



European Economic
and Social Committee

STATEMENT by the President

11/03/2020

Covid-19

In view of the latest reports on the Coronavirus emergency and having been in Italy over the weekend, I have decided, only as a precautionary measure, to put myself into quarantine.

I will therefore exercise my functions as President of the European Economic and Social Committee from my home in Brussels, in compliance with the 14 days indicated by the health protocol.

In the next few hours, further precautionary measures will be adopted by the EESC.

The new measures adopted by the Italian government and those that are announced progressively by EU governments and competent authorities will have important consequences for all of us and for the ordinary functioning of all institutions.

Covid-19 obliges everyone to show full responsibility and caution. It is a delicate moment for everyone. However, it is necessary to continue to ensure the proper functioning of all the institutions and the EESC will do its part, continuing to work also using other working methods, in order to fulfil its functions.

As President of EESC, I express my sincere closeness to all the people who have already been affected by this epidemic, my support and recognition to those who, with dedication and unprecedented risks, are on the frontline to protect the health of citizens and residents of Europe.

I wish also to thank colleagues and all EESC staff members for their commitment and dedication.