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UPDATE 04/03/2020

Communication regarding the outbreak of COVID-19 disease

This communication should be considered as a complement to the former communications. We have in fact received an updated communication published by the European Commission relevant services late on 03/03/2020.

We are in regular contact with the relevant services of the European Commission.

NEW

The Belgian government has now published a helpline on its official coronavirus website: 0800/14689. The e-mail address for queries remains the same: info-coronavirus@health.fgov.be. Website (FR/NL/DE/EN): <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/>

NEW

The Italian government has issued a decree that slightly adjusts the 'yellow' areas, where certain restrictions apply. These include Lombardy (including Bergamo, Lodi and Cremona, where heightened surveillance applies), Veneto, and Emilia Romagna (including Piacenza, where heightened surveillance applies). The yellow areas are also now extended to the Province of Savona (in the Liguria Region), and the Province of Pesaro/Urbino (in the Marche Region). Piedmont is not in the yellow area according to this new decree.

In consequence, the corresponding paragraph in the communication published on 2nd March, with also a linguistic ambiguity solved, should read as follows:

For the “**yellow areas**” in Italy, or “area gialla”, extending essentially to most of the regions in Northern Italy (Lombardy - including Bergamo, Lodi and Cremona, where heightened surveillance applies -, Emilia Romagna - including Piacenza, where heightened surveillance applies-, Veneto, the Province of Savona - in the Liguria Region- and the Province of Pesaro/Urbino - in the Marche Region-):

- (I) Any children returning from such areas should not be admitted to the European schools, **if the child or one close member of the family has had any contact with an ill person infected with the new coronavirus COVID-19**
or
if the child or any close member of the family having travelled in those areas does not remain asymptomatic.
- (II) Any member of staff working in a European school returning from such areas, should also not return to work,
if they have had any contact with an ill person infected with the new coronavirus COVID-19,
or
if they have developed any symptoms