

4. The first-aid box or similar container shall—

(a) be so constructed and maintained as to be dust-proof and capable of being locked;

(b) be distinctively marked on the outside with a white cross on a green background and the word ‘FIRST-AID’ in clearly legible capital letters;

(c) be so equipped and maintained as to contain the appliances and requisites for first-aid set out in the First Schedule;

(d) contain nothing except requisites and appliances for first-aid;

(e) have attached to the inside, a list of the appliances and requisites for first-aid which it is to contain; and

(f) be kept clean.

5. (a) One first-aid box or similar container for every 150 employees or fraction thereof, containing the requisites and appliances specified in the First Schedule shall be provided and maintained.

(b) The travelling first-aid kit mentioned in regulation 3(b) above shall contain the requisites specified in the Second Schedule.

- (c) The Permanent Secretary may, by notice in writing, require an employer to have additional items included in the first-aid box or travelling first-aid depending on the nature of his activities and the number of employees engaged in those activities.

Amended by [GN No. 33 of 2003]

- 6.
 - (a) The contents of first-aid boxes or similar containers or kits shall be replenished as soon as possible after use.
 - (b) Items which may deteriorate after a certain period of time shall be replaced as and when necessary.
 - (c) It shall be the duty of an employer to check first-aid boxes or similar containers or kits in order to ensure that they are fully equipped and all items are usable.
- 7.
 - (a) In every building used as a place of work or on any construction site, the employer shall cause a notice to be posted in a conspicuous position to inform the employees of the location of first-aid equipment and facilities and the name of the person appointed or first aider to provide first-aid attention or treatment.
 - (b) In the case of employees referred to in regulation 3(b), it shall be sufficient to provide the information required by the preceding paragraph verbally.
- 8.
 - (a) Where an employee has suffered injury or illness at work necessitating his removal to his home or to a hospital or other similar institution, the employer shall promptly and at his own expense provide an appropriate means of conveyance for the employee.
 - (b) The appointed person or first-aider shall accompany the injured or ill employee to a hospital or other similar institution whenever the circumstances so justify.
- 9.
 - (a) Every first-aid box or similar container or travelling first-aid kit shall be readily accessible to the employees and shall at all times be under the charge of a person appointed by the employer in accordance with paragraph (b), (c) or(d) of this regulation, as the case may be.
 - (b) Where the number of persons employed or working at any place:—
 - (i) does not exceed 50 persons, the person appointed shall have practical knowledge of first-aid attention to be provided;
 - (ii) exceeds 50 persons, the person appointed shall be a first-aider.
 - (c) One first-aider shall be appointed for every 150 employees working at any place.
 - (d) The employer shall ensure that there are sufficient numbers of appointed persons or first-aiders to provide adequate coverage at all times when employees are at work.
- 10. Where there is a known danger from the work processes or from a potentially harmful substance in use at a place of work, the employer shall ensure that the appointed person or first-aider is aware of—
 - (a) the danger;
 - (b) effective first-aid to be provided immediately in case of injury;

(c) any relevant procedures associated with sending the casualty to hospital or other similar institution; and

(d) relevant information to be provided to the treating medical practitioner.

11. These regulations shall come into operation on 1 May 1989.

Made by the Minister on 26 April 1989.

FIRST SCHEDULE
(Regulation 5 (a))

Every first-aid box or similar container shall contain the numbers of each item specified below depending on the number of employees, as set out below: -

Item	Number of employees			
	1-10	11-50	51-100	101-150
(a) Individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings	20	40	40	40
(b) Small sized sterile unmedicated dressings (approximately 6 cm x 4 cm)	8	10	12	15
(c) Medium sized sterile unmedicated dressings (approximately 10 cm x 8 cm)	6	8	10	12
(d) Large sterile unmedicated dressings (approximately 13 cm x 9 cm)	2	4	6	10
(e) Extra large sterile unmedicated dressings (approximately 28 cm x 17.5 cm)	2	4	6	8
(f) Triangular bandages	2	4	6	8
(g) Sterile eye pads with attachment	2	4	6	8
(h) Safety pins	6	12	12	12
(i) Cotton wool in balls or packs	100 grammes	200 grammes	200 grammes	200 grammes
(j) Adhesive strapping tape	1 roll	1 roll	1 roll	1 roll
(k) Adhesive dressing strips	25 (assorted)	50 (assorted)	50 (assorted)	50 (assorted)
(l) Liquid skin antiseptic, minimum 200 ml bottle	1	1	1	1
(m) Scissors with blunt ends	1	1	1	1
(n) Sterile gauze squares	1 pack	2 packs	2 packs	2 packs
(o) Clean square piece of white linen kept in a polythene bag	1	2	2	2
(p) Sterile eye cleansing solution, minimum 250 ml bottle	1	1	1	1
(q) Sterile disposable gloves	2 pairs	2 pairs	4 pairs	6 pairs
(r) Sterile gauze medicated dressing for burns 10 cm x 10 cm	6	8	10	12

SECOND SCHEDULE
(Regulation 5 (b))

The contents of every travelling first-aid kit shall be as follows: -

Item	Quantity
(a) Individually wrapped adhesive dressings	6
(b) Medium sized sterile unmedicated dressings (approximately 10 cm x 8 cm)	1
(c) Triangular bandage	1
(d) Sterile covering for serious wounds	1
(e) Sterile eye pad with attachments	1
(f) Safety pins	6
(g) Cotton wool in balls or packs	100 grammes
(h) Sterile gauze squares	1 pack
(i) Scissors with blunt ends	1
(j) Sterile disposable gloves	2 pairs
(k) Sterile gauze medicated dressing for burns 10 cm x 10 cm	1